

THE CABINET

AGENDA

**Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre (Committee Room No. 1) on
Wednesday, 7 September, 2011 at 2.00 p.m.**

Part I

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1.	Minutes of the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 25 August 2011, Part I (Copy herewith).	1
2.	Receipt of Declarations of Interest (if any)	
3.	Apologies for Absence	
4.	Reports of the Meetings of the Personnel Committee, Part I	
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5. **Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code (Formerly St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Planning Framework): Supplementary Planning Document** 15

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (copy herewith).

N.B. Members are requested to note that copies of the Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code Supplementary Planning Document Consultation Draft are available for inspection in Members' Services or alternatively the document can be viewed on-line at:-

<http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/7217/Committee/1485/Default.aspx>

6.  **Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property and Amendment of Delegation Scheme and Financial Procedure Rules for acquisition and disposal of assets** 27

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (copy herewith).

7.  **Youth Justice Plan 2011-2012** 67

Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services (copy herewith).

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Report of the Executive Director of Children's Services (copy herewith).

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

The reports contained in Part II of the Agenda are not for publication as the Cabinet is considered likely to exclude the public during consideration thereof as they contain information relating to any individual, which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) and to consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the Authority and employees of the Authority (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4).

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| | (Copy herewith). | |
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| | (For approval of the recommendations on executive functions and to note the remaining decisions). | |
| 11. | Disposal of St Mark's Garage, St Mark's Road, Millfield, Sunderland | 205 |
| | Report of the Deputy Chief Executive (copy herewith). | |

 **Denotes Key Decision.**

*** Denotes Rule 15 Notice issues – item which is a key decision which is not included in the Forward Plan.**

ELAINE WAUGH
Head of Law and Governance

Civic Centre
SUNDERLAND

30 August 2011

CABINET MEETING – 7 SEPTEMBER 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

MINUTES, PART I

Author(s):

City Solicitor

Purpose of Report:

Presents the minutes of the last meeting held on 25 August 2011 Part I.

Action Required:

To confirm the minutes as a correct record.

At a meeting of the CABINET held in the CIVIC CENTRE (COMMITTEE ROOM NO. 1) on Thursday 25 August 2011 at 2.00 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor P. Watson in the Chair

Councillors Allan, Blackburn, Charlton, Gofton, Kelly, P. Smith, Speding, Trueman and T. Wright

Part I

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 20 July 2011, Part I (copy circulated) were submitted.

(For copy report - see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Receipt of Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest declared at the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

Honorary Freedom of the City

The Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services submitted a report (copy circulated) to consider recommending to Council to formally to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City under Section 249 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972, upon Mr. John Mawston, Sir Bob Murray CBE and Sir Peter Vardy.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

The Chairman highlighted that the report requests the Cabinet to consider making a recommendation to Council to confer the Honorary Freedom of the City to ex-Councillor John Mawston, Sir Bob Murray CBE and Sir Peter Vardy in recognition of their distinction or eminent services, namely:-

- § John Mawston for his contributions to culture and leisure in his local community and within the City,
- § Sir Bob Murray for his contributions to football, education and charitable causes within the City, and
- § Sir Peter Vardy for his contributions to business and education.

The Chairman reported that the three nominations had the support of all three of the Council's political groups and all three nominees were worthy to join other eminent Freeman such as Charles Slater, Kate Adie, Ram Banerjee, Sir Tom Cowie, Denise Robertson and Lord Putnam. He explained that this was a high honour bestowed by the Council and that the Council did not exercise this power often or lightly.

Cabinet Members having also been advised that the report seeks authorisation for the Chief Executive to make appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony to be held at an extraordinary meeting of the Council on 14th October 2011, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that it be recommended to the Council to:-
 - (i) agree to confer, in accordance with the provisions of Section 249 of the Local Government Act 1972, the Honorary Freedom of the City upon Mr John Mawston, Sir Bob Murray CBE and Sir Peter Vardy, and
 - (ii) authorise the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to agree all appropriate arrangements for the formal ceremony at an extraordinary meeting of the Council to be held on 14th October 2011.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it was considered to involve a likely disclosure of information relating to any individual, which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual, the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) and to consultations or negotiations in connection with labour relations matters arising between the Authority (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4).

(Signed) P. WATSON,
Chairman.

Note:-

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.

CABINET MEETING – 7TH SEPTEMBER 2011
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee, Part I held on 25th July 2011

Author(s):

Head of Law and Governance

Purpose of Report:

Presents the report of the meeting of Personnel Committee, Part I

Action Required:

The Cabinet is requested to note the report of the meeting held on 25th July 2011

At a meeting of the PERSONNEL COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on MONDAY, 25th JULY, 2011 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Gofton in the Chair

Councillors Mordey, Speding, D. Smith, D. Trueman, H. Trueman, P. Watson, S. Watson, A. Wilson and Wood.

Part I

Apologies for Absence

An apology for absence was submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillor Errington.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Report of the Meeting of the Personnel Committee, Part I

The report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 7th May, 2011 Part I (copy circulated) was submitted and consideration given thereto.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the report of the meeting be noted, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Reports of the Meeting of the Appeals Panel, Part I

The reports of the meetings of the Appeals Panel held on 17th June, 5th July and 14th July, 2011 Part I (copy circulated) were submitted and consideration given thereto.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Referring to the minutes of the 17 June Councillor A Wilson advised that she had chaired the meeting and not Councillor S Watson. The minute would be amended accordingly.

2. RESOLVED that the reports of the meetings be noted for information.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order) 2006

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it is considered to involve a likely disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual or information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual or information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the Authority and its employees (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 4).

(Signed) C. GOFTON,
Vice Chairman.

Note:-

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.

CABINET MEETING – 7TH SEPTEMBER 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee, Part I held on 25th August 2011

Author(s):

Head of Law and Governance

Purpose of Report:

Presents the report of the meeting of Personnel Committee, Part I

Action Required:

The Cabinet is requested to note the report of the meetings held on 25th August 2011

At a meeting of the PERSONNEL COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on THURSDAY, 25th AUGUST, 2011 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Errington in the Chair

Councillors Fairs, Mordey, Speding, D. Smith, D. Trueman, H. Trueman, P. Watson, S. Watson and A. Wilson.

Part I

Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

Declarations of Interest

The following Councillors declared personal interests in the reports below as Members of the bodies indicated:-

Item 6 – Request for Early Retirement	Councillor Mordey	Regional Pensions Committee
Item 7 – Requests for Flexible Retirement	Councillor Mordey	Regional Pensions Committee
Item 8 (i) – Deputy Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services	Councillor Errington	Relative an employee of the PCT.

Report of the Meeting of the Personnel Committee, Part I

The report of the meeting of the Personnel Committee held on 25th July, 2011 Part I (copy circulated) was submitted and consideration given thereto.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

1. RESOLVED that the report of the meeting be noted, confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation Order) 2006

At the instance of the Chairman, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that in accordance with Section 100(A)4 of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded during consideration of the remaining business as it is considered to involve a likely disclosure of exempt information relating to an individual or information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual or information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations in connection with any labour relations matters arising between the Authority and its employees (Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A, Part I, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 4).

(Signed) D. ERRINGTON,
Chairman.

Note:-

The above minutes comprise only those relating to items during which the meeting was open to the public.

Additional minutes in respect of other items are included in Part II.

CABINET MEETING – 7 September 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code
(Formerly St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Planning Framework):
Supplementary Planning Document

Author(s):

Deputy Chief Executive

Purpose of Report:

The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of the outcome of public consultation on the St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Planning Framework and to seek Cabinet's approval of an amended draft retitled Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the purposes of further public consultation.

Description of Decision:

Cabinet is recommended to:

- a) Approve the draft Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code SPD and associated documents for the purposes of consultation.
- b) Approve the draft Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code SPD as interim planning guidance, pending its finalisation and consideration for adoption following consultation.

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

To continue the formal process to progress the Draft Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code to adoption by the Council as an SPD, by carrying out further public consultation on its content. This will inform the completion and adoption of the SPD in a form that will facilitate the further regeneration of the area in a manner that balances the Sunderland Partnership's aspirations for its development with the need to have appropriate regard for the setting and Outstanding Universal Value of the prospective World Heritage Site of St. Peter's Church and grounds.

<p>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:</p> <p>The alternative option is not to prepare a masterplan and design code SPD. The consequences of this would be a failure to meet the requirement set out in the adopted UDP Alteration No.2 policy ECB5 to prepare a broad framework for each Strategic Location for Change site. In addition, failure to prepare an endorsed masterplan and design code will reduce the Council's ability to ensure a high quality of development in the masterplan area while protecting and enhancing the setting and Outstanding Universal Value of the prospective World Heritage Site. The lack of such an approved planning document would be detrimental to the Wearmouth-Jarrow Partnership's bid for inscription of the site on the World Heritage Register.</p>	
<p>Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? No</p> <p>Is it included in the Forward Plan? No</p>	<p>Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Environment and Attractive City Planning and Highways</p>

**WEARMOUTH CANDIDATE WORLD HERITAGE SITE MASTERPLAN AND
DESIGN CODE (FORMERLY ST PETER'S RIVERSIDE AND BONNERSFIELD
PLANNING FRAMEWORK): DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT**

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise Cabinet of the outcome of public consultation on the St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Planning Framework and to seek Cabinet's approval of an amended draft retitled Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) for the purposes of further public consultation.

2.0 Description of Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:
- a) Approve the draft Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code SPD and associated documents for the purposes of consultation.
 - b) Approve the draft Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code SPD as interim planning guidance, pending its finalisation and consideration for adoption following consultation.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 At its meeting in March 2010 Cabinet approved the draft St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Planning Framework SPD for the purposes of statutory consultation as part of the process leading to formal adoption of the SPD by the council.
- 3.2 The SPD was initially intended to provide detailed planning policy for the area at Bonnersfield and St Peter's identified as a strategic location for change in the adopted Unitary Development Plan (UDP) Alteration No.2 (policies EC5B and NA3B.1). However, the boundary of the previous draft SPD was purposely extended to coincide with the 'buffer zone' of the candidate World Heritage Site (cWHS) at Wearmouth, demonstrating regard to the significance of the cWHS and the potential impact on it of regeneration activity in the wider area. The cWHS buffer zone, and hence the SPD area, includes land on both sides of the River Wear although most of the buffer zone is north of the river. The area covered by the SPD is shown on the plan attached to this report together with the strategic location for change identified in UDP Alteration No.2.

- 3.3 At the heart of the SPD is the need to balance the protection and enhancement of the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the cWHS with the proper regeneration of the area. The OUV is, in turn, central to the success of the World Heritage Site bid. The attributes of OUV are attached as an appendix to this report.
- 3.4 The draft SPD was the subject of a six week public consultation in accordance with the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended), between 27 May and 7 July 2010. Statutory consultees and other relevant organisations were formally consulted by letter. A public exhibition setting out the broad content of the SPD was located at the National Glass Centre and Monkwearmouth branch library during normal opening times and attended by council staff at specified times, and at the Civic Centre where staff were available during normal office hours. Reply paid cards were available to enable members of the public to respond to the consultation. All the relevant information relating to the consultation was available online at www.sunderland.gov.uk/stpeters, where responses could also be submitted. An article and a formal public notice publicising the consultation were published in the Sunderland Echo.

4.0 Outcome of public consultation

- 4.1 Forty-nine responses were received from members of the public, including nine submitted online. Of these, 36 (73%) supported the SPD; 10 objected (20%) and 3 (6%) expressed neither support nor objection.
- 4.2 Many of the responses from formal consultees were generally supportive of the SPD, although some raised a variety of issues to be addressed in the final version of the document. These were mostly of a technical nature and could have been incorporated in final amendments to the document prior to its consideration for adoption.
- 4.3 However, the response received from English Heritage, strongly expressed, raised a fundamental concern that the proposed amount, scale and location of development at Bonnersfield and the University's St Peter's campus could seriously prejudice the bid for World Heritage Site (WHS) status for Wearmouth-Jarrow. Further, the draft SPD was not considered to provide a sufficiently robust mechanism for protecting the OUV of the cWHS that will be required to support the bid. English Heritage was also specifically concerned at the way in which the University's outline masterplan for further development of the St Peter's campus and proposals contained in an undetermined planning application at Bonnersfield had been incorporated into the SPD.
- 4.4 The concerns expressed by English Heritage were reflected to a degree in responses received from the Reverend Gibbons at St Peter's supported by the Reverend Stockton (Team Rector, Monkwearmouth), the Reverend Braviner (Team Rector, Jarrow) and Rosemary Cramp of Durham University. In addition, South Tyneside Council – a partner in the cWHS bid – also expressed some concern at the risk to the World Heritage Site bid if the SPD failed to give adequate protection to the OUV of the cWHS at Wearmouth.

5.0 Current position

- 5.1 The SPD document, in draft form at least, will be submitted to the assessor appointed by Icomos (International Council on Monuments and Sites) to consider the Wearmouth-Jarrow WHS nomination on behalf of Unesco (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation). The absence of explicit support from English Heritage to the SPD could fatally undermine the credibility of the document and, potentially, the success of the WHS bid.
- 5.2 In response, and in order to produce a document 'fit for purpose', the SPD has been revisited and substantially redrafted, adopting as a starting point an approach aimed at addressing the fundamental concerns expressed by English Heritage. In particular, the document gives greater emphasis to the pre-eminence of the cWHS in the SPD area and the objective of protecting and enhancing its OUV. The preparation of the revised document in-house has reflected a series of positive meetings held separately with English Heritage and Sunderland University to ensure that the principles being promoted will provide sufficient control over development to protect and enhance the OUV of the cWHS while reflecting the development aspirations of key stakeholders in the area.
- 5.3 To reflect the increased emphasis given to the cWHS and the protection and enhancement of its OUV, the document has also been retitled Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code Supplementary Planning Document Consultation Draft.
- 5.4 The document now incorporates an overall masterplan for the SPD area and a series of design codes that developers will be required to adhere to in bringing forward proposals in each of six character areas. It seeks to provide sufficient flexibility to accommodate the development aspirations of landowners but in a form and scale that respects OUV and in particular conserves and enhances views of St Peter's Church from the north and south shores.
- 5.5 The design code sets out the standards of urban design the council expects to be delivered through development in the masterplan area – the code and masterplan are mutually complementary. The code identifies the key components to be addressed in achieving high standards of urban design, as follows:
- Urban structures and character areas, focusing development around the cWHS and along the river to create a new, vibrant and integrated city quarter – the character areas are explained in more detail in paragraph 5.5 below
 - Land uses and flexible spaces – accommodating a wide mix of uses in a high quality urban environment, reinforcing the role of the cWHS as a major city destination

- Views and vistas – preserving and enhancing the setting of the area’s heritage assets, in particular the cWHS but also including the Wearmouth Bridges and Old Sunderland Conservation Area; the code highlights key views to be preserved and enhanced through development (creating view corridors to frame views)
- Block principles – establishing a range of perimeter and linear building blocks depending on location and site characteristics, with key design criteria to ensure high quality of design (creating continuous street frontages and building lines, architectural variation, flexible ground floor uses and external activity, and so on)
- Building heights and densities – establishing a range of building heights including maximum heights for each character area, indicating where heights should increase or decrease and ensuring that buildings do not block significant views
- Gateways and landmarks – creating reference points across the area to emphasize a legible hierarchy of streets and spaces and linking the cWHS with the riverside and wider area including the city centre
- Building types and frontages – achieving a flexible range of ground floor units contributing to an active public realm and continuous building lines, ‘transparent’ upper floors with features promoting natural surveillance (terraces and balconies for example), maximizing the potential of corner plots and incorporating sensitively designed signage
- Street types – creating a hierarchy of streets designed and built to meet the needs of users, giving priority to pedestrians wherever possible and contributing to the qualities of the public realm and wider objectives of the masterplan
- Access and servicing – ensuring the provision of adequate access for visitors, residents, workers and students, the servicing of premises and parking provision are not at the expense of other design qualities
- Landscape and public realm – recognizing the fundamental role of high quality, safe landscape, open space and public realm in defining the character of the area and the need for coherent and robust design for a variety of purposes

5.6 The six character areas identified within the SPD area are as follows, with proposed uses in accordance with those identified in policy NA3B.1 of the UDP Alteration No.2:

- St Peter’s Square - the cWHS itself with St Peter’s Church at its centre, where no building will be permitted except to ensure the future security of the church or monastic remains; public realm improvements will be undertaken in accordance with the St Peter’s Landscape Strategy

- Learning quarter – further development of the University’s St Peter’s campus. Appropriate uses to be encouraged include:

Non-residential institutions including education, galleries and museums (use class D2)

Food and drink including cafes, bars and restaurants (A3 and A4)

Ancillary retail (A1)

Other acceptable uses subject to justification include business (use class B1 only – offices and research and development), hotel (C1) and student accommodation (C3)

- Residential quarter – development at Bonnersfield and the south west corner of the St Peter’s campus. Appropriate uses to be encouraged include:

Residential (use class C3)

Student accommodation (C3)

Hotel (C1)

Food and drink including cafes, bars and restaurants (A3 and A4)

Ancillary retail (A1)

Other acceptable uses subject to justification include business (use class B1 only – offices and research and development), non-residential institutions including education, galleries and museums and assembly and leisure (D2)

- Business quarter – includes the North Sands Business Centre and National Glass Centre. Appropriate uses to be encouraged include:

Business (use class B1 only – offices and research and development)

Non-residential institutions including education, galleries and museums and assembly and leisure (D2)

Ancillary retail, food and drink (A1, A3 and A4)

Multi-storey car park (sui generis)

Other acceptable uses subject to justification include hotel (C1) and food and drink including cafes, bars and restaurants (A3 and A4)

- South Shore – includes all of the masterplan area on the south side of the river and comprises part of the Old Sunderland Conservation Area.

Appropriate uses to be encouraged to support the area's distinct character and role include:

Business (use class B1 only – offices and research and development)

Student and residential accommodation (C3)

Hotels (C1)

Food and drink including cafes, bars and restaurants (A3 and A4)

Ancillary retail (A1)

Other acceptable uses subject to justification include leisure and assembly (D1) and non-residential institutions including education, galleries and museums (D2)

- Dame Dorothy Street – the masterplan area north of Dame Dorothy Street where the existing predominant uses are expected to remain (primary school and residential) with opportunities for appropriate development around Lower Dundas Street

5.7 Copies of the consultation draft SPD are available for inspection in the Members' room.

6.0 Next steps

6.1 In view of the significant re-drafting of the SPD and introduction of new material it is considered necessary to undertake a further round of public consultation to satisfy the requirements of the relevant planning regulations. Although the broad concepts have not changed in terms of the potential for development throughout the SPD area there is still the need to elicit and take account of the formal views of statutory consultees and other stakeholders.

6.2 It is therefore proposed to undertake at the earliest opportunity a further round of formal consultation on the current draft version of the SPD under regulations 17 and 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended). This will take the form of a six week consultation period, with relevant material circulated to consultees and available on a dedicated council website, together with required public notices and other appropriate publicity.

6.3 Following the consultation period amendments will be made to the draft SPD as appropriate in response to comments received. The amended document will then be submitted to Cabinet for formal approval as an SPD which, if approved, would be used by developers as a basis for preparing detailed proposals for the area and would be afforded weight as a material consideration by the council when determining future planning applications.

7.0 Reasons for decision

- 7.1 To continue the formal process to progress the Draft Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code to adoption by the Council as an SPD, by carrying out further consultation on its content. This will inform the completion and adoption of the SPD in a form that will facilitate the further regeneration of the area in a manner that balances the Sunderland Partnership's aspirations for its development with the need to have appropriate regard for the setting and Outstanding Universal Value of the prospective World Heritage Site of St. Peter's Church and grounds.

8.0 Alternative options

- 8.1 The alternative option is not to prepare a masterplan and design code SPD. The consequences of this would be a failure to meet the requirement set out in the adopted UDP Alteration No.2 policy ECB5 to prepare a broad framework for each Strategic Location for Change site. In addition, failure to prepare an endorsed masterplan and design code will reduce the council's ability to ensure high quality development in the masterplan area while protecting and enhancing the setting and Outstanding Universal Value of the prospective World Heritage Site. The lack of such an approved planning document would be detrimental to the Wearmouth-Jarrow Partnership's bid for inscription of the site on the World Heritage Register.

9.0 Relevant considerations

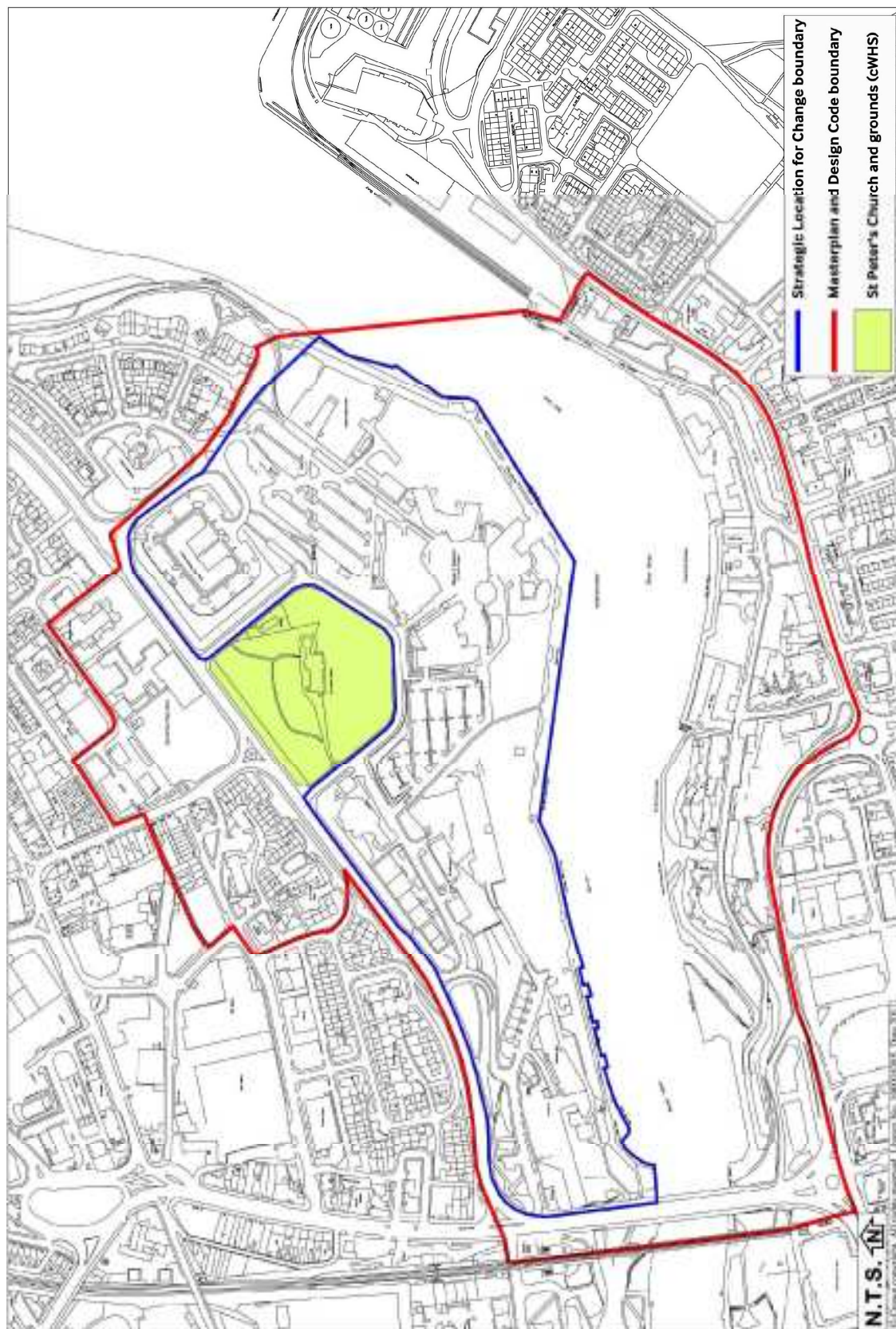
- 9.1 a) Financial Implications - With the exception of the costs associated with the consultation process, the SPD will not involve any direct costs to the Council. The consultation costs can be met from existing revenue budgets.
- b) Policy Implications - The document has been prepared to meet the requirements of UDP Alteration No. 2 policy EC5B. As an approved SPD it would be a material consideration in determining planning applications for development within the plan area.

10.0 Background papers

- Report to Cabinet, March 2010: St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Planning Framework Draft Supplementary Planning Document
- The Unitary Development Plan (Adopted Plan) 1998
- Unitary Development Plan Alteration No.2
- Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code Draft Supplementary Planning Document and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Appendix 1

Boundaries of Wearmouth Candidate World Heritage Site Masterplan and Design Code Supplementary Planning Document and St Peter's Riverside and Bonnersfield Strategic Location for Change



Appendix 2

The Outstanding Universal Value of the Wearmouth - Jarrow candidate World Heritage Site (cWHS)

Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) is a general statement of why a place is important which, in itself, can be difficult to use directly for day-to-day management.

The attributes of OUV are its more specific expressions. These can be used to define the need for management actions in order to sustain OUV. They can define the potential impact of proposed changes or developments, or the state of a Property's authenticity and integrity.

Five tangible attributes have been developed which express the OUV of Wearmouth-Jarrow cWHS:

- The relationship between the twin monasteries and their respective estuarine sites
- The standing (above-ground) remains of the Anglo-Saxon monastic building complexes
- The in situ excavated remains of the Anglo-Saxon monastic building complexes
- The monastic plan
- Further archaeological remains

Two associative attributes substantially augment understanding of the OUV of the Property:

- The legacy of knowledge and understanding derived from the work of the monastery
- The rich combination of the in situ, portable and documentary evidence

CABINET MEETING – 7TH SEPTEMBER 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property and Amendment of Delegation Scheme and Financial Procedure Rules for acquisition and disposal of assets

Author(s):

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive.

Purpose of Report:

This report recommends improvements to the Council's Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property, and a revision to the Delegation Scheme and Financial Procedure Rules which will further improve the process for the acquisition and disposal of assets.

Description of Decision:

Cabinet is recommended to:

(1) agree to the amendments to the Procedure for the Disposal of Surplus Land and Property as set out in this report

(2) recommend Council to

(a) amend paragraph 2.37 of the Delegation Scheme set out in Part 3 of the constitution in respect of the Deputy Chief Executive to provide as follows:-

“2.37 To authorise, in consultation with the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services:-

a) the acquisition and disposal of freehold and leasehold interests in land where the consideration is less than £250,000; and

b) the acquisition and disposal of leasehold interests in land where the annual rental is less than £250,000.”

provided that in each case, save for:-

(i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or

(ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in

accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or

(iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

in the reasonable opinion of the Deputy Chief Executive, the transaction represents the best consideration reasonably obtainable.”

- (b) amend paragraph 2.58 of the Delegation Scheme set out in Part 3 of the constitution in respect of the Deputy Chief Executive to provide as follows:-

“2.58 To agree abnormal development costs for all sites”

- (c) amend paragraph 20.4 of the Financial Procedure Rules to provide as follows

“Cabinet approval is required for the purchase and disposal of freehold and leasehold interests in land where the consideration is £250,000 or more or, in any case, save for:-

(i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or

(ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or

(iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

where the disposal of a freehold or leasehold interest is at less than best consideration.”

- (d) amend paragraph 20.5 of the Financial Procedure Rules to provide as follows

“Cabinet approval is required for the purchase and disposal of leasehold interests in land where the annual rental is £250,000 or more or, in any case, save for:-

(i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or

(ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or

(iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

<p>where the disposal of a leasehold interest is at less than best consideration”</p> <p>(e) authorise the Head of Law and Governance to make such other amendments to the constitution as are required to give effect to and ensure consistency with the decisions of Council as set out in paragraphs (2) (a) to (d) above.</p>	
<p>Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes</p> <p>If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework</p>	
<p>Suggested reason(s) for Decision: To provide a more efficient and streamlined approach to the acceptance of offers for the disposal and acquisition of Council land and buildings.</p>	
<p>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The alternative option is to not amend and continue with the existing Delegation Scheme and the procedure for the Disposal of Surplus Land and Property. This option would not take advantage of an opportunity to provide a more efficient procedure thereby assisting with the earlier receipt of capital sums. This option has been considered and is not recommended.</p>	
<p>Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? Yes</p> <p>Is it included in the Forward Plan? No</p>	<p>Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Management</p>

**DISPOSAL PROCEDURE FOR SURPLUS LAND AND PROPERTY AND
AMENDMENT OF DELEGATION SCHEME AND FINANCIAL PROCEDURE
RULES FOR ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL OF ASSETS**

REPORT OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 This report recommends improvements to the Council's Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property, and a revision to the Delegation Scheme and Financial Procedure Rules which will further improve the process for the acquisition and disposal of assets.

2.0 Description of Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to:-

(1) agree to the amendments to the Procedure for the Disposal of Surplus Land and Property as set out in this report

(2) recommend Council to

(a) amend paragraph 2.37 of the Delegation Scheme set out in Part 3 of the constitution in respect of the Deputy Chief Executive to provide as follows:-

“2.37 To authorise, in consultation with the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services:-

a) the acquisition and disposal of freehold and leasehold interests in land where the consideration is less than £250,000; and

b) The acquisition and disposal of leasehold interests in land where the annual rental is less than £250,000.”

provided that in each case, save for:-

- (i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or
- (ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or

- (iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

in the reasonable opinion of the Deputy Chief Executive, the transaction represents the best consideration reasonably obtainable."

- (b) amend paragraph 2.58 of the Delegation Scheme set out in Part 3 of the constitution in respect of the Deputy Chief Executive to provide as follows:-

"To agree abnormal development costs for all sites"

- (c) amend paragraph 20.4 of the Financial Procedure Rules to provide as follows:-

"Cabinet approval is required for the purchase and disposal of freehold and leasehold interests in land where the consideration is £250,000 or more or, in any case, save for:

- (i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or
- (ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or
- (iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

where the disposal of a freehold or leasehold interest is at less than best consideration."

- (d) amend paragraph 20.5 of the Financial Procedure Rules to provide as follows:-

"Cabinet approval is required for the purchase and disposal of leasehold interests in land where the annual rental is £250,000 or more or, in any case, save for:

- (i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or
- (ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or

(iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

where the disposal of a leasehold interest is at less than best consideration"

(e) authorise the Head of Law and Governance to make such other amendments to the constitution as are required to give effect to and ensure consistency with the decisions of Council as set out in paragraphs (2) (a) to (d) above.

3.0 Background and Proposed Amendment

3.1 The current Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property was adopted by Cabinet in December 2009 (copy attached). Its operation has since been reviewed, and it is considered that there are a number of amendments that can be made that will improve the speed and efficiency of the disposals process without compromising its integrity. These are set out below.

3.2 Existing procedure
Initial gross financial offers for land and buildings are reported to Cabinet, the highest acceptable offer being recommended for approval. This allows the Council to conditionally accept the offer and gives the preferred developer the confidence to proceed with due diligence. The current procedure requires that if, as is usually the case, unforeseen development costs exceed 10% of the original offer, a further report is made to Cabinet seeking approval to a revised offer.

3.3 This procedure results in unnecessary lengthening of the process due to the need to report to Cabinet twice on the majority of transactions. It can therefore lead to delays in the process and prolong the investment and development in Sunderland.

3.4 Proposed amendment
It is therefore proposed that a report be made to Cabinet recommending the proposed disposal to the preferred bidder at the initial gross offer on the basis that the offer is both acceptable in planning terms and represents the most financially advantageous offer representing best consideration.

3.5 As is the case now, the preferred bidder will then be issued a contract for sale which will be conditional upon the grant of planning permission and the agreement of any abnormal development costs for the proposed development. The prospective purchaser will have the opportunity to carry out due diligence and will commission site investigation works.

- 3.6 If it is the case that site investigation works highlight unforeseen additional development costs, these will be scrutinised and verified in order to reach a best and final offer. It is proposed that the Deputy Chief Executive, in consultation with the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services, be delegated authority to accept a best and final offer. The Council's constitution also contains requirements in respect of consultation with relevant portfolio holders by Chief Officers who are exercising delegated powers and in the case of property disposals, consultation will be undertaken with the Leader and Cabinet Secretary. In respect of unforeseen costs it is expected that bidders will have undertaken diligent desk top surveys of the site in question and as a result will have allowed for costs such as access, services, and known ground conditions as part of their initial submission. These areas will not be considered as unforeseen development costs. However, works that could not have reasonably been envisaged at the time of making the offer such as the removal of contaminated materials, removal of substructures and the requirement for upgraded foundations due to poor ground quality, will be considered.
- 3.7 The policy presently requires any claimed reductions for unforeseen development costs in excess of £100,000 to be scrutinised and verified by independent external consultants. However the expertise to carry out this work is available in house and it is proposed that this be utilised which will result in a saving on consultants fees. Specialist external advice will be sought only if necessary.
- 3.8 The procedure set out above will be followed in respect of any transaction for which the value exceeds the level delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive. With the following exceptions it is recommended that any proposed disposals at an undervalue (for example, in order to secure the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the area) must be approved by Cabinet.

The exceptions are:-

- a) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession (therefore within the current acquisition and disposal delegation).
- b) leases granted for a term of seven years or less where the annual rental is less than £250,000.00 (therefore within the current acquisition and disposal delegation).

where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions.

4.0 Proposed Amendment to the Scheme of Delegation and Financial Procedure Rules

- 4.1 Currently the Scheme within the Constitution enables the Deputy Chief Executive to authorise the acquisition and disposal of freehold and leasehold interests where the consideration is less than £100,000 in the case of freeholds and where the annual rent is less than £50,000 in the case of leaseholds. Transactions outside of these limits require Cabinet approval.
- 4.2 It is proposed therefore that the Deputy Chief Executive be authorised, in consultation with the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services, to approve the acquisitions and disposals of both freehold and leasehold property where the consideration is less than £250,000 and where the annual rental is less than £250,000 in respect of leaseholds. The requirement to consult with the Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services will ensure that best consideration is obtained save for the excepted cases at 3.8 above including leases granted for a term of seven years or less. Such leases generally relate to occupation by social enterprises and charities of Council shops and factories and are not reported to Cabinet.

It is also proposed that the Financial Procedure Rules be amended to reflect that:-

- a) Cabinet approval is required for the purchase and disposal of freehold and leasehold interests in land where the consideration is £250,000 or more or, in any case, save for:
 - (i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or
 - (ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or
 - (iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

where the disposal of a freehold or leasehold interest is at less than best consideration.

- b) Cabinet approval is required for the purchase and disposal of leasehold interests in land where the annual rental is £250,000 or more or, in any case, save for:

- (i) leases granted for a term of seven years or less; or
- (ii) where a disposal of a surplus property is proposed at less than best consideration to a Voluntary and Community Sector organisation in accordance with the Surplus Building Policy (Community Benefit) approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 6th April 2011 and the consideration or annual rental is less than £250,000.00 before any concession; or
- (iii) where the disposal is within the scope of the Deputy Chief Executive's delegated authority to agree rent concessions;

where the disposal of a leasehold interest is at less than best consideration.

5.0 Reasons for decision

To provide a more efficient and streamlined approach to the acceptance of offers for the disposal of Council land and buildings.

6.0 Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected

The alternative options are:-

Not amend and continue with the existing Delegation Scheme and the procedure for the Disposal of Surplus Land and Property. This option would not take advantage of an opportunity to provide a more efficient procedure thereby assisting with the earlier receipt of capital sums.

This option has been considered and is not recommended.

7.0 Financial Implications and Legal Implications

The Executive Director of Commercial and Corporate Services has been consulted and his comments are contained in the report.

8.0 Background Papers

Appendix 1 - Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property.

<p style="text-align: center;">CABINET MEETING – 2 December 2009</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I</p>
<p>Title of Report: Strategy for Surplus Assets</p>
<p>Author(s): Deputy Chief Executive</p>
<p>Purpose of Report: This report outlines a strategy for the disposal or retention of surplus land and property assets (which for convenience are referred to as property in the remainder of the report). The strategy sets out a number of criteria against which the Council will make a judgement on whether it is in its best interests to dispose of or retain property that is no longer required for service delivery purposes. Surplus property is likely to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property that is no longer required for any Council operational purpose; • Vacant property that has development potential; • Tenanted property which does not contribute towards strategic priorities or help to meet performance targets.
<p>Description of Decision: Cabinet is recommended to: Agree the strategy for surplus assets, as set out in this report.</p>
<p>Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes</p>
<p>If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework</p>
<p>Suggested reason(s) for Decision:</p> <p>To ensure that the Council has a strategy in place that enables decisions in respect of the disposal or retention of assets to be made within the context of agreed criteria.</p> <p>To demonstrate that where a decision to dispose of an asset has been made, the disposals process is undertaken in accordance with an agreed methodology.</p>
<p>Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:</p> <p>The Council could decide not to adopt a strategy for disposal of surplus assets. Such an option would not enable the Council to demonstrate that it had properly considered and aligned its asset base to the corporate goals of the organisation. This option has therefore been considered and is not recommended.</p>

<p>Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? Yes</p>	<p>Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Management</p>
<p>Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes</p>	

CABINET**2 December 2009****Strategy for Surplus Assets****Report of Deputy Chief Executive****1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 This report outlines a strategy for the disposal or retention of surplus land and property assets (which for convenience are referred to as property in the remainder of the report). The strategy sets out a number of criteria against which the Council will make a judgement on whether it is in its best interests to dispose of or retain property that is no longer required for service delivery purposes. Surplus property is likely to be:

- property that is no longer required for any Council operational purpose;
- vacant property that has development potential;
- tenanted property which does not contribute towards strategic priorities or help to meet performance targets.

2.0 Description of Decision

2.1 Agree the strategy for surplus assets, as set out in this report.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Council has an extensive property holding which can broadly be divided into two categories: -

- operational property, i.e. property used to deliver services; and
- non-operational property, which is all other property.

There is not a definitive guide to determine what property should be held in either category but the Council has followed the guidance agreed between the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for the valuation of local authority property assets and subsequently adopted by the Government in its guidance to local authorities for asset management. Examples are set out below.

- Operational – schools, leisure centres, libraries, plus offices and depots used to support service delivery.
- Non Operational – land awaiting development, investment property (e.g. industrial units), surplus property.

It should be noted that as part of this categorization certain operational assets, such as parks and historic buildings, are defined as community assets, which the Council holds in perpetuity, and may have restrictions on their disposal.

A more detailed analysis of the categorisation of land and property assets is shown in **Appendix 1**.

- 3.2 The Council's property portfolio is managed as a corporate resource allowing decisions on the use, acquisition and disposal of assets to be taken to address and deliver the Council's strategic priorities.

- 3.3 In 2008 the Department for Communities and Local Government published "Building on Strong Foundations – A Framework for Local Authority Asset Management". This document defines strategic asset management as:

'... the activity that seeks to align the asset base with the organisation's corporate goals and objectives. It ensures that the land and buildings asset base of an organisation is optimally structured in the best corporate interests of the organisation concerned'.

- 3.4 It is important that the Council ensures that strategic property decisions are taken within the context of the above definition. This report therefore seeks approval to a strategy for surplus assets that will enable such decisions to be taken in the best interests of the Council.

4.0 Strategy for Surplus Assets

- 4.1 There will be a presumption that surplus property is disposed of other than where, after satisfaction of one or more of the following tests, it is concluded that there is a case to retain the property. These tests will be applied to operational property that has been declared surplus to requirements as follows:

4.1.1 Strategic Needs

Where it can be demonstrated that property, which has been declared to be surplus to operational requirements, is required to meet the strategic aims of the Local Area Agreement, the Sunderland Strategy 2008-2025, or the Corporate Improvement Objectives of the Council, the property may be retained.

4.1.2 Financial Risk

In circumstances where the Council is exposed to significant financial risks, the retention of surplus property may be required as a strategic response to the management of those financial risks.

4.1.3 Regeneration Requirements

Where it is anticipated that as part of a medium to longer term land assembly programme, surplus property may be retained, where it will ultimately lead to the delivery of regeneration objectives.

4.1.4 Partnership Working

Through the Head of Land and Property the Deputy Chief Executive will consult with partners on the Strategic Property Group. Property

may be retained for use for partnership working with public or private sector partners, where it is anticipated that retention will lead to improved outcomes for service delivery, or where enhanced values can be realised through partnership working, or both.

4.1.5 Heritage

In some instances, the retention of heritage assets may be necessary to ensure that the property is maintained in good order, to prevent blight to the property and the surrounding area.

- 4.2 Following the application of the above tests, and where property is to be retained, temporary uses will be considered to minimise risks relating to security, rates, property maintenance, and loss of investment income.
- 4.3 Where property is to be disposed of, the Portfolio Holder for Resources will be consulted, together with the appropriate ward members. The property will be included in the disposal programme for release either when market conditions are optimum so as to secure the highest capital receipt, or when it is considered that the Council's funding requirements are such that a capital receipt should be realised. On becoming surplus to requirements, and whether the property is to be disposed of or retained, its management will be undertaken by Property Services. Where it is agreed that any capital receipt will revert to the service area, the costs of dilapidations and the management costs of holding the property will be borne by the service which previously occupied the building. These management arrangements will be subject to a detailed agreement between Property Services and the service area. Where it is agreed that the capital receipt will be held corporately, the costs will be met corporately.

5.0 Method of Disposal

- 5.1 Once a decision has been taken to dispose of a property, the method of disposal will need to be determined. The disposal could vary from the grant of a leasehold interest to a freehold disposal and the method could be by negotiation, auction or by marketing and tender process. These methods are detailed in **Appendix 2** and the preferred method for each disposal will be recommended by the Deputy Chief Executive, following consultation with the Capital Strategy Group, setting out the rationale for the business case.
- 5.2 In the main, significant disposals take place using an informal tender process, the procedure for which is set out in section 7.
- 5.3 In some instances, a leasehold disposal of a property may provide for rent concessions. The Council's rent concessions policy, agreed by Cabinet in October 2008, is set out in **Appendix 3**.

6.0 Best Consideration

- 6.1 The Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to dispose of surplus property in any manner including the sale of freehold interests, granting of leases, assignment of any unexpired term of a lease and the granting of easements. Any disposal must be for the best consideration reasonably obtainable unless it is progressed under the provisions of the General Disposal Consent referred to in paragraph 6.5 and **Appendix 4**. A specific consent will be required for the disposal where land is held under powers derived from the Housing Act 1985 or the disposal of land under section 233 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The provisions for disposal for best consideration do not apply to tenancies of a term of less than 7 years, or to the assignment of a lease with less than 7 years of its term remaining.
- 6.2 The Courts have considered the definition of best consideration and held that it is the highest price achievable without restrictions on use.
- 6.3 There is no statutory definition in respect of the method to be adopted to demonstrate best consideration has been obtained. It is generally held that providing an authority has acted reasonably it is entitled to form its own view as to whether a particular price is the best consideration which can be reasonably obtained.
- 6.4 In this respect, all local authorities are recommended to obtain a realistic valuation for disposals so that they can determine whether the proposed price is the best consideration reasonably obtainable. The realistic valuation to be the assessment of the likely sale price based on the RICS Valuation Standards definition of Market Value:

“ The estimated amount for which a property should exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm’s length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties had acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion”

but also taking into account the existence of any ‘special purchaser’ where the combination of one or more interests in property will create a new asset with a higher value than the sum of the individual interests.

The value will have regard to: -

- any restrictions on the use of the property in the title deeds;
- the planning allocation in the Unitary Development Plan or Local Development Framework and planning guidance on acceptable alternative uses;
- highway constraints;
- known property defects (the condition of the building, ground condition problems and the like);
- market conditions;
- relevant comparable evidence of recent market transactions for the type of property.

This should be done irrespective of the method of disposal. Disposal by tender, sealed bids or auction does not automatically mean that best consideration has been obtained. Indeed legal commentators have stated the converse, that there is no presumption that such methods are essential to establish best consideration. The Council is expected to act consistently, record evidence and be satisfied that its fiduciary duty has been discharged.

- 6.5 The Local Government Act 1972: General Disposal Consent (England) 2003 provides a general consent removing the requirement for the Council to seek specific approval from the Secretary of State for a wide range of disposals at less than best consideration to a maximum undervalue of £2,000,000.
- 6.6 The terms of the general consent means that specific consent is not required for the disposal for less than best consideration where the Council considers it will help to secure the promotion or improvement of the economic social or environmental wellbeing of its area as set out in **Appendix 4**. In these cases the advice of the Chief Solicitor will be sought to ensure that the legal basis of the disposal is sound.

7.0 Disposal Procedure for Surplus Land and Property

- 7.1 At its meeting on the 14th March 2007 Cabinet agreed a procedure for the disposal of surplus land and property. At its meeting on the 11th December 2008 the Policy and Co-ordination Review Committee agreed that improvements to the procedure be recommended for adoption by Cabinet. The disposal procedure, together with the proposed improvements shown in italics, is set out as follows: -

The main steps in the disposal procedure are as follows:

- Step 1: Following consultation with all Directorates, land is declared surplus to requirements and alternative uses evaluated.
- Step 2: Where a proposal is made to dispose, Ward Councillors are consulted and if appropriate, sales particulars and a design brief are prepared including guidance on the Council's expectations for planning, highway and open space/play requirements. *The design requirements and evaluation criteria are signed off by appropriate Heads of Service. The particulars will also contain a timeframe setting out the Council's requirements for various key stages to be achieved to seek to complete a disposal by a specific date.*
- Step 3: The site is marketed with sales particulars and a design brief is sent to prospective purchasers, and initial design submissions, including layout plans are requested by a closing date. *A contract for the disposal will be incorporated into the particulars.*

- Step 4: Design submissions are evaluated against the objectives of the brief.
- Step 5: Developers submitting acceptable designs are invited to submit financial offers by a closing date. A supplement to the financial offer is requested to provide a breakdown of any deductions made by the developer relating to known development costs to enable the offers to be evaluated by the Council.
- Step 6: Financial offers are opened in the presence of the Mayor.
- Step 7: The highest acceptable offer is recommended to Cabinet. (The offer is generally conditional upon the developer obtaining planning consent, a satisfactory ground condition report and availability of service connections. Developers will only commit to carrying out costly and detailed work in these areas once they have the comfort of knowing that the Council has conditionally accepted their offer).
- Step 8: The conditional contract issued with the sales particulars will be refined to meet the requirements of the disposal – the Council to sell the land at the offered price subject to the developer obtaining planning consent and obtaining a satisfactory ground condition report within a specified timescale. It is the conditional contract that gives the developer the comfort to invest in further work and also provides the Council with comfort that should another offer be received it can be disregarded without the risk of a legal challenge.
- Step 9: Developer submits planning application and commissions ground investigations.
- Step 10: Where a developer identifies abnormal ground conditions an application may be submitted to reduce the previously accepted price; this is scrutinised and a revised price provisionally agreed:
- An abnormal development cost claim in excess of £100,000, is scrutinised by independent external advisors appointed by the Council. In the case of a dispute regarding the value of any abnormal development costs, the Council's decision shall be final.
 - An abnormal development cost claim below £100,000 is scrutinised by the Deputy Chief Executive.
 - The Deputy Chief Executive has delegated authority to agree abnormal development costs for all sites up to a maximum of 10% of the original highest offer.

- In the case of abnormal development costs exceeding 10% of the original highest price the matter is referred to Cabinet to decide whether to either re-market the site or accept the reduced offer.

Step 11: Developer obtains planning consent and purchases site.

7.2 **Appendix 5** details the milestones and indicative timescales to be achieved for each major disposal. The milestones will in the main be the same for less significant disposals, although the timescales will be reduced. The particulars of sale for each disposal will contain the milestones and timescales to be adhered to. The Capital Strategy Group will receive performance reports on disposals progress against the timescales. Failure on the part of the developer to adhere to the timescale could result in a report to Cabinet recommending an alternative course of action.

8.0 Non Operational Property

8.1 The Council has acquired an extensive non operational property holding over a long period of time. It includes industrial units, managed workspaces, shops and market, and also comprises miscellaneous land and property acquired for a variety of purposes, not used for service delivery and often leased to others to generate an income. This miscellaneous element includes the following:

- property let as a general investment;
- land used for agricultural purposes including horse grazing;
- land used for private car parking and garages;
- land used for allotments, storage and garden purposes;
- land and buildings used by community groups;
- land let on ground leases (leases for long terms eg 99 years or more where the tenant is responsible for constructing a building and maintaining it during the course of the lease eg The Bridges);
- buildings used for offices (other than Council offices), pubs, restaurants;
- dwellings;
- third party rights (wayleaves, easements, rights of way etc predominantly but not exclusively to companies providing services to the City).

The non operational portfolio, including industrial units and shops, will be reviewed using option appraisal techniques, and reports will be brought forward recommending retention or disposal as appropriate. The appraisals process will include criteria in relation to the retention of property, if appropriate, to meet the tests set out in paragraph 4.1.

9.0 Decision Making

- 9.1 The Council's Constitution provides for a delegation to the Deputy Chief Executive to dispose of freehold and leasehold interests in property where the freehold value is less than £100,000 and in the case of leaseholds, where the annual rental is less than £50,000 (Paragraph 9.62 of delegation Scheme in Part 3 of the Constitution) . All other decisions to accept or decline offers for surplus property will be referred to Cabinet.

10.0 Reason for Decision

- 10.1 To ensure that the Council has a strategy in place that enables decisions in respect of the disposal or retention of assets to be made within the context of agreed criteria.
- 10.2 To demonstrate that where a decision to dispose of an asset has been made, the disposals process is undertaken in accordance with an agreed methodology.

11.0 Options

- 11.1 The Council could decide not to adopt a strategy for disposal of surplus assets. Such an option would not enable the Council to demonstrate that it had properly considered and aligned its asset base to the corporate goals of the organisation. This option has therefore been considered and is not recommended.

12.0 Consultations

- 12.1 The Chief Solicitor and the Director of Financial Resources have been consulted and their comments are contained in the report.

13.0 Background Papers

- 13.1 Asset Disposal working papers held by the Deputy Chief Executive.

CATEGORIZATION OF LAND AND PROPERTY ASSETS

Annexe B to UK appendix 1.5 Examples of asset categories

Annexe B to UK appendix 1.5
Examples of asset categories

1.

Operational assets

Land associated with operational *property*

Council dwellings

Other housing *properties*

Buildings

Office buildings

Schools

Libraries

Sports centres and pools

Golf courses/sports pitches (see note 1, below)

Residential homes/day centres

Museums and galleries

Depots and workshops (see note 2, below)

Cemeteries (buildings only)

Crematoria (buildings only)

Off-street car parks

Tenanted farms/smallholdings (see note 1, below)

Equipment

Vehicles

Mechanical plant

Computers

Fixtures and fittings

Other equipment
2.

Non-operational assets

Land awaiting development

Commercial *property*

Investment *property*

Annexe B to UK appendix 1.5 Examples of asset categories

- Surplus *assets* (see note 3, below)
- Golf courses/sports pitches
- Depots and workshops
- Tenanted farms/smallholdings
- Shops on housing estates (see note 1, below)
- Markets
- Mooring sites and rights/dockland/shipways (see note 1, below)

3. Infrastructure assets

- Roads
- Sea defences
- Bridges
- Permanent ways
- Water drainage
- Street furniture

4. Community assets

- Parks
- Historic buildings
- Works of art
- Museum exhibits
- Civic regalia
- Cemeteries (land only)
- Crematoria (land only)

Note 1: If these *properties* are held for investment purposes, they are non-operational. However, if they are held with particular service objectives in mind, they are operational.

Note 2: The identification of the category of these *properties* will depend on the individual circumstances in each case. If a *third party* uses them to provide the authority's services, then they are operational.

Note 3: Includes *property* released by a service and awaiting alternative use, as well as land and buildings declared surplus.

UK practice statements

APPENDIX 2**METHOD OF DISPOSAL****1.0 Definition**

- 1.1 The disposal of property is defined as the transfer, in any manner or by any means whatsoever, of property title for a consideration.

2.0 Statutory and Constitutional Requirements

- 2.1 Local authorities are given power under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to dispose of property in any manner they wish. The only constraint is that generally a disposal must be for best consideration reasonably obtainable.
- 2.2 The disposal of property is also regulated in Part 4 of the Rules of Procedure FPR 20. Under these procedures the disposal of property by Chief Officers should have due consideration to the Councils Capital Strategy and be executed as part of their Revenue Budget or Capital Programme as appropriate. Cabinet approval is required for the disposal of freehold interests in land where the consideration is £100,000 or more. Beneath this figure a sale can progress via delegated authority given to the Director of Development and Regeneration.

3.0 Methods of Sale

- 3.1 A decision to declare a property surplus to requirements may be taken either by Cabinet or by the Service Director in consultation with the Cabinet Portfolio Holder.

Once a decision has been made to disposal of an asset, there are four principle methods which may be employed for the disposal. These are set out below.

4.0 General Principles

- 4.1 The Head of Land and Property should recommend the most effective way of disposing of that interest in order to secure the best terms reasonably obtainable. A written record should be kept of the reasons for such recommendations e.g. cost, timescales etc.
- 4.2 Disposals of Council land should be seen to be fair and transparent.

5.0 Private Treaty

- 5.1 Procedure

The majority of property in the UK is sold through private treaty e.g.

private home sales via Estate Agents. A sale by private treaty occurs where property is marketed, valued and negotiations are carried out between the vendor and prospective purchasers (or their respective agents) privately, normally without any limit on the time within which they must be completed before contracts are exchanged.

5.2 Advantages

The advantages of the private treaty method are that it allows a flexible approach; time pressures are seldom imposed on either the vendor or the purchaser, and it is widely understood and accepted by the general public.

5.3 Disadvantages

The major disadvantage is that the proceedings cannot always overcome suspicions of unfair dealings, and it is therefore a method that is used with caution in the public sector.

There is no current time limit on these negotiations within which they must be completed.

5.4 Suitability

Generally, wherever there is likely to be more than one potential purchaser then surplus land/property disposals should be completed through a competitive tendering process by open advertisement on the market.

The main area where best consideration should be achievable by private treaty negotiations is where there is a special purchaser, that is a purchaser who has an existing interest in the property or area and has an interest over and above a normal market purchaser in purchasing the Council's interest.

Examples of special purchasers are:

- A purchaser who already controls significant property holdings in the area and is consolidating its holdings.
- A specific, albeit commercial, development proposal.
- An existing tenant where the merger of the freehold and leasehold interests give rise to "marriage value" and a price over and above what an ordinary market purchaser could offer.
- A property owner who is the only likely party interested in purchasing the Council's interest, eg land being sold for garden extensions.
- Those occasions where the Council wishes to support a specific use or development; allowing key objectives of the Sunderland Strategy to be delivered. Examples may include:

- Sales to Housing Associations;
- Sales to developers or companies for commercial development that creates new employment opportunity or protects existing jobs;
- Sales to religious, community or voluntary groups that meet the local need;
- Sales to selected partners.
- Sales to developers that can show preferred developer status.

Where the Council does decide to progress a private treaty disposal and an acceptable price cannot be negotiated then it retains the ability to dispose of the property by tender, sealed bids or by auction.

An acceptable price will depend upon the individual circumstances of each transaction but will primarily be whether the proposed sale price equals or exceeds the Market Value assessed by the Head of Land and Property.

6.0 Public Auction

6.1 Procedure

Auction is the process by which a property is sold to the highest bidder at a public sale.

The chosen auctioneer will confirm their terms of appointment, all charges (including the commission rates for sale on the day, sale after auction or no sale at all), will liaise with the City Solicitor, gather together the necessary paperwork, liaise with others to get Searches, Planning Permissions, Specialist Reports, Tenancy agreements, Architectural Plans and get Special Conditions of Sale prepared for the property. This will all contribute towards the legal pack which potential buyers can inspect on or before the auction. Auctioneers may also provide services for putting up sale boards and showing potential bidders around the property. This may be done at set times before the auction. Some auction houses also provide the services of Internet and telephone bidding to complement the bidding in the auction room itself on the day.

The property is advertised by the auction house prior to the auction to gain maximum coverage for the property.

On the day of the auction, each lot is described prior to being offered. If bidding reaches the reserve price the property will be sold on the fall of the hammer, with contracts effectively being exchanged at that point. The clerk or auction administrator will require the buyer to sign the sale documentation and pay a 10% sale deposit on the day.

6.2 Advantages

- Certainty of sale. When the hammer comes down contracts are exchanged and the buyer is legally committed. The buyer must pay a deposit of the sale price before leaving the auction house and the remaining balance within a set period;
- interest from two or more prospective buyers will encourage them to bid against each other;
- the process of competitive bidding will help property to achieve 'best price' on the day. Where sales are required to achieve 'best price' and where auction is the chosen route then this is guaranteed and open to public scrutiny;
- With Private Treaty sales a price agreed may not be the price finally received eg a deduction for cost of repairs or abnormal costs not known at the time offers were received. With Auction there is no re-negotiation, no discounting to take account of survey findings. With Auction the buyer will have fully researched the property's condition prior to bidding and cannot reduce the sale price after the hammer has fallen.

6.3 Disadvantages

- To the extent that an auction is a 'sold as seen/buyer beware' deal, it requires buyers to accept higher risks than they would accept in a more conventional deal. Buyers will cope with this extra risk by bidding less than they otherwise would in a sale by private treaty/tender and the property may therefore sell for less than full market value.
- Not generally the accepted disposal method by general public bodies because of costs of preparatory works and unusual environment.
- The auctioneer will seek to enter into a sole agency agreement. This means they will advertise our property in brochures and catalogues on behalf of the vendor. The Council would be responsible for the cost of that advertising, as well as a portion of the room hire fee, regardless of whether the property sells. On top of this, the auctioneer generally charges the seller around 2.5% commission on the sale.
- Although auction houses will often state that one of the advantages of auction is the speed of the sale, by the time a property has been prepared for auction the process is often no quicker than conventional methods.
- There is no guarantee that the property will sell at auction and abortive costs will have been incurred.

6.4 Suitability

Selling property at auction is by no means suitable for every type of property. Auctions usually focus on unusual, hard-to-value premises such as churches and village halls, as well as properties in

need of renovation although in recent years the method has become more popular for selling job lots including ground rents and investment properties.

7.0 Formal Tender

7.1 Procedure

This is similar to an auction in that all the preparatory work is done prior to marketing and offers made are legally binding.

The formal tender document is the contract from sale so all of the relevant issues must as far as possible have been resolved before the tender procedure commences. The vendor then invites sealed bids to be received by a certain date, subject to the caveat that it will not be bound to accept the highest, or any tender.

7.2 Advantages

The period for identifying a proposed purchaser can be defined and controlled, and that the process can be demonstrated to be transparent. Prospective purchasers have sufficient time to consider all of the relevant issues before submitting an offer and will have the opportunity to contact the vendor for any further information they may want, so the offer is likely to be informed and reasonably represent the highest figure that particular purchaser would pay.

7.3 Disadvantages

The disadvantage is that some prospective purchasers will be deterred by the finality of the process whereby only one offer may be submitted and there is no subsequent chance to amend that offer in terms of price and timescale.

7.4 Suitability

This method of sale is rarely used in practice and is suitable only in limited circumstances.

8.0 Informal Tender

8.1 Procedure

The procedure is similar to that of formal tenders but the tender applicant may submit conditional offers that will only become binding once those conditions have been satisfied e.g. grant of planning permission and site investigations.

The method of quantifying abnormal development costs is set out in

this policy. These costs could occur on Greenfield or Brownfield sites.

In such circumstances it is usual for a developer to approach the Council with an application to reduce the original offer price by the amount of these costs. The costs would have been quantified following site investigations and would be challenged and verified by the Council's in house technical team. The policy therefore states that sales particulars include details of the areas of work that the Council would accept as qualifying as abnormal development costs. In addition where offers exceed £1m, any application for a price reduction over £100,000 will be scrutinised by external advisors appointed by the Council. The Director of Development and Regeneration is authorised to agree abnormal development costs up to a maximum of 10% of the original offer and any reduction exceeding 10% is to be referred to Cabinet. In any event the Council's decision would be final.

8.2 Advantages

The main advantage of this procedure is that it is well known and acceptable to the market place. This method has the advantage of allowing both vendor and purchaser more flexibility and scope to respond to matters which may emerge during the tender process. The timetable can therefore be managed from inception to completion.

8.3 Disadvantages

Conversely to the advantages, this method has the disadvantage of introducing an element of uncertainty.

8.4 Suitability

This method of disposal is suitable for a wide range of disposals, especially where significant demand is expected e.g. housing and mixed use sites.

9.0 Conclusions

- The Council has a statutory obligation to achieve best consideration in the disposal of its property
- There are a number of methods available for the disposal of property
- Officers should recommend the most effective method for each individual circumstance and this recommendation should be clearly reasoned in writing.
- All disposals should be seen to be fair and transparent.

APPENDIX 3

RENT CONCESSION POLICY

1.0 Policy for Rent Concessions – Agreed by Cabinet 8 October 2008 in respect of property leased by the Council.

1.1 The policy for rent concessions will be as follows:

- Manufacturing business already benefit from a 50% rent discount in the first year of occupancy as an incentive to create jobs. Further rent concessions will also be considered in circumstances whereby tenants can demonstrate that existing jobs will be protected or new jobs created as a result. In both cases consideration will be on the basis of consultation with the Council's Business and Investment Team and City Treasurer.
- Managed Workspace tenants may benefit from rent discounts of 75% for the first 6 months, 50% for a further 6 months, 25% for months 12 to 18 and a full rent thereafter. This provides an incentive to start new business and create new jobs. Eligibility criteria have been established which are attached at Appendix 2, and the process is administered by Property Services. Any further extended rent concessions will be on the basis of consultation with the Council's Business Investment Team and the City Treasurer, and subject to the limits contained in the recommendations of this report.
- Rent concessions for shop, industrial or vacant premises will be given consideration where the tenant undertakes remedial works which are the responsibility of the Council as follows: -
 - A concession equivalent to 100% of the costs of works undertaken will be considered where a tenant carries out works such as the removal of items belonging to a previous tenant, or the execution of dilapidation works that, in default, have not been attended to by the previous tenant or the Council as Landlord.
- Rent concessions may be given where the tenant proposes to undertake improvement works which will provide long term benefit to the property as follows:
 - A concession equivalent to 50% of the costs of improvement works undertaken will be considered where a tenant proposes to alter or improve the premises which will result in significant and lasting benefit to the Council, for example converting two shops into one which will improve the trading position of the unit and its longer term marketability.

- Rent concessions may be given where the tenant proposes to undertake works which are their responsibility but are high cost and will provide significant and long term benefit to the property as follows: -
 - A concession equivalent to 25% of the costs of works undertaken will be considered where a tenant proposes to carry out works which would normally be a tenants responsibility but are considered to be a long term benefit to the premises, for example re-wiring, installation of a new heating system.
- Rent concessions may be given for difficult to let property which has been vacant for some time and will lead to the property being brought back to beneficial use which will lead to new job creation, services to the community and a financial return for the Council. Although each case will need to be considered on its particular merits, a concession based on this criterion would normally be considered where a property has been vacant for at least 3 months.

In all cases lease terms will state that the works are to be timetabled and detailed as positive covenants, classed as Landlords improvement works and any attributable additional value will be included in future rent reviews throughout the lease term. Any departures from the policy will be reported to Cabinet for approval.

2.0 Procedure for Request of Rent Concession

The procedure for dealing with a request for a rent concession will form part of the adopted Letting Strategy and be included within internal Quality Assurance procedures. The procedure, which should be read in conjunction with the policy, is set out below.

- 2.1 A request for a rent concession is received, in writing from the tenant, providing full details of the proposal.
- 2.2 The property is then inspected by the Council's Surveying Services Manager and findings recorded to confirm works are reasonable and required for business purposes and satisfy the circumstances set out in section 6.1 above.
- 2.3 The tenant or prospective tenant provides three written quotes for works from suitable contractors.
- 2.4 The Council's Surveying Services Manager confirms within 20 working days, whether or not the quotes reflect value for money in terms of cost and specification, and a reasonable timescale for completion is provided.

- 2.5 Where a rent concession is agreed at officer level, or by Cabinet where necessary, this will be stated in the Heads of Lease Terms that are issued to prospective tenants in accordance with the lettings procedure.
- 2.6 Upon completion of the lease and the works, the Surveying Services Manager will ensure that the work has been carried out to a satisfactory standard, the tenant has paid for the works and the contractor engaged was one of those for whom a quote was provided earlier in the process.

3.0 Delegations

- 3.1 The Director of Development and Regeneration is authorised to agree rent concessions up to a value of £25,000 a year per property and up to a total value of £50,000 over the term of the lease. Cabinet approval will be required for amounts over these values.

The grant of any proposed rent concessions will be subject to the prior consultation and approval of the Resources Portfolio Holder.

- 3.2 In all cases the economic, social or environmental benefits will be identified as part of the supporting documentation.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Council's managed property portfolio consists of factory units, 5 managed workspace centres, the Place at Sunnyside, shops, and Jacky Whites Market, together with miscellaneous properties ranging from tenancies at the Port of Sunderland to offices and buildings for community use. The Bridges shopping development also provides the Council with an annual rental income. The portfolio is held to meet the Council's strategic objectives and for investment purposes, the revenue from which provides funding for Council services through the Council's financial planning processes.

The annual rental received from the portfolio fluctuates depending upon occupancy rates, but on average is in the region of £5.2m. Rent concessions have previously been granted to tenants in appropriate circumstances, for example for difficult to let property, or as an incentive to new business and to secure job creation. In the vast majority of cases concessions relate to the management of the shops and factories portfolio. Appendix 1 outlines the property to which concessions are most likely to apply based upon 2007/08 figures.

- 4.2 Rent concessions are an acknowledged part of property management practice as well as a tool to encourage investment and secure job creation. As a general rule a rent concession can be defined as a rent free period the length of which can reflect both the

cost of works proposed to be carried out to a property by a tenant in order to bring it into use, and the period of time that the property cannot be used by the tenant for business whilst the work is being undertaken. Concessions may be given for works that are either the responsibility of the Council as landlord, or which are required by the tenant to bring the property into operational use for their specific business. The grant of a rent concession will provide an incentive to the tenant and can make a crucial difference in being able to grant leases to start-up businesses, bring vacant property into use and to secure job creation in accordance with the Council's Prosperous City priority.

It should be noted that there may be circumstances where both a rent concession for fit out, and a separate concession supported by the Business Investment Team and justified by job creation, may be applicable for the same property.

- 4.3 The benefits to the Council that can result from a rent concession include the subsequent income from the letting of vacant property, the creation and or the retention of jobs, potential increase in value of the Council's property asset as a result of tenant investment and potentially a greater certainty of revenue income in the longer term.
- 4.4 The value of the rent concession will vary depending on individual circumstances and examples that can prompt the use of a rent concession can include capital works such as small extensions to property, remedial works that are normally the responsibility of the Council as landlord, fitting out works at the commencement of a lease such as installation of trade counters, display windows, floor coverings, plant and equipment.
- 4.5 The rent concession policy also needs to take into account competition from elsewhere, for example adjacent areas which can offer the benefits of Enterprise Zone status and other landlords offering particularly advantageous and lengthy rent concessions without conditions.
- 4.6 The Council has a general duty under Section 123 of the Local Government Act 1972, to dispose of land other than short tenancies for the best consideration that can be reasonably be obtained. Short tenancies are those involving the grant of a term not exceeding 7 years or an assignment where at the date of assignment the lease has not more than 7 years to run.

A circular issued in 2003 on general disposal consent enables Local Authorities to carry out the statutory duties and functions and fulfil other objectives they consider necessary or desirable, bearing in mind their fiduciary duties.

In summary, the Authority can dispose at less than best

consideration subject to the condition that the under value does not exceed 2 million pounds. The exercise of the power is linked to the Council's well-being powers under Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. There are also limitations regarding land held under certain powers and guidance as to how a valuation should be undertaken. Thus the Council does also have appropriate powers to grant rent concessions, for longer tenancies where it would be in the interests of the economic development of its area.

Property to which rent concessions are most likely to apply based upon 2007/2008 figures.

Type	No. of Units	Number Vacant	Approx. Full Rental £ per annum	Rent Received £ per annum	Approx Average Rent per Unit £ per annum
Shops	195	4	653,000	633,417	3,350
Factories	*1 112	8	1,795,000	1,750,515	16,000
Managed Workspace	148	*2 32	291,000	*3 181,149	1,228
Jacky Whites Market	85	3	385,000	357,855	4,500

*₁ - Does not include units at Salterfen and Rheims Court which are vacant and due to be demolished.

*₂ - 15 of which are vacant at Southwick Centre following recent refurbishment.

*₃ - Tenants of start up business benefit from discounted rent

Eligibility for Concession

Eligible applicants are defined as those:-

1. Being in the process of setting up a business in order to commence trading;
2. Having an established business, which is trading from a home address and has not previously held commercial premises for that particular business use;
3. Being in the process of creating a new franchise of an established business;
4. Being in the process of creating new satellite trading premises of an established business, with a clearly defined new project.

Retail and automotive repairs are considered to be ineligible activities.

APPENDIX 4**DISPOSAL AT LESS THAN BEST CONSIDERATION****1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The Council has power under The Local Government Act 1972 Section 123 to dispose of surplus property in any manner including the sale of freehold interests, granting of leases, assignment of any unexpired term of a lease and the granting of easements. With the exception of short tenancies with a term of less than 7 years or the assignment of a lease with less than 7 years of its term remaining the only constraint is that the disposal must be for the best consideration reasonably obtainable. Any other disposal at less than best consideration requires the approval of the Secretary of State.
- 1.2 Section 123 will apply to the majority of disposals by the Council however there are other provisions for disposals such as section 233 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- 1.3 The Government has emphasised that its policy is that local authorities should dispose of surplus property wherever possible and it is expected that disposals should be for the best consideration obtainable. However, it recognises there may be circumstances where local authorities may consider it appropriate to dispose of property at an undervalue and subject to the authority being satisfied that the circumstances warrant such action in line with its fiduciary duty has issued a General Consent for disposals.

2.0 General Disposal Consent (England) 2003

- 2.1 The Local Government Act 1972: General Disposal Consent (England) 2003 provides a general consent removing the requirement for the Council to seek specific approval from the Secretary of State for a wide range of disposals at less than best consideration. The Council is granted consent to dispose of property at less than best consideration where the undervalue does not exceed £2million and considers the disposal is likely to contribute to the achievement of the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the whole or any part of the area or all or any persons resident or present in the area. It is for the Council to decide whether any particular disposal meets these criteria or continues to require specific consent under the 1972 Act.
- 2.2 Consent is still required for disposals for less than best consideration where the undervalue exceeds £2,000,000 or where the land is held under the Housing Act 1985 or for planning purposes.
- 2.3 The Consent and the Government guidance on well-being powers state the Council should have regard to its Community Strategy and whilst a

proposal need not be specifically referred to in the strategy the Government expects the Council to think very carefully before using the power in a way which ran counter to the aims and objectives of the strategy.

- 2.4 The Council must be able to demonstrate that it has acted reasonably in agreeing undervalue transactions, particularly as it is unlikely that aggrieved unsuccessful or potential purchasers or local residents will in all cases accept the decision. A fundamental issue will be the ability to demonstrate reasonableness having regard to applicable policy.
- 2.5 The decision to dispose of property at less than best consideration is to be made rationally and fairly.

3.0 State Aid

- 3.1 Where the Council disposes of property at less than best consideration it is providing a subsidy to the owner, developer and/or occupier of the property. Where this occurs the Council must ensure that the disposal complies with the European Commission's State Aid rules.

4.0 Proposals

- 4.1 Sales of property at an undervalue in Sunderland have only ever taken place on an exceptional basis and to ensure future requests are considered appropriately the following guidelines will apply.
- 4.2 Proposals to dispose of property for less than best consideration will be considered by the Capital Strategy Group with the following information:-
 - (i). A valuation report undertaken by a qualified valuer setting out the valuation of the interest to be disposed in accordance with the Consent's Technical Appendix and the requirements of the RICS's Valuation Standards UK Guidance Note 5. This requires valuations to be prepared to show:-
 - A). The unrestricted value, the best price reasonably obtainable if the Council's aim was to maximise the capital receipt.
 - B). The restricted value, the market value of the property having regard to the terms of the proposed transaction.
 - C). The value of voluntary conditions, the total capital value of conditions imposed voluntarily by the Council as terms of the disposal. These may include non property benefits including operational savings. This valuation will need to be prepared in conjunction with the Project Sponsor, see (ii) below.

If the difference between the values shows the undervalue and where this is less than £2million the Council has the ability to proceed with the disposal.

Where the assessment shows the undervalue to be in excess of £2million the Council will need to seek the approval of the Secretary of State. This application will require a valuation report as detailed above.

- (ii). The Project Sponsor will need to provide an assessment of the capital value to the Council of those benefits of the proposal which are capable of monetary assessment (e.g. operational savings or income generation, leveraging in of additional financial resources) together with an assessment with supporting evidence of the value of non-monetary benefits (economic benefits such as job creation, environmental improvements, health and safety benefits, etc and social benefits to the community).
- (iii). Confirmation from the Project Sponsor that the disposal will contribute positively towards an agreed Council priority and will not adversely affect any other priority project or area, together with a clear statement showing where the scheme fits within service priorities.
- (iv). A clear statement from the Project Sponsor that the benefits which the city or its residents will derive cannot be achieved unless the sale takes place at an undervalue and confirming that no alternative means of funding is available. In case where the proposed disposal is to an identified person/organisation without a tender process this will normally only be possible by provision of a robust business plan and analysis of the financial standing of the organisation.
- (v). Details (having taken advice from the Head of Land and Property) of the proposed terms of the transaction which will ensure (as far as possible) that the disposal will contribute to the achievement of well-being locally.
- (vi). Confirmation that the property is held for purposes to which the General Disposal Consent Order applies or if not whether the property can be appropriated to a purpose within the Consent Order.
- (vi). Any views of Members.
- (vii). A statement from the Chief Solicitor on whether he considers the disposal at an under value is within the provisions of the General Disposal Consent Order and complies with the European Commission State Aid rules.

APPENDIX 5**Timeframe for Disposal by Informal Tender**

Start date	Site marketed by Property Services
+ 8 weeks	Closing date for layouts
+ 4 weeks	Evaluation of layouts by planning and engineering completed
+ 4 weeks	Developers requested by Property Services to revise layouts
+ 4 weeks	Layouts confirmed to be acceptable and financial offers sought by Property Services
	DfES consent sought if required
+ 4 weeks	Return of financial offers
+ 4 weeks	Offers reported by Property Services to Cabinet
1 day	Solicitors instructed by Property Services
within 2 weeks	Pre application meeting developer & Development Control
+ 6 weeks	Completion of conditional contract via Property Services and Legal and submission of planning application
	DfES consent obtained if necessary
+ 13 weeks	Planning consent granted (minimum)
	Referred to SoS if required
	Renegotiation of price by Property Services and external consultant if required by policy, due to changes in layout to secure planning consent/abnormal development costs*
	Revised price considered by Cabinet
	Highway stopping up order triggered by grant of planning consent (minimum)
+ 1 day Scheduled completion	
(Minimum 49 weeks)	

CABINET MEETING – 7 September 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report: Youth Justice Plan 2011-2012	
Author(s): Executive Director of Children's Services	
Purpose of Report: The Youth Justice Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval. The report informs Cabinet of the background, purpose and intentions of the plan and seeks approval of Cabinet to forward the plan for full Council approval.	
Description of Decision: Following consultation with various partners, including Cabinet, Children's Trust and Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet is recommended to approve the report and the Youth Justice Plan 2010 – 2011 (attached) and recommend that it is presented to full Council for ratification.	
Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes	
If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework	
Suggested reason(s) for Decision: The Youth Justice Plan is an Article 4 plan under the Constitution of the Council and is the primary document for YOT partnerships to set out how they will deliver against the Youth Justice Board (YJB) performance management framework for Youth Offending Teams (YOT's) and is a key source for local youth justice planning. The Youth Justice Plan was submitted to the Youth Justice Board by their required submission date of 30 th June 2011.	
Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The alternative option is not to submit the Youth Justice Plan to full Council. This would have a negative impact on local youth justice planning, and the service's ability to deliver against its action plans.	
Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? Yes	Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Children, Young People and Learning
Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes	

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2011-2012

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The Youth Justice Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval.
- 1.2 The report informs Cabinet of the background, purpose and intentions of the plan and seeks approval of Cabinet to forward the plan for full Council approval.

2. Description of Decision (Recommendations)

- 2.1 Following consultation with various partners, including Children's Trust and Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee, Cabinet is recommended to agree the contents of the report and the Youth Justice Plan 2010 – 2011 (attached) and recommend that it is presented to full Council for ratification.

3. Introduction/Background

- 3.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 required the Chief Executive of each local authority area to set up a multi-agency Youth Offending Team / Service (YOT / YOS) governed by a multi-agency Management Board. The act required that each Team / Service produce an annual Youth Justice Plan.
- 3.2 The Sunderland YOS Management Board comprises the four statutory agencies of the Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health as well as the area courts as a local partner. The attached Youth Justice Plan 2011-2012 was considered by the multi-agency YOS Management Board on 26th May 2011.
- 3.3 The Youth Justice Board (YJB) currently oversees the youth justice system in England and Wales (though this will transfer to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) in the near future). The YJB is required to monitor performance of the youth justice system and report to the Home Secretary. The YJB does this through the collection of performance data and annual Youth Justice Plans.
- 3.4 Each year the YJB issues guidance on the required content for the annual Youth Justice Plan and sets out the required submission date. The Youth Offending Service partnership is therefore given a defined period for the development of the Youth Justice Plan and for the relevant consultations to be undertaken. For 2011-2012 the guidance received from the YJB was that there were no set criteria or templates and that the content of the plan should be in line with local planning arrangements. The plan is to be submitted to the Youth Justice Board by their required submission date of 30th June 2011.

4. Current Position – Youth Justice Plan 2011 - 2012

- 4.1 The Youth Justice Plan 2011 – 2012 sets out the principal aim of the Sunderland Youth offending Service to '*prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people*'. It also sets out the key related outcomes of reducing the numbers of first time entrants to the criminal justice system, reducing the proven rate of re-offending for children and young people and maintaining a low use of custody.

- 4.2 The Youth Justice Plan 2011-2012 sets out a number of service development priorities that have been developed on the basis of a comprehensive needs analysis drawing on evidence from a range of sources including:-
- The national and local policy context for youth justice.
 - Performance against key national and local outcome targets.
 - Analysis of prevention and youth offending service assessment data.
 - Outcomes of practice quality assurance audits
 - Analysis Viewpoint data (an interactive game style evaluation tool for use with young people).
 - Outcomes of consultation with children and young people using Sunderland Youth Offending Services.
 - Outcomes of consultations with parents and carers.
 - Outcomes of consultations and satisfaction surveys with victims of crime (this takes into consideration young victims and the views of the wider population of children and young people through the young people's fear of crime survey)
 - Consultation with members of the general public on restorative justice services.
- 4.3 The plan sets out the outstanding performance of Sunderland Youth Offending service and it's achievements during 2010-2011. The service's validated achievements for the whole of 2010/11 are:
- First time entrants reduced by 48.7% at the end of 2010/11 against a national target of 1.9% (257 FTEs in 2010/11 compared with 501 in 2009/10).
 - Youth re-offending reduced by 17.3% at the end of 2010/11 against a three year (2008-2011) target of 10% reduction (rate of re-offences 0.98 compared with 1.18 in 2005).
 - 90.8% in education, training or employment at the end of their YOS intervention (354 of 390 young people).
 - 99.1% in suitable accommodation at the end of their YOS intervention (423 of 427).
 - A low use of custody at just 1.9% (13 of 677).
 - No differences in sentencing on the basis of ethnic origin.
 - National recognition in the YJB Communicating Youth Justice Awards 2010 for work in communicating, through the local media, action taken to reduce youth offending.
 - Highly commended in prestigious Local Government Chronicle Awards 2011 for the effective management of services.
 - Winner of a Sun FM Business Award for our *Contribution to Children's Services* in Sunderland.
 - Awarded a National Training Award for the Phoenix project which has supported children and young people in relation to education, training and employment.

5. Reasons for the Decision

- 5.1 The Youth Justice Plan is an Article 4 plan under the Constitution of the Council and is the primary document for YOT partnerships to set out how they will deliver against the Youth Justice Board (YJB) performance management framework for Youth Offending Teams (YOT's) and is a key source for local planning.

6. Alternative Options

- 6.1 The alternative option is not to submit the Youth Justice Plan to full council and for the plan not to be approved. This would result in an approved copy of the Youth Justice Plan 2011 – 2012 not being submitted to the Youth Justice Board thereby contravening YJB requirements for the submission of the annual Youth Justice Plan.

7. Relevant Considerations / Consultations

- 7.1 The relevant statutory partners as well as local partners have been consulted on the plan through the YOS Management Board.
- 7.2 Consultations and service user feedback have informed the development of the plan through the needs analysis underpinning the plan.
- 7.3 The report and plan has been presented to the Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee.

8. Glossary

MOJ Ministry of Justice
YJB Youth Justice Board
YOS Youth Offending Service

9. List of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Sunderland Youth Justice Plan 2011 – 2012.

SUNDERLAND YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2011 -2012

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Awards 2011

Highly Commended

FORWARD

On behalf of the Sunderland Youth Offending Service Management Board I am pleased to introduce the Youth Justice Plan 2011/ 2012. The plan reflects on our achievements for 2010 / 2011, our 10th Anniversary year. After a decade of working in partnership to reduce youth crime, we have made significant progress with dramatic reductions in re-offending and in the numbers of young people entering the criminal justice system. This has been achieved through award winning programmes, passionate and committed staff and a focus on delivering outcomes for children and young people, their families, victims and wider communities affected by youth crime.



In December 2010 the government published “*Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders*”. The document sets out the government’s proposals for it’s reform of the criminal justice system and represents the most significant changes to youth justice since the inception of Youth Offending Teams ten years ago.

This plan sets down, in the context of national reform, how the Sunderland Youth Offending Service partnership will embark on the next decade of delivering youth justice services in Sunderland. It sets out our core aims of continued reductions in young people re-offending and preventing young people entering the criminal justice system altogether. It also outlines our key objectives for the forthcoming year to achieve those aims.

We continue to strive to use resources in the most effective way by preventing the costs of crime through early intervention, transforming services to achieve efficiencies and by exploring re-investment models to produce longer term effectiveness.

As both a criminal justice agency and a children’s service, partnership working continues to be at the heart of our approach to reducing re-offending, ensuring public protection and safeguarding children. The governing Youth Offending Service Management Board remains a strong and committed significant partnership for the city and in 2011-2012 the Board will continue to develop and deliver innovative partnerships with statutory, voluntary, business and community sector partners to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people who offend and who are at risk of offending.

Keith Moore

Chair of the Sunderland Youth Offending Service Management Board
Executive Director of Children’s Services

INTRODUCTION

Sunderland Youth Offending Service is a multi-agency service comprising of the four statutory agencies of Police, Probation, Health and the Local Authority and works in partnership with other key agencies such as the area courts.

The principal aim of the service is to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people. The service works with:-

- Young people aged 10-17 who, because of alleged or actual offending have become involved in the criminal justice system.
- Children and young people identified as at risk of offending
- Families of children and young people offending or at risk of offending, and
- Victims of young people who have offended.

The role and responsibilities of local Youth Offending Teams / Services was set down by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. It also set down the requirement for each local area to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan, setting out how youth justice services will be delivered in the local area.

This plan sets out how youth justice services will be delivered in Sunderland in 2011 – 2012.

THE LOCAL AND NATIONAL CONTEXT

National Context – The publication of the governments green paper and consultation document “*Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders*”, heralds the most significant changes to youth justice legislation in the decade since Youth Offending Teams were established in April 2000. The paper proposes a number of changes across both youth justice sentencing and in relation to accountability in the youth justice system. Some of the key proposed changes are:-

- An increased focus on the use of restorative justice
- A focus on increasing the use of Parenting Orders and programmes that address the needs of families with complex problems
- The introduction of a payment by results model of funding and,
- Transfer of the responsibility for funding of young people entering the secure estate to local authorities.

Alongside this, national responsibilities for the monitoring of the effectiveness of the youth justice system will transfer from the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB) to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) creating a period of significant change in the national landscape around youth justice. In assuming national responsibility for youth justice the MOJ proposes to focus on a small number of key outcomes, specifically:-

- First time entrants to the youth justice system
- Proven rate of re-offending for children and young people who offend
- Use of custody

In addition to monitoring key outcomes, the YJB prior to transfer of responsibilities to the MOJ, will continue in 2011 – 2012 to collect a range of data regarding the effectiveness of

local youth justice services. This includes an annual audit of performance against National Standards for Youth Justice. An advice document on *"Information Management in Youth Offending Teams"*, has been released by the YJB to support local Youth Offending Teams to compile and collate performance and case level information whilst simultaneously ensuring that personal data is managed effectively and in accordance with legislative requirements. The green paper *"Breaking the Cycle"*, also indicates that there may be changes to the national framework for inspecting local Youth Offending Teams / Services with a more risk led approach targeting inspection and follow-up support where most needed.

Structure and Governance - Youth Offending Teams were set up under the statutory provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The act set down the requirement for a local youth offending team comprising the four statutory agencies of: the Local Authority (including Children's Services Social Care and Education), Police, Probation and Health. Accompanying the Crime and Disorder Act of 1998 was an inter-departmental circular on 'Establishing Youth Offending Teams', that set out the requirements for a governing chief officer steering group. In 2004 the YJB published *"Sustaining the Success: Extending the Guidance, Establishing Youth Offending Teams"*, that set down the requirements for steering groups to transfer into governing YOT Management Boards. The role and responsibilities of Youth Offending Teams and their governing Management Boards have since, and continue to be, regulated by National Standards for Youth Justice Services. The standards, that have recently been updated, include specific standards for YOT Management Boards. The Board is chaired by the Executive Director of Children's Services with a direct link to the Chief Executive of the local authority. The Sunderland YOS Management Board comprises representatives of the statutory partners as well as other local partners such as the area court. The governments consultation paper 'Breaking the Cycle', on proposed changes to youth justice legislation sets out that there are no proposed changes to the model of Youth Offending Teams.

The multi-agency Sunderland YOS Management Board is identified as a 'significant partnership' for Sunderland and it also provides the strategic links with other significant partnerships, and their associated strategic plans across children's services, criminal justice and community safety.

Local Partnership Arrangements— The YOS Management Board links into the Safer Sunderland Partnership (local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP)) and up to the Sunderland Partnership (LSP) through the Safer Sunderland Business Support Group. Sunderland YOS shares the aspirations of the Safer Sunderland Strategy 2008 - 2023 to ensure that *"everyone in Sunderland will be and feel safe and secure"*.

The YOS Board is aligned with the Children's Trust and its vision to work together to improve the life chances and aspirations for each child and young person in Sunderland. The YOS Board, through its Youth Justice Plan, is the responsible partnership for improving Priority Outcome 11 (Youth Offending) in the Children and Young People's Delivery Plan 2010-2013, the initial 3 year plan for implementing the Children and Young People Strategy 2010-2025.

Sunderland Youth Offending Service is committed to working in partnership with others to deliver on the full range of outcomes for children and young people who offend, their

families and victims. This includes for example, safeguarding children, public protection, reducing child poverty, swift administration of justice, reducing teenage pregnancy and many other key outcomes that support our core outcomes of preventing offending and re-offending.

Sunderland Youth Offending Service will work with other Youth Offending Teams in the area to continue appropriate links with the revised structures of the Local Criminal Justice Board until the appointment of the area Police and Crime Commissioner. The first Police and Crime Commissioners are expected to be elected in May 2012. The recently released Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill has set out plans to introduce Police and Crime Commissioners that will replace existing local Police Authorities. They will have a duty to work with other criminal justice partners in delivering effective criminal justice services.

It is within this national and local context that the priorities within this Sunderland Youth Justice Plan 2011 – 2012 are set.

ACHIEVEMENTS 2010 /11 - CELEBRATING A DECADE OF SUCCESS

2010 – 2011 was the 10th Anniversary year for Sunderland YOS since it's inception in April 2000 following the implementation of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. At the end of 2010, after a decade of delivering award winning services including having been a Beacon authority for reducing re-offending, the Sunderland Youth Offending Service partnership is able to demonstrate massive reductions in youth re-offending with even greater reductions in the rate of young people entering the criminal justice system. At the end of 2010:-

- First Time Entrants were reduced by 34%, against a national target of just 1.9%.
- Youth Re-offending was reduced by 27% against a three year target of 10%.

As both a children's service and a criminal justice agency Sunderland Youth Offending Service is committed to delivering life changing outcomes for children and young people who offend, for those at risk of offending for their families. whilst ensuring that justice is done for the victims of their offending and for

the wider community affected by youth crime. At the end of 2010 the Sunderland Youth Offending Service also demonstrated an outstanding performance against a range of other outcomes for children and young people who offend. These included:-

- 88% in education, training or employment at the end of their YOS intervention.
- 99.8% in suitable accommodation at the end of their YOS intervention
- A low use of custody at just 1.7%
- No differences in sentencing on the basis of ethnic origin.

Testimony to our success in enabling young people who offend to turn their lives around is the achievements that young people who have offended have made with the support of Sunderland Youth Offending Service, including young people winning Young Achievers Awards and Top Scorer Awards. Sunderland YOS can also demonstrate, how victims of young crime have been able to move on from offences against them, by being given a voice in how young people payback for their offending.



**Young Achievers Awards
2011**



**Young person makes good for
their offending**

Other achievements for 2010-2011 include:-

- National praise for keeping young people out of custody, which is recognised as one of the most expensive youth justice options.
- National recognition in the YJB Communicating Youth Justice Awards 2010 for work in communicating, through the local media, action taken to reduce youth offending.
- Highly Commended in prestigious Local Government Chronicle Awards 2011 for the effective management of services.
- Winner of a Sun FM Business Award for our *Contribution to Children's Services* in Sunderland.
- Awarded a National Training Award for the Phoenix project which has supported children and young people in relation to education, training and employment.



**Highly Commended Management Team
Local Government Chronicle Awards 2011**

NEEDS ANALYSIS

Our priorities for the year ahead are based on a comprehensive needs analysis drawing on evidence from a range of sources including:-

- The national and local context for youth justice.
- Performance against key national and local outcome targets.
- Analysis of prevention and youth offending service assessment data.
- Outcomes of practice quality assurance audits
- Analysis Viewpoint data – an interactive game style evaluation tool for use with young people.
- Outcomes of consultation with children and young people using Sunderland Youth Offending Services.
- Outcomes of consultations with parents and carers.
- Outcomes of consultations and satisfaction surveys with victims of crime. This takes into consideration young victims and the views of the wider population of children and young people through the young people's fear of crime survey
- Consultation with members of the general public on restorative justice services.



Consulting local people about how young people who offend can give back to local communities

The local and national context for youth justice sets down the strategic direction for Sunderland Youth Offending Service and it is within this context that preventing offending



YOS Manager talks to young people about their experiences and how Sunderland Youth Offending Service can make a difference

and re-offending remains the principal aim. Our performance demonstrates an excellent track record and we are committed to reducing rates of re-offending even further. Service user feedback provides us with a perspective on how best to do this whilst consultation with victims and the general public provides us with a greater insight into how this can be done whilst simultaneously ensuring that young people pay back the costs of their offending to their individual victims or to the wider communities in which they have offended.

OUTCOMES

Strategic Priorities

The principal aim of Sunderland Youth Offending Service is to:

“Prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people”.

The key outcomes for our principal aim are:-

1. To reduce the numbers of children and young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time (first time entrants)
2. To reduce re-offending by children and young people (proven rate of re-offending).

Additionally Sunderland Youth Offending Services is committed to preventing young people entering the secure estate (use of custody) and thus a third key outcome is:-

3. To maintain low levels of custodial sentencing.

Targets and actions against each outcome have been identified below. These have been established based on the needs analysis underpinning this Youth Justice Plan.

Preventing Young People Entering the Youth Justice System (First Time Entrants)

We will achieve this by:

- Further development of Arrest Diversion scheme to enable screening for risk and need at the earliest opportunity upon entry to the youth justice system.
- Ensuring robust risk assessments and monitoring arrangements in relation to families referred to YOS Prevention Services who refuse to engage.
- Ensuring the delivery of evidenced based parenting intervention to parents with identified need.
- Ensuring that young people identified as at risk of offending are engaged in suitable Education, Training and Employment.
- Ensure that young people identified as at risk of offending have access to suitable Accommodation.

Outcome Target: A further reduction in the numbers of first time entrants of 5%.

Reducing Re-offending

We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring that young people who offend are engaged in suitable Education, Training and Employment.
- Ensuring that young people who offend have access to suitable Accommodation.
- Undertaking an analysis of need around emotional and mental health services for young people who offend and develop appropriate performance monitoring in relation to access to services.
- Ensuring the delivery of evidenced based parenting interventions to parents with identified need.
- Increasing face to face victim / offender restorative justice interventions
- Delivering an effective programme of offending behaviour intervention with impact measured through evaluation.
- Ensuring effective enforcement of statutory interventions.
- Ensuring that interventions are effectively sequenced in accordance with individual needs.

Outcome Target: A further reduction in re-offending of 2%.

Maintaining low levels of custodial sentencing

We will achieve this by:

- Reviewing all cases of young people remanded or sentenced to ensure robust and appropriate court services are provided in all cases.

Outcome Target: To maintain custodial sentencing below 5%

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES 2011 – 2012

To ensure that Sunderland Youth Offending Service is able to respond to national changes around youth justice and deliver local services that are customer focused a number of *Service Development Priorities* have been identified for 2011 – 2012. These can be summarised as:-

- Consultation, participation and engagement
- A whole family approach to services
- Service transformation and,
- Sustaining outcomes

Targets and actions to achieve each priority are set out below.

Consultation, Participation and Engagement

We will achieve this by:

- Quality assuring interventions to ensure that diverse needs are comprehensively assessed.
- Quality assuring interventions to ensure that service user views are fully taken into consideration in developing intervention plans.
- Undertaking specific consultation and participation activities that promote user involvement.
- Holding regular consultation events with children and young people based on the Hear by Rights consultation standards.

Outcome Target: Service planning and delivery informed by consultation, participation and engagement across all service user groups (e.g. children and young people, families, victims)

A Whole Family Approach to Services

We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring robust sentencing proposals for Parenting Orders that secure the confidence of the local court.
- Delivering a family approach to services building on the outcomes of the YOS Family Intervention Programme.
- Piloting a family assessment model within prevention of offending services for those receiving an intensive intervention and to explore the expansion of the use of a family assessment model in relation to other YOS services.

Outcome Target: A whole family approach to services enabled through a whole family approach strategy including performance monitoring.

Service Transformation

We will achieve this by:

- Exploring service re-investment models with a particular focus on moving investment from community disposals to early intervention to reduce throughput thereby reducing the longer term investment required in community programmes.
- Better understanding the social return on investment for offending interventions by developing a cost benefit analysis model across all areas of service delivery.

Outcome Target: A reduction of 5% (stretch target) in re-offending after Final Warning from September 2011.

Sustaining Outcomes

We will achieve this by:

- Ensuring a comprehensive analysis is undertaken at the end of the intervention describing the offender journey and future likelihood of risk as it relates to risk of re-offending, risks to self (safeguarding) and risks to others (public protection).
- Developing a systematic approach to ensuring exit strategies are in place where needed with a particular emphasis on addressing those escalating from early intervention (Reprimands and Final Warnings) to First Tier Penalties (Referral Orders).

Outcome Target: 100% of interventions ending at Referral Order having an exit strategy in place where there are outstanding risks and needs.

This Youth Justice Plan is underpinned by a comprehensive delivery plan that sets out milestones, targets and timescales for actions to achieve service development priorities and service outcomes.

A Workforce Development Strategy for 2011 – 2012 has been developed that focuses on the workforce development activity needed by youth justice practitioners to deliver our principal aim and service development priorities.

RESOURCING AND VALUE FOR MONEY

Resources

The YOS budget for 2011 - 2012 is made up statutory partner agency funding and in kind contributions, core government funding from the Youth Justice Board and other grants. Within this budget Sunderland YOS will deliver the core statutory youth justice service as set out by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and other subsequent legislation. The core statutory youth justice services can be summarised as:-

- The provision of appropriate adults to safeguard the interests of children and young people detained or questioned by police officers.
- The provision of voluntary interventions in respect of Final Warning (pre-court disposal)
- The provision of court services including reports for the courts
- Support for children and young persons remanded.
- Assessment and supervision of children and young people sentenced by the court to youth justice disposals, and the provision of rehabilitation programmes.
- The provision of Responsible Officers in relation to court ordered Parenting interventions
- Supervision of young people sentenced to a custody including post release interventions for Detention and Training Order.

All the multi-agency professionals required to form the local youth offending service (as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) are in place for 2011 – 2012.

Sunderland YOS has a strong partnership approach to delivering effective services evidenced in a committed and effective partnership YOS Management Board. Additional to statutory services, Sunderland YOS provides a range of specialist and award winning intervention programmes that are targeted at specific need and risk groups.

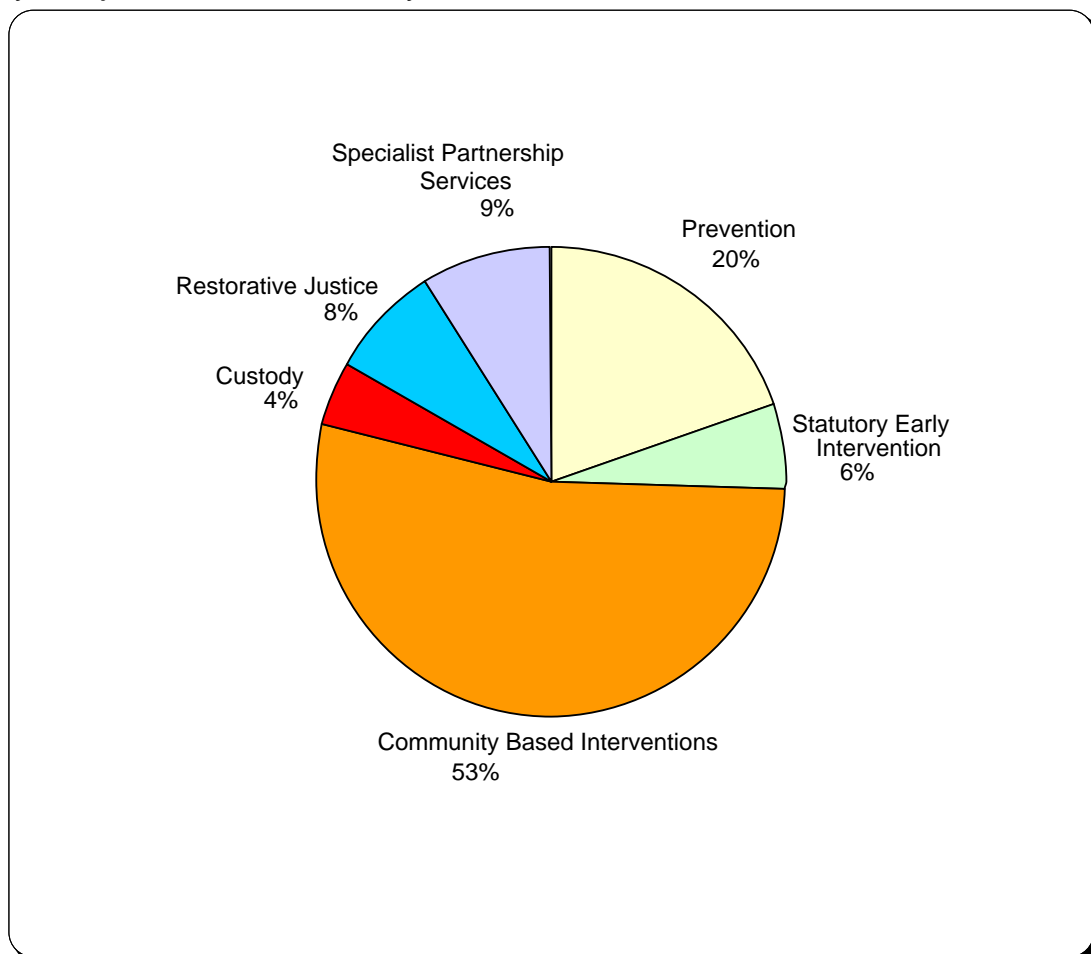


The Phoenix Programme in partnership with Tyne and Wear Fire and Brigade

Additional targeted and specialist interventions include:-

- Tackle it in partnership with Sunderland Football Club Foundation.
- Phoenix Fire Safety Programme in Partnership with Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Brigade.
- Specialist Parenting intervention in partnership with Barnardos voluntary sector organisation.
- An Arrest Diversion scheme in partnership with Northumbria Police and other partners.
- A family intervention programme for hard to reach families.
- Mentoring to provide young people with additional support and positive adult role models.

These statutory and specialist provisions combine to form youth justice services across prevention, early intervention, enforced community based interventions and custody. Additionally Sunderland YOS has an established Restorative Justice Service that supports victims of youth crime and enables young people who offend to repair the costs of their offending to their individual victims or to the wider community (Community Payback Services). Based on the indicative delegated budget for 2011-2012, allocation of budget across youth justice service delivery in Sunderland will be:-



The governance of the use of resources is a key priority for the YOS Management Board for 2010-2011

Value for Money

Over the forthcoming year Sunderland YOS will continue to ensure value for money and the effective use of resources through:-

- Effective use of commissioning to ensure best possible service at the best possible price
- Analysis of outcome data to ensure return on costs

Sunderland YOS has a strong performance management culture and effective performance management arrangements to ensure the value of services is effectively measured. Over the forthcoming year Sunderland YOS will enhance this capacity through the further development of cost benefit models that link performance and financial information to develop a greater understanding of the social return on investment. This has been identified as a key action under the Service Development Priorities set out in this plan. The completion of this work will enable Sunderland YOS to be well placed to respond to government proposals on *Payment by Results* as set out in the green paper *“Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders”*.

Sunderland Youth Offending Service will build on existing successful cost benefit analysis models such as negative outcomes cost analysis used within the Youth Offending Service Family Intervention Programme. In 2010/11 the family intervention programme saved statutory services £14,338 through the prevention of negative outcomes (such as criminal or care proceedings) for hard to reach families. The scheme cost on average less than £2,000 per family.

“The family intervention programme demonstrated average potential savings of £14,338 per family through the prevention of negative outcomes for hard to reach families”. The scheme cost on average less than £2000 per family.



Restorative Justice Services – young people who have offended repair the costs of their offending through Community Payback

CABINET MEETING – 7 SEPTEMBER 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report: Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report 2010-2011	
Author(s): Executive Director of Children's Services	
Purpose of Report: The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval. The Annual Report informs Cabinet of progress and performance against the outcomes set out in the Children and Young People's Delivery Plan 2010-2013. This report covers the period 2010-2011.	
Description of Decision: Cabinet is recommended to consider the content of the Annual Report and provide comments as part of the consultation process.	
Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes	
If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework	
Suggested reason(s) for Decision: The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan under the Council's Constitution and is the primary document for Children's Trust Partnerships to set out how they will deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in the city. As an Article 4 Plan, we are required to submit an annual report to Cabinet for consideration and comment.	
Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The alternative option is not to submit the CYPP Annual Report to full Council. This would result in progress not being reported against the actions set in the CYPP.	
Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? Yes	Relevant Scrutiny Committee: Children, Young People and Learning
Is it included in the Forward Plan? Yes	

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES****1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval.
- 1.2 The Annual Report informs Cabinet of progress and performance against the outcomes set out in the Children and Young People's Delivery Plan 2010-2013. This report covers the period 2010-2011.

2. Description of Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to consider the content of the Annual Report and provide comments as part of the consultation process.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Children and Young People's Plan Strategy 2010-25 was published in 2010, together with a Delivery Plan for 2010-13.
- 3.2 The Delivery Plan provides detailed information about each of the Children's Trust priority outcomes. These outcomes are broken down into:
 - Two overarching themes that cut across the Children's Trust
 - Five priority areas for vulnerable groups
 - Seventeen specific outcomes for all young people, linked to the Every Child Matters framework.
- 3.3 Against each of these priority outcomes is an identified partnership which has a commissioning strategy and implementation plan in place.

4. Structure of the Report

- 4.1 The Annual Report 2010-2011 recognises the changing face of service delivery since the CYPP was published, including the change of Government, the Comprehensive Spending Review and the number of policy reviews and reforms which affect children and young people.
- 4.2 It also reports progress against the actions and targets in the outcome areas identified, by setting out:
 - What actions were planned for the three-year period 2010-13
 - What achievements have been made since April 2010
 - What still needs to be done
 - Performance information, where relevant, to show the direction of travel of the outcome area.
- 4.3 Some of the key achievements that have been made in 2010/11 are set out below:

4.3.1 Schools and Learning

Early Years

- The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Capital Project is now fully complete and invested in 65 schools and settings to improve their outdoor play areas
- Training has been provided to 10 Lead Managers of Good and Outstanding daycare settings to develop a support network between themselves, with the intention that they will then role out their learning and provide support other daycare settings to achieve a Good or Outstanding result from Ofsted
- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) results have improved significantly over the last three years. Children are measured in terms of their Personal, Social, Emotional Development, Language and Literacy skills. 77% of children attained Level 6+ in Personal, Social, Emotional Development, in Sunderland the figure is 81%. Communication and Language and Literacy Skills – 63% of Sunderland children achieved Level 6+ compared to 59% of children nationally. This means that more children are better prepared for school.

Key Stage 2

- Through the National Strategies programme, the support provided to schools brought about continued improvements in primary schools, resulting in four schools in Ofsted categories making significant improvements.
- 2010 results for pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in English increased by two percentage points to 85% and in mathematics remained at 82%. The result for progress in English was particularly pleasing because it was one percentage point above the national average.
- 2010 results for English and mathematics combined for the 49 schools that took SATs increased by 1 percentage point from 2009 to 71%.
- In 2010 in KS2 the Teacher Assessments which were carried out by all schools showed that improvements were made at level 4 and level 5.
- In each of the 11 schools involved in development activity to increase the proportion of pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and 2 in either English or mathematics, standards were raised successfully as a result of their work.
- The percentage of looked after children achieving level 4 in English increased from 42% in 2009/10 to 61.5% in 2010/11. In mathematics this increased from 47% to 61.5%.
- Key stage 2 attainment for young people from BME communities rose from 58% to 62.2%.
- In 2011 the (unvalidated) scores for children achieving Level 4 for English and maths has increased to 74% bringing us in line with the unvalidated national result which is also 74%

Key Stage 4

- In the 2009/10 academic year, all local authority maintained schools' combined results exceeded the local authority target for 5A*-C, i.e. the gold standard
- Key Stage 4 results (GCSE and equivalent) for pupils at the end of statutory school age are the highest achieved in Sunderland, continuing a strong upward trend over the last five years.
- 5+A*-Cs including English and Maths has improved from 45% in 2009 to 52.6% in 2010.
- Achievements at Key Stage 4 for young people from BME groups rose from 28% in 2009/10 to 54.1% in 2010/11.
- The unvalidated 2011 5+ A*-C including English and maths has further improved to 55%

- Sunderland achieved its highest ever A-level results in 2010, with an average points score per candidate of 813.6, which is higher than the regional average of 717.7 and national 744.8. In terms of APS per entry Sunderland achieved 214.7, with regional figure at 209.9 and national 214.4. Again, unvalidated results for 2011 have shown further progress particularly in higher grades.
- Successful bid was made to the European Social Fund to engage vulnerable young people. The funding of £1,347,042, will provide tailored packages of support to assist the engagement of young people in education and training.
- Excellent progress in NEET, with the figure dropping from 13.2% in 2009, to 8.5% in 2010.

4.3.2 Safeguarding

- The unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment procedures was carried out in June 2010. It was a positive inspection, with many areas highlighted as doing well. Only four areas for development were identified, and the service was aware of these issues and has addressed them.
- Over the last year there has been significant progress in stabilising our social worker workforce. A number of experienced and newly qualified social workers have been appointed, including the appointment of 10 experienced social workers from the USA. Vacancies are also at a very low level.
- A Child in Need team has been established to ensure of equality of provision for all users of social work services.
- A Foster Care fee scheme has been introduced. Through the reinvestment of savings made in relation to external placements and planned closure of a children's home, the aim is to recruit 10 additional foster carers per year over the next 4 years.
- Three children's homes were extended in October 2010 to provide a more homely environment with greater privacy and more space for recreational and homework activities.
- Through a partnership approach to tackling domestic violence, repeat incidents of domestic violence presented to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Board has fallen from 34% in 2008/09 to 20% in 2010/11.
- The Anti-Bullying CharterMark has been reviewed and is being well received, with 28 settings registering their interest, of which eight have achieved Silver award or above.
- Young people report that they feel safer in the city. In 2010, 61.5% of children and young people said they felt safe in Sunderland. This is 17.6 percentage points higher than in 2008 (52.3%).
- First time entrants reduced by 48.7% at the end of 2010/11 against a national target of 1.9% (257 FTEs in 2010/11 compared with 501 in 2009/10).
- Youth re-offending reduced by 17.3% at the end of 2010/11 against a three year (2008-2011) target of 10% reduction (rate of re-offences 0.98 compared with 1.18 in 2005).
- The Family Intervention Project supported 56 families, working with up to 246 individuals from the most vulnerable and complex families in the city with excellent results.

4.3.3 Health and Well-being

- Year on year school meal uptake has increased. The percentage uptake figure for schools meals in Sunderland is 54.6% in primary schools (national uptake is 44%). In secondary schools 58/5% of young people take up school meals compared to national figure of 37.6%. Based on schools who have their meals provided by the Council's school meal service, there has been an extra 210,960 schools meals served in 2010-2011.
- A major review of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) Services has been successfully completed and service providers commissioned for Tier 2, 3 and 4 services.

- The Lifestyle, Activity and Food Programme (LAF), a weight management programme for children and young people has been commissioned. In the first year, 281 referrals were received with 116 families starting the programme.
- The Healthy Schools Programme offers an Enhancement Programme. Twenty-one schools are engaged in the 'Healthy Weight' element and six in the teenage pregnancy element. Each school has evaluated a variety of data and information to form local and school priorities.
- The Youth Drug and Alcohol Project (YDAP), funded and monitored by National Treatment Agency (NTA), is regarded as a high performing service. The NTA Performance Report for the last quarter of 2010/11, showed that 100% of those young people assessed as requiring a specialist substance misuse treatment, commenced that treatment within 15 working days of referral.

4.3.4 Early Intervention and Locality Services

Locality based working is being embraced, with more and more professionals basing their services in the five areas across the city including:

- Answers, a dedicated contraception and sexual health service for young people under the age of 25.
- Connexions Personal Advisors with responsibility for teenage mums
- YDAP practitioners will be fully operational in all five localities in September 2011 delivering specific targeted programmes in schools and children's homes to support prevention and early intervention work
- Challenge and Support Team and the Family Intervention Project workers (part of Youth Offending Service) provide group work with those children and young people who present a risk of perpetrating anti-social behaviour and work intensively with the highest risk families to prevent re-offending.
- The social work service has also been restructured so that social workers are based in localities; this will enhance professional relationships with other partners and reduce travelling time.

4.4 Whilst there has been some excellent progress made over the year, there is still a lot of work to do to continuously improve outcomes for children and young people. Some of the key actions for the Children's Trust over the next two years are set out below:

4.4.1 Schools and Learning

Early Years

- Sunderland is one of 15 pilot areas and has received £365,803 from the Early Intervention Grant to trial new approaches for the early education of 2 years olds. Sunderland is committed to providing 15 hours of early education for this younger cohort by 2014. This will support the Narrowing the Gap programme in that young people should enter into primary education at higher levels than currently. The pilot will test what the issues are, and this is likely to include availability of spaces. To support this we will:
 - encourage schools in the North and Coalfields areas of the city to provide additional childcare as this is where there is currently a shortage
 - establish additional accredited networks of childminders to increase this demand among parents
 - lead the work to improve the quality of settings currently rated "satisfactory" using the Every Child a Talker programme, so focusing on speaking and listening.
- Implement the findings of the Tickell Review of the Early Years Foundation Stage which will reform the current framework and make it less bureaucratic. One of Dame Tickle's recommendations includes significantly reducing the number of early learning goals

children are assessed against at age five from 69 to 17. The review was reported on 30 March 2011 with a view to implementing any changes from September 2012 onwards.

Review of Sure Start, Early Years and Childcare

Funding for Children's Centres and Childcare was previously funded as part of the Early Years and Sure Start Grant. This has transferred into the non ring fenced Early Integration Grant (EIG). A whole scale review is being undertaken as to how these services are delivered in the future.

This review will consider the current network of 17 Children's Centres located in communities across Sunderland as well as other locations within communities where service delivery takes place, as well as all commissioned activity. Current service delivery reflects existing guidance and statutory duties and includes a universal service offer although identification and targeting of services to vulnerable groups is a priority.

A full needs assessment has been carried out during recent months. This has focused on current service delivery in terms of usage by target groups and on local demographics as well as unit costing of activities.

Key Stages 2 and 4

The Coalition Government through its White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching* has charged local authorities to work in new ways with schools. Whilst Sunderland must still challenge and support schools where there are concerns there is a clear direction of travel towards school improvement activity itself being carried out 'school to school'. The government aims to create a system which is self-improving, rather than using a centralised approach.

Post 16

- Implement the recommendations from the forthcoming reviews of national curriculum.
- Implement the recommendations from the Wolf Review for the reform of vocational education .
- Work with schools and partners to prepare for the increase in statutory school age
- With partners, and formulate plans to create an all-age careers service.

4.4.2 Safeguarding

- Implement the findings of the Munro Review to create more responsive social working services.
- The Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board, will produce a new Business Plan for 2011-13 which will have a more outcomes based approach, will support the SSCB to be smarter in the way it works. It will also take into account recommendations from the Munro Review. The new plan will be available for consultation in September 2011.
- Tackle domestic violence and the effects it has on young people and families. The Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy and Action Plan, developed by the Safer Sunderland Partnership and with the involvements of Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Boards, provides a clear, coordinated approach to tackling violence against women and girls and will be the major driver for improvements to this outcome across the city.
- Assess why the numbers of children and young people who are subject of a child protection plan have significantly increased recently.
- Implement the Foster Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy, in order to reduce the number of external placements the city uses.
- Implement and evaluate the action plan to reduce offending by children in care.
- Increase the number of settings achieving the Anti-bullying Chartermark, to ensure that bullying is picked up early and that 'low level' harassment is challenged

- In relation to young people who offend, create good links with CAMHS to improve health pathways. Funding from the Department of Health (£69,000 for two year) has been awarded to achieve this.

4.4.3 Health and Well-being

- Reduce the number of young people who are overweight, with a particular focus on the early years by working with parents and carers to change their lifestyles, by introducing healthy eating and exercise, to prevent their children becoming obese
- Reduce teenage pregnancy levels. The **C-card** – a condom card scheme – was launched in July 2011, with new publicity materials distributed and training held throughout the summer to promote it. The C-Card is a web-based system and offers greater choice of outlets to young people, Chlamydia screening and integrated alcohol assessments.
- Significantly reduce under 18 conceptions rate in Sunderland. Whilst some improvements have been made, with the actual number of under 18 conceptions reducing from 327 in 2007 to 290 in 2008, there is a lot more to do.
- Reduce the levels of young people under 18 who are admitted to hospital due to alcohol related primary diagnosis concerns
- Reduce the number of young people in the city who smoke by increasing the number of community/youth organisation who are trained across Sunderland in Level 2 smoking cessation work, to ensure services are young people friendly. Increase uptake of level 2 training in organisations in areas with increased need.

4.4.4 Early Intervention and Locality Services

Through the current transformation of Children's Services, the locality based working function of the service will be strengthened. This will enable the development of integrated neighbourhood models of service delivery to target preventative services to children, young people and families. This will allow services to be more responsive to the needs of local people and will particularly influence the Child and Family Poverty agenda and improve outcomes of other vulnerable groups.

5. **Reasons for the Decision**

- 5.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan under the Council's Constitution and is the primary document for Children's Trust Partnerships to set out how they will deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in the city. As an Article 4 Plan, we are required to submit an annual report to Cabinet for consideration and comment.

6. **Alternative Options**

- 6.1 The alternative option is not to submit the Children and Young People's Plan Annual report to full Council, however this would result in progress not being reported against the objectives and milestones within the Plan.

7. **Relevant Considerations/Consultations**

- 7.1 This is the first draft of the Annual Report, and it is anticipated that it will be subject to amendment throughout the process to finalise the document.
- 7.2 The draft Annual Report will be presented to the following groups for consideration and comment:

Joint Commissioning Board	8 July 2011
Children's Trust	12 July 2011
CYPL Scrutiny Article 4 Group	1 August 2011
Cabinet	7 September 2011
CYPL Scrutiny Committee	8 September 2011
Second presentation to Cabinet	5 October 2011
Council	5 October 2011

8. **List of Appendices**

Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report 2011

9. **Background Papers**

Children and Young People's Delivery Plan, 2010-2013
Children and Young People's Plan 15 Year Strategy, 2010-2025

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2010-25

DELIVERY PLAN 2010-13

ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2010-MARCH 2011

Draft 4 – 28 July 2011

**Prepared by: Nicola Appleby, Senior Policy Officer, People and
Neighbourhoods Team**

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INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report of 2011 is the first annual report against the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-25 and the related Delivery Plan 2010-13. It covers the period 1 April 2010-31 March 2011.

The Delivery Plan provides detailed information about each of the Children's Trust priority outcomes. These outcomes are broken down into:

- Overarching themes that cut across the Children's Trust
- Priority areas for vulnerable groups
- Specific outcomes for all young people, linked to the Every Child Matters framework.

Against each of these priority outcomes is an identified partnership which has a commissioning strategy and implementation plan in place. This document reports progress against the actions and targets in those strategies and plans, by setting out:

- What actions were planned for the three-year period 2010-13
- What achievements have been made since April 2010
- What still needs to be done
- Performance information, where relevant, to show the direction of travel of the outcome area.

It is worth acknowledging that since the Delivery Plan was published in 2010, there have been significant changes for public services, not least the change of Government and the significant budgetary cuts that all public sectors organisations are facing.

Since coming into office in May 2010, the Coalition Government has introduced a number of reforms and reviews of the way we work and has announced the spending cuts that it intends to make in order to stabilise the economy. Details are set out below of new legislative requirements.

Legislation impacting on improving outcomes for young people

- Academies Act
- Education Bill (The Importance of Teaching)
- SEN & Disability Green Paper
- Behaviour and Attendance in Schools
- National Curriculum Review
- Review of Key Stage 2 Testing
- Tickell Review of Early Years Foundation Stage
- Wolf Review of Vocational Education
- Munro Review of Child Protection
- James Review of Education Capital
- Consultation of National Funding Formula
- Consultation on Inspection Framework (Ofsted)
- Review of Teachers' Standards
- Review of National Professional Qualifications for Headship (NPQH)

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- The unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment procedures was carried out in June 2010. It was a positive inspection, with many areas highlighted as doing well. Only four areas for development were identified, and the service was aware of these issues and is working towards their improvement.
- The city exceeded its target for young children going into primary school who are obese. The target was 13% and we achieved 11.32%.
- Year on year school meal uptake has increased, which means it is now above the national average by 10.5 percentage points in primary schools and 20.9 percentage points in secondary schools.
- CAMH Services have been successfully reviewed and service providers commissioned.
- Condom card service successfully launched
- Through a partnership approach to tackling domestic violence, repeat incidents of domestic violence presented to the MARAC Board has fallen from 34% in 2008/09 to 20% in 2010/11.
- Anti-bullying agenda promoted and successful launch of reviewed Anti-Bullying CharterMark is being well received in schools and settings.
- Youth Offending Service reports that young people's feelings of safety has improved. In 2010, 61.5% of children and young people said they felt safe in Sunderland. This is 17.6 percentage points higher than in 2008 (52.3%).
- Exceeded our target in relation to the achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal, Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy. The target was 50% with the outturn being 58.1%.
- The target to narrow the gap for the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile was exceeded by 4 percentage points. The target was set at 37%, with the outturn being 32.9%.
- 2010 results for pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in English increased by two percentage points to 85% and in mathematics remained at 82%. The result for progress in English was particularly pleasing because it was one percentage point above the national average.
- Provisional Key Stage 4 results (GCSE and equivalent) for pupils at the end of statutory school age are the highest achieved in Sunderland, continuing a strong upward trend over the last five years.
- The government's gold standard measure requires sixteen year olds to achieve at least five GCSEs or equivalent at grade A*-C including at least grade C in both GCSE English and maths. Sunderland's results this year are the highest achieved and also the highest year on year improvement since the measure was introduced.
- Sunderland achieved its highest ever A-level results in 2010, with an average points score per candidate of 813.6, which is higher than the regional average of 717.7 and national 744.8. In terms of APS per entry Sunderland achieved 214.7, with regional figure at 209.9 and national 214.4.
- The City Adventure Centre, including outdoor and indoor play provision at Silksworth has been a great success to date.
- First time entrants to the youth justice system reduced by 34% at the end of 2010/11 against a national target of 1.9% for 2010/11.
- The Youth Justice Plan 2011/12 reported 27% reduction in youth re-offending for 2010 against a three year (2008-2011) target of 10% reduction.

- A low use of custody at just 1.7% with praise from the Chair of the Youth Justice Board in early 2010 for performance against this indicator.
- Excellent progress in NEET, with the figure dropping from 13.2% in 2009, to 8.5% in 2010.

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CHILD POVERTY

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

A Child Poverty Strategy 2010-13 was developed to improve outcomes for children and young people living in poverty. The five objectives identified in the strategy were:

- Ensure appropriate and relevant strategic arrangements are in place
- Education, health and family
- Employment and skills
- Housing and neighbourhoods
- Financial support

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Governance structure in place with the LSP - Sunderland Partnership, as lead supported by the Child Poverty Board
- Committed 'buy-in' from all strategic partners
- Greater level of understanding of child poverty issues in Sunderland
- Child Poverty Strategy that was developed in partnership, with a wide range of partners actively engaged and then consulted
- Engagement of young people in the planning process (with an exceptional piece of work in producing a DVD)
- Comprehensive Action Plan which covers the scope of the actions which have been committed to across the partnership to tackle child poverty
- High level of political support
- Senior Management support from council officers and partners
- Child Poverty Needs Assessment completed
- Regional profile on an innovative and progressive approach
- National profile with the CPU visit and health task team reports
- Performance Framework in place with partners signed up.

Over the course of the first year, Sunderland has reflected on its plans and, through consultation, has re-focussed its strategy and the subsequent actions to ensure that work to tackle child and family poverty in Sunderland really does support the poorest and most needy families. A new **Child and Family Poverty Strategy (Phase 2) 2011-13** has been produced which reflects the outcome of the consultation, the findings of the Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment, the change in policies from the Coalition Government and the impact of the Comprehensive Spending Review.

The new Strategy identifies just two, overarching priorities:

1. Make child and family poverty everybody's business through adopting an approach to 'child and family poverty proof' strategic plans of all partners as routine practice.
2. Develop integrated neighbourhood models of service to re-target and deliver Early Years and Early Intervention.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

The Action Plan for the Strategy and the two priorities established therein, will be developed with partners by Autumn 2011. The Action Plan will reflect the outcome of considerations by all partners to the Comprehensive Spending Review and the Policy Framework highlighted in this Strategy.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

As we move to Phase 2 of the Sunderland Model, it is also worthy to note some of the broader key outcomes achieved during Phase 1 as identified through the Needs Assessment:

- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) results have improved significantly over the last three years with a 13% increase in results for those living in areas with a high percentage of children living in poverty
- Sunderland's 5+ A*-C including English and maths has a 7% point improvement this year and an 18% point improvement over five years
- An increase of 17.6% in attainment for those eligible for Free School Meals at KS4
- Reduction in under 18 conceptions rate in Sunderland (15.5% from the 1998 baseline). The actual number of under 18 conceptions has reduced from 327 in 2007 to 290 in 2008.
- In Housing, 99% of Social Housing meets the decent homes standard
- A substantial reduction in the number of 16 to 18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) in Sunderland, from 13.2% to 8.5%

In noting the developments in Phase 1, it is important to acknowledge that a lot more work needs to be done to reduce child and family poverty in Sunderland.

SAFEGUARDING

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The SSCB Business Plan 2009-2012 sets out priorities, actions and targets to improve safeguarding outcomes including those listed below:

- Raising awareness of outcomes and implementing the findings of Laming Report: The protection of Children in England 2009
- Improving the relationship between the Children's Trust and the SSCB by establishing more robust arrangements (in having reporting arrangements, responding to national policy and guidance, having joint development days)
- Establishing a safeguarding dataset to monitor, assess and challenge agency performance
- Quality assuring single agency and SSCB safeguarding training
- Having up to date, good quality and well-used policies and procedures
- Further developing multi agency strategies around Hidden Harm
- Further engaging relevant groups to secure faith and BME representation on the SSCB
- Recognising the needs of specific groups of children and young people, particularly those who are most vulnerable, children in custody and children who have run away from home
- Safeguarding disabled children, specifically implementing DCSF guidance and reviewing the effectiveness of services
- Ensuring statutory requirements are met in respect of children missing from home and care

The SSCB plans to improve multi agency practice from Serious Case Reviews by:

- Developing an SSCB audit process to evaluate individual agency implementation of Serious Case Review action plans. This will allow the SSCB to challenge agencies if there is insufficient evidence of implementation
- Reviewing SSCB training in line with lessons learned
- Delivering specialised training sessions regarding lessons learned from national, regional and local Serious Case Reviews

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Since 2010, the SSCB has incorporated and integrated some work with the Children's Trust, and relationships have improved through joint development days. Under the new coalition government, the statutory basis for Children's Trusts has changed. The SSCB will continue to maintain its links with the Children's Trust through any period of change.
- Responsibility for the implementation of Laming's recommendations is now shared across the SSCB and the Children's Trust, and procedures and training courses have been updated to reflect these changes.
- All SSCB training plans have been quality assured.
- SSCB Safeguarding Dataset has been established and will be continuously improved.
- Launched the revised SSCB Safeguarding Procedures October 2010
- Developed the Hidden Harm Strategy and implementation is underway.

- Attended Chairs of IAGs (Independent Advisory Group) meetings to deliver a brief presentation and raise awareness of safeguarding with minority groups. This will be carried forward into the new Business Plan.
- The Children Missing from Home and Care Protocol is fully implemented and a Preventative Group has been set up. The group has been tasked with analysing the relevant data in order to recommend actions to reduce the numbers.
- Established arrangements to safeguard the needs of disabled children. A SSCB lead has been identified and a time-limited Task Group, which is liaising with all SSCB sub-committees to raise awareness of issues for disabled children and ensure the needs of disabled children are considered in the work of the sub committee. Two multi-agency file audits in respect of disabled children will be completed as part of the audit programme.
- So that the SSCB has a better understanding of the needs of specific groups of children and young people, the procedures relating to Children in Custody have been reviewed and go live in July 2011.
- There are also procedures being developed in relation to PREVENT - tackling radical extremism and trafficking.
- Violence Against Women and Girls Action Plan is being developed through Safe Sunderland Partnership, Safeguarding Adults Board and SSCB.
- A review of the SSCB Serious Case Review audit process and a new process in place from January 2011.
- Planned "Lessons Learned" sessions delivered in September 2010 and more planned for July to December 2011.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

The 2009-12 Business Plan was instrumental in the SSCB improving its systems and processes. Many of the actions have been completed from this plan, even at this early stage.

A new plan from 2011-13 is being produced, which:

- adopts a more outcomes based approach and will support the SSCB to be smarter in the way it works
- will take into account recommendations from the Munro Review.

The new plan will be available for consultation in September 2011.

NARROWING THE GAP FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS

CHILDREN FROM BLACK AND MINORITY ETHNIC (BME) GROUPS

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

In applying the commissioning process, the Children's Trust intends to engage with children, young people and families from BME communities with the intention of building on and sustaining these relationships. The key areas of work that have been identified by the Children's Trust to improve outcomes for BME children, young people and families are to:

- Undertake a comprehensive assessment of the needs of children and young people from BME communities.
- Engage and seek the views of children, young people and families from BME communities through identified networks in order to understand their needs.
- Identify any gaps to ensure all partnerships delivering the CYPP have a focus on narrowing the gap in outcomes for BME groups.
- Use the assessment of need to commission services that aim to meet the needs and improve the outcomes of BME groups.
- Review these services to ensure they do meet needs of children and young people from vulnerable communities.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- A working group has been set up which engages practitioners and professionals who work directly with BME communities across Sunderland
- A service mapping exercise is being explored to understand current service provision to BME communities. It is anticipated that this will be undertaken by the BME Network
- The exercise will be widely distributed to services through the BME network, any health services and identified organisations by the diversity and inclusion team
- Current national and local performance information for young people from BME communities has been gathered to support understanding needs.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

During 2011-12, a number of further actions will be taken:

- A workshop session will be set up in 2011 to gather services views about the needs of young people from BME communities. As part of the workshop, discussions will take place about (1) information collected as part of a service mapping exercise (2) how to move forward in continuously understanding need/changing needs of BME communities (3) what information individual services could collect to continuously inform the needs assessment
- A forum to engage health colleagues and Children's Centres about recording service users ethnicity and how this can help our understanding of the needs of young children from BME communities

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/ 09	Baseline 2009/1 0	Year 1		Year 2 target 2011/ 12	Year 3 target 2012/ 13
				Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11		
NI 107	Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups (Bangladeshi)	52	58	56	62.2	59	62
NI 108	Key Stage 4 attainment for all Black and minority ethnic groups	23	28	35	54.1	42	44

CHILDREN IN CARE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The Multi-Agency Looked After Partnership (MALAP) is preparing a strategy for Children in Care 2010-25. The key areas of work that have been identified so as to improve outcomes for children in care are to:

- Increase access to emotional and mental health services for children in short term placements
- Increase foster care recruitment
- Reduce looked after children offending – to do this there is a multi-agency group in place that monitors trends and plans interventions to reduce the levels of offending amongst children in care. Performance began to increase in 2008 and so it is anticipated this will continue over the coming years.
- Increase educational attainment. Specific areas of work have been identified that will build on current arrangements. These will include:
 - The Looked After Children Education (LACE) Team will support children in care with one-to-one sessions, especially targeting literacy and numeracy. In the last school year over 500 children were supported in this way. Through the Government's "making better progress" programme, this work will be further enhanced (and will be funded through Personal Education Allowances (PEA) funding for the next academic year)
 - The residential "Maths Supercamp" for children looked after in years 10 and 11 will be further developed, having been held for one year and deemed successful
 - The targeting of early years children looked after. The aim of this targeted work is to support children as young as possible and then throughout their educational career, to improve their educational outcomes, as well as baseline attainment
- Create a stable establishment of social workers
- Extend and refurbish three older children's homes to improve the facilities and environment in which children in care live

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- The re-provision of CAMHS Tier 3 will see a new contract in place by September 2011, which will provide a more accessible CAMHS service for children in care. This will improve the provision of universal services and will give children in care greater access to a wider variety of treatment options.
- A Foster Care fee scheme has been introduced in the city, to allow greater competitiveness in the market. This has been influenced by the 'invest to save' scheme, which has resulted in a reduction in the use of external placements. The future planned closure of a children's home in December 2011 will allow reinvestment of money into the Fostering Strategy. The intention is to recruit sufficient carers to achieve a net increase of 10 per year over the next 4 years.
- Looked After Children offending figures have fluctuated for a number of years and recently the Children Looked After Offending Group has implemented an action plan from May 2011 to March 2012. The plan has timescales with responsible officers taking the actions forward.

- Over the last year there has been fantastic progress in stabilising our social worker workforce. A number of experienced and newly qualified social workers have been appointed, including the appointment of 10 social workers from the USA. Vacancies are also at a very low level.
- Three children's homes were extended in October 2010 to provide a more homely environment with greater privacy and more space for recreational and homework activities.
- Two dedicated officers have been appointed to support children in care in the use of Viewpoint, an electronic system which helps to collect and collate their views on the services they receive. This will provide us with better information with regards to children in care and help us to improve our service to them.

In education:

- One-to-one tuition for children in care has been completely revised in line with the new Personal Education Allowance (PEA) Policy.
- Sunderland Virtual School (SVS) now monitors pupils receiving tuition and their progress, as well as monitoring staff delivering tuition. From April 2010–April 2011, 2,279 hours of one-to-one teaching and learning sessions were carried out for 132 pupils from Reception to Year 11, involving teachers and learning support assistants from the pupil's own school and those of Sunderland Virtual School. In addition, in the academic year 2010/11, SVS extended one-to-one tuition to include Foundation Stage (ref PEA Policy) for Personal, Social, Development and Reading.
- During the academic year 2010/11, focussed communication and work with Designated Teachers for Looked After Children has established a more inclusive school community for LAC, so that they participate in their home school activities rather than holding specific and exclusive programmes outside of school for them. This has included revision and booster classes, as well as other learning programmes and events. In many cases, the focus on school inclusiveness has contributed to an improvement in attainment and attendance.
- An SVS specialist teacher now has responsibility for EYFS children, which has involved:
 - Liaising with Nursery and Reception teachers
 - Teaching and supporting children in EYFS
 - Providing LAC in EYFS with 'Little Book Bags'
 - Extending one-to-one support for EYFS children for personal, social, development including behavioural support and reading
 - Providing Individual children with support in transition where need was identified

Additional information about the education of looked after children can be found at Outcome 9 – Attainment of Vulnerable Groups.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Monitor the implementation of the CAMHS Tier 3 Project, specifically in relation to the impact this is having on outcomes for children in short term placements.
- Continue to implement the Foster Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy, in order to reduce the number of external placements the city uses.
- Implement and evaluate the action plan to reduce offending by children in care.
- Produce aggregate reports, using Viewpoint, to ensure that the collective views of children in care are gathered and used to inform service delivery.
- Pilot the use of the new PEP templates that have a greater focus on learning development and achievement.
- Implement post-16 PEPs.

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PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 target	Year 3 target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
NI 58	Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children	12.3	not set	16	13.1		
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	67.3	74	75	72.5	76	77
NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	88.5	86	86	94.4		
NI 148	Care leavers in education, employment or training	73.1	62	67	61.1		
NI99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	79%	42%	45%	61.5%	63%	55%
NI100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2	93	47%	45	61.5	50	55
NI101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and mathematics)	6%	10%	26%	6.5	13%	22%
	% of children who have been looked after continuously for at least 12 months, who were given a final warning/reprimand or convicted during the year for an offence committed whilst they were looked after.		1.2	2.4	2 *		
	Attendance rate at school for children who were looked after for 12 months or more:						
	• Overall absence rate	4.9%	4.8%	Not yet available			
	• Persistent absence rate	11.0%	3.4%	Not yet available			

* provisional figures

CHILDREN IN NEED AND IN NEED OF PROTECTION

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The SSCB recognises a number of priority areas:

- Parental behaviour - issues such as domestic violence and parental substance misuse are factors which can have a detrimental effect on the welfare of children and young people. The interaction of the combined effects of these factors which compromise effective parenting will be considered by the SSCB and strategies adopted to address
- Neglect and emotional abuse - The SSCB will be involved in the pilot of the Graded Care Profile which is designed to help workers assess families where neglect is a factor
- Children missing from home and care – The SSCB has plans in place that aims to address the needs of children and young people who go missing and enables staff to be clear about their responsibilities for this group of vulnerable children
- Working with services that support adults with substance misuse difficulties - The SSCB will embed the use of a Hidden Harm Audit Tool and Common Assessment Framework assessment with relevant services, to ensure services for children and young people are able to work with families earlier on a multi-agency basis, to meet a child and their family's needs.
- Young males who sexually harm - The SSCB will assess, implement and monitor the AIM 2 model (Assessment, Intervention and moving on) to ensure this is incorporated into practice. This model intends to improve multi-agency risk assessments of young males who sexually harm.
- Done training twice for leads who will carry out assessments. Will carry forward.

The SSCB is also establishing a multi agency data set, which will be used to monitor the above actions.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Since April 2010,

- The SSCB and the Safeguarding Service have developed the Hidden Harm Strategy. In addition, joined up work is being carried out with the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safer Sunderland Partnership, by taking a 'whole-family' approach to Hidden Harm.
- The SSCB has reviewed and revised procedures on responding to the needs of children missing from home and care and these are now fully implemented. A Preventative Group has been set up, and charged with analysing the relevant data in order to recommend actions to reduce the numbers.
- Actions have been taken and continue to be taken to embed Common Assessment Framework (CAF) across the City. The numbers of CAFs being completed is rising, as is partner buy-in to the process.
- SSCB procedures have been reviewed and are compliant with Working Together 2010
SSCB is supporting in a two year Graded Care Profile pilot being led by Children's Services taking a multi-agency approach to assessing neglect. A supported induction process provided by the NSPCC has been completed.
- Two AIM 2 training programmes have been carried out for leads completing the AIM 2 assessment

- An audit has been undertaken in respect of the number of children subject of a child protection plan for 18 months+ with an action plan in place to address the recommendations.

In addition, Safeguarding Services have made a number changes to improve outcomes for Children in Need and Children in need of protection:

- The contract for Therapeutic Services has been reviewed and has gone out to tender. The contract has been awarded and the successful service provider should be delivering the service by August 2011.
- Great steps have been made to stabilise the workforce within the social work service. A recruitment drive in the USA, as well as the appointment of a number of newly qualified social workers, has contributed to a very low level of vacancies in the service (only three vacancies in June 2011).
- The social work service has also been restructured so that social workers are based in localities; this will enhance professional relationships.
- A Child in Need team has also been put in place. This is in recognition that Children in Need are entitled to an equal level of service as those who are in need of protection. It is hoped that this will also increase the appropriateness of the referrals received by the service.
- A revised audit process has been implemented to monitor work, and recognise good practice and where improvements are required.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Continue to reduce the number of children missing from home and care
- Complete and evaluate the 2 year Graded Care Profile pilot in conjunction with Children's Services and the NSPCC
- Deliver awareness raising sessions for agency contributing to the AIM2 assessments

The 2009-12 Business Plan was instrumental in the SSCB improving its systems and processes in this area. Many of the actions have been completed from this plan, even at this early stage. A new plan from 2011-13 is being produced, which:

- adopts a more outcomes based approach and will support the SSCB to be smarter in the way it works
- will take into account recommendations from the Munro Review.

The new plan will be available for consultation in September 2011.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 target	Year 3 target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
NI 65	Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	15	13	13	16.6	13	13

DRAFT

CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AND/OR DISABILITIES

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The “Children and Young People with LDD – A Strategy for Transformation 2009-2025” identifies six key priorities for improvement:

- **Information** – provide accurate, targeted and accessible information about available services and ensure appropriate information sharing with professionals
- **Funding** – clear pathways for identifying, accessing and pooling funds and resources.
- **Transition to adulthood** – clear pathways upon leaving school for young people. Children’s and Adult Services to work together with health services to ensure support continues into adulthood.
- **Access to services** – consistent support to working parents and families to access mainstream services
- **Workforce development** – Deliver appropriate LDD training to staff in mainstream services.
- **Education and learning** – Flexible transport from home to school and extended services.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

In 2010, the above LDD Strategy was launched. Then, in March 2011 the Government published its Green Paper “Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability - A consultation”. The Green Paper makes wide ranging proposals in relation to the education of young people with a special educational need or learning difficulty/disability. It is likely that the recommendations coming from the Green Paper will replace many of those in the LDD Strategy. Work is currently being carried out to identify the key priorities that could impact on the delivery of services as a consequence of the Green Paper, and these are being shared with a range of services and will inform all future planning.

In the meantime, the following progress has been made to improve outcomes for children and young people with LDD:

- Aiming High funding is being used to produce a DVD which will focus on Transition to Adulthood for disabled young people. This will be launched in September 2011.
- A two-day Kaizan event has been held on the National Framework for children and young people’s continuing care. The results of the event were a formulation of a pathway, protocol and procedures to manage continuing care. These will be signed off at South of Tyne and Wear CAMHS/LDD Programme Board in early July 2011. Continuing care pathways for children with disabilities can be operating from December 2011.
- The Futures Team is now well established and a multi-agency protocol was in place from February 2011. Need a more joined up transition process/assessment process. A Kaizan event will be held during the summer to begin planning for this.

- Work has been carried out to ensure a clear pathway of provision from Extended Services Group and SEN teams. This is impacting positively on the progress and support for children with LDD and their families.
- A training programme for SENCo's in Early Years settings including children's centres has been carried out and another course is to be run during the next academic year.
- Connexions service delivery is now much more responsible in relation to work with LDD in areas such as Learning Difficulty Assessments and working together with partners such as schools, local authority and Futures Team. Work continues on finding better approaches to transition / assessment process.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- To ensure that the findings of the Green Paper are considered and actions taken to implement the recommendations.
- To ensure that integrated working arrangements are fully embedded across the Local Authority
- Review existing SEN partnership working arrangements to ensure effective service delivery

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

NI 54 – Services for disabled children was the indicator linked to this outcome. However, the Coalition Government removed the need to report against this indicator very early in its term of office, so no data is available to report.

BEING HEALTHY

PRIORITY OUTCOME 1

REDUCE LEVELS OF OBESITY SO THERE ARE FEWER OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The NHS South of Tyne and Wear Overweight and Obesity Strategy (2010-2020) sets out detailed plans including actions and targets to improve this outcome, the key features of which include:

- Undertaking a range of promotional campaigns including media interventions to raise awareness of what constitutes a healthy diet and appropriate physical activity levels;
- Creating health enabling environments;
- Ensuring consistent availability of healthier food choices in public places;
- Auditing and co-ordinating and/or commissioning more preventative activities across the life course including generic multi-disciplinary, holistic health improvement programmes;
- Establish effective partnership working between all providers: public, private and third sector;
- Developing, commissioning and implementing a consistent, evidenced based pathway of care for children, young people and families;
- Establishing and monitoring the prevalence of obesity amongst women who are pregnant and develop and provide specific interventions for women and their families;
- Focussing on the early years setting;
- Providing effective continuous professional development and specific training to all staff delivering on the obesity agenda in order to better support behaviour change and healthy lifestyles;
- Ensuring equitable access for targeted groups such as BME, where necessary delivering services in local communities;
- Establishing an effective performance management and evaluative framework to inform future commissioning decisions.

WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED

Since April 2010, the Obesity Partnership and Childhood Obesity Delivery Group has been re-established and is responsible for the delivery of the NHS South of Tyne and Wear Overweight and Obesity Strategy (2010-2020).

- The **Lifestyle, Activity and Food Programme (LAF)**, a weight management programme for children and young people has been developed and commissioned for three years from April 2010. LAF is a Tier 2 and Tier 3 service with Tier 2 being delivered by the Wellness Service and Tier 3 by City Hospitals.
- From May 2010 to March 2011, 281 referrals have been received from GP's and school nurses with 116 families starting the programme. Sixteen (16) families were transferred to the adult programme as they were aged 16 years+, 25 families were given 1:1 support from the Specialist Dietician and a further 99 families are ready to start the programme from April 2011.

- The LAF Team delivered 10 x 8 week LAF programmes at various venues across the city over the year and recorded a total weight loss of 62.4kg in those that completed the programme.
- Following attendance on the 8 week LAF programme, families are offered a variety of follow up activities to ensure they remain physically active for at least 16 weeks after completion.
- Three (3) celebration events have been delivered to provide opportunities to track progress through weighing and measuring and to offer further advice and support where required.
- Four (4) x 4 week pre school prevention programmes were delivered for 2-4 year olds
- Eighteen (18) families attended 3 day "Lets Get Cooking" cook and eat courses in October and February half term holidays.
- A summer holiday programme was delivered during July / August 2010 to ensure that families remained active during the holiday. Seventy-one (71) adults and children attended the programme.
- These referrals are received initially by Tier 2 services, but it is hoped to increase capacity in Tier 3 services in the future by providing a Community Nutritional Assistant to support young people and their families. This will encourage take up of that service and ensure those with the greatest need are assigned to the appropriate service at an earlier point.
- Change4Life publicity was released in January 2011 which promoted the LAF and activities linked to it.
- The Obesity Partnership developed an **Early Years Food Policy**, which was launched in November 2010. Training around this was delivered to 94 Early Years practitioners between January and March 2011. It is hoped to roll out the training in nurseries, which will support the implementation of the policy.
- The policy itself has received some interest from the Department of Health, who are considering rolling out this type of policy nationally.
- Sunderland participated in the delivery of a **HENRY (Health Exercise Nutrition for the Really Young)** pilot, which is underpinned by the Family Partnership Model. Sunderland's participation involved the development, pilot and long-term evaluation of a programme to help practitioners work more effectively with parents of babies and pre-school children to prevent childhood obesity. The pilot is now completed and through the securing of additional funding further training sessions are planned for July 2011, which will allow up to 32 additional practitioners to be trained. The programme trains health and community practitioners working with young people and their families on obesity and lifestyle concerns.
- Sunderland offers the **Maternity Lifestyle Programme** to all pregnant women and families, particularly those from disadvantaged groups and communities, to improve access to positive lifestyle services, by providing activities that fit easily into families' everyday lives. This includes nutritional and physical activities aimed at maximising the likelihood of long-term health, particularly for women with a BMI >30.
The Specialist Exercise Practitioner – Maternity has made 1615 client contacts (target 1500) from April 2010 to March 2011, 37 of which were referred to the Exercise Referral and Weight Management programme. Activities delivered include Mums on the Move, Aquanatal, Gentle Circuits, Aerobics, Cycling and Legs, Bums and Tums.

A new activity was added to the programme during this period. “Mums in the Pool....and baby comes too” is a water based exercise class for the mother with the baby in an inflatable seat. This activity, and “Mums on the Move” create exercise opportunities for new mums without the need for additional child care.

- The **Health Related Behaviour Survey (HRBS)** is a questionnaire of young people in Years 4 and 6 of primary school and Years 8 and 10 in secondary. The results of the 2010 Survey have been published and some of the key trends are:

Primary pupils

- 43% of girls in Year 6 in 2010 said they wanted to lose weight. This is lower than the 55% of girls in 2008 and 47% who said the same in 2006.
- 22% of Year 6 pupils in 2010 said they had 5 or more portions of fruit and vegetables the day before the survey. 33% said this in 2008 and 28% in 2006.
- Sunderland pupils were more likely to eat chips, sweets and chocolate ‘on most days’ and less likely to eat fresh fruit in 2010 compared with previous years.
- 42% of pupils in 2010 exercised hard at least 5 times in the last week. This is lower than the 48% of pupils who said this in 2008 and 49% in 2006.

Secondary pupils

- 12% of secondary pupils in 2010 bought their lunch from a takeaway or shop. This compared with 34% who said this in 2008 and 26% in 2006. Consumption of chips, sweets and crisps ‘on most days’ has also fallen steadily since 2006. Sadly, fresh fruit and vegetables ‘on most days’ have also fallen after a rise seen between 2006 and 2008.
- 36% of pupils described themselves as ‘fit’ or ‘very fit’ in 2010. This compared with 42% who said this in 2008 and 44% in 2006.
- In 2010, 35% of Year 10 boys said that they exercised hard at least 5 times in the previous week. In 2008, 43% said this and in 2006 this figure was 45%.

All of the data collected through HRBS will be used in the needs analysis of the Obesity Partnership and inform future planning and service improvement.

- The Healthy Schools Programme focuses on healthy eating and physical education in schools as well as PHSE/Emotional wellbeing. The HSP now offers an **Enhancement Programme**, which around 30 schools in Sunderland have engaged with. Twenty-one of those schools are focussing on ‘Healthy Weight’. There will be evidence in each of these schools of a ‘whole school focus’ on Healthy Weight, with some smaller projects concentrating on particular year groups. All schools engaging in the Enhancement Programme have received national grant funding of £2,000 to cover training costs and appropriate interventions. In addition, each school involved has evaluated a variety of data and information to form local and school priorities and develop:
 - Measurable outcomes – many schools have used school meal numbers
 - Perception outcomes – which will include a survey of young people to gain their views
 - Targeted outcome – focusing on a particular group, to get those identified on appropriate programmes (this could be young people identified as being obese onto identified healthy eating programmes, or a particular year group where physical activity levels are deemed as low, etc).

- Year on year school meal uptake has increased by 1.7% in primary schools (52.9% to 54.6%), and by 15% in secondary schools (43.5% to 58.5%). This means school meal uptake is 10.5 percentage points above the national average in primary schools (44.1%), and 20.9 percentage points above the national average in secondary schools (37.6%). Improvements in performance in primary schools are due to better customer engagement strategies, most notably the School Meals Investigators pupil-led consultation programme and associated service developments, such as increased delivery of theme days and installation of music equipment in dining halls. The improved performance for secondary schools is due to ongoing implementation of closed gate policies at lunchtimes and the development of bespoke services to meet individual pupil and school needs

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

The focus in the coming year relating to obesity will be:

- Target efforts towards the early years, to change lifestyles of parents/carers at an early stage so that fewer young people become obese
- Further 2-4 year olds prevention programmes to be delivered by the LAF Team, building on the success of the pilot programme at Ryhope CA.
- Consolidate the child weight management programme through increased referrals to LAF
- Develop and implement a “self referral” route into the LAF programme to assist in increasing the number of families accessing the programme.
- Deliver an event in support of National Childhood Obesity Week to raise awareness of the programmes and services available for families who have concerns about their children’s weight.
- Roll out HENRY
- Continue to promote breastfeeding with expectant mothers, as research shows that babies who are breastfed are less likely to become obese in infancy.
- Further develop the Maternity Lifestyles programme to continue to meet the needs of the client group.
- Levels of obesity in children are measured at reception and year 6 through the **National Childhood Measurement Programme**. The Programme is administered by school nurses and the aim is to measure the BMI of young people in schools, and where concerns about weight are identified, services are offered to the young person and their family. To help improve the programme, including coverage and response time for contacting parents to inform them of their child’s measurement outcome, a Kaizen event is planned for May 2011. This will bring together key stakeholders to share their expertise and identify areas for improvement.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

National performance indicators linked to this target are:

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 Target	Year 3 Target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
NI55	% children in reception with height and weight recorded who are obese	10	n/a	13%	11.32% 2009/10 data		
NI56d	% children in year 6 with height and weight recorded who are obese	21%	22%	21%	21.1%	20%	20%

PRIORITY OUTCOME 2

REDUCE LEVELS OF TEENAGE PREGNANCY

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The Risk and Resilience Strategy 2008-12 encompasses sexual health, teenage pregnancy, substance misuse and smoking. The detailed plans to reduce teenage conception rates include:

- Providing services that offer:
 - Prevention
 - Well publicised and accessible sexual health services offering free contraception, advice and pregnancy options advice in each of the five areas of the city.
 - Integrated healthcare packages of support to young parents and their child
 - Access to childcare to support engagement in education, employment and training and appropriate benefits through Jobcentre Plus
 - A proactive approach to supporting young fathers
 - enhanced support to care leavers
- Increase the participation of teenage parents in education, training and employment by:
 - Increasing access to “care to learn” funding for young parents
 - Developing courses across the city to engage young parents in learning
 - Working with Connexions to identify and engage young mums
 - Providing a specialist resource (b2b) with onsite childcare to engage young mums in education, training and employment

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Since April 2010, the Risk and Resilience Partnership has:

- Commissioned **Answers**, a young people’s dedicated contraception and sexual health service in Sunderland for young people under the age of 25. There will be at least one Answers clinic in each of the five areas of the city. There are currently four operating in Washington Primary Care Centre, Bede and Hylton College sites and Chester Lodge at the city hospital. The fifth clinic will be based within the new Primary Care Centre at Houghton le Spring and is expected to be operating in September 2011. The CaSH services, including all age clinics, and GUM are provided by City Hospitals.
- Through the Prevention and Staying Healthy Board, developed a primary care model to provide contraception and sexual health advice within GP practices. The tender applications for this contract have been issued and it is likely that the contract will be awarded in September 2011. The successful service will co-ordinate training and raise awareness of the role of GPs in the delivery of sexual health services as part of the primary care provision.
- Secured funding from the Young People’s Learning Agency for courses at foundation stage across the city. Courses have taken place in Hendon and Pallion with groups of young mums.
- Launched Your Health, which provides information and key health messages on a range of issues, including teenage pregnancy. Your Health is delivered through

a website, an Essential Guidebook for Parents and a Big Health Book for young people. All secondary schools have a Your Health information area.

- As a result of the teenage pregnancy grant ending in March 2011, the service provided by the Sexual Health Promotion Team has been decommissioned.
- In December 2010 a **Rapid Process Improvement Workshop (RPIW)** was held, involving the PCT, City Hospitals and the local authority. The workshop focussed on repeat terminations and access to contraception. As a result, measures have been put in place to allow nurses to see an additional three patients per clinic, thereby reducing the waiting times from termination to insertion of LARC. Systems have also been standardised across the different clinics available, ensuring people get consistent services at every point. Work is also underway to establish a Young People's Contraceptive Nurse to work with the most vulnerable young women accessing the termination service to ensure they are using the chosen contraception effectively. The nurse will be in place by September 2011. We will also explore opportunities to establish an Options Counsellor.
- **Chlamydia Screening Programme** – to promote the screening programme, a number of marketing initiatives have been developed including a text service for a young person to request a kit, Facebook advertising to promote awareness and providing a link to the regional Chlamydia screening website for a testing kit and further information. In addition, a number of seasonal and holiday campaigns are used to cover key events such as Valentine's Day, summer holidays and Christmas.
- The CASH service (Contraception and Sexual Health) continues to be provided by City Hospitals.
- The Healthy Schools Programme focuses on PHSE and emotional wellbeing as well as healthy eating and physical education. The HSP now offers an **Enhancement Programme**, which around 30 schools in Sunderland have engaged with. Six secondary schools are focussing on 'Teenage Pregnancy'. There will be evidence in each of these schools of a 'whole school focus' on this topic, with some smaller projects concentrating on particular year groups. All schools engaging in the Enhancement Programme have received national grant funding of £2,000 to cover training costs and appropriate interventions. In addition, each school involved has evaluated a variety of data and information to form local and school priorities and develop measurable, perception and targeted outcomes.
- Individual services have made improvements, such as
 - Connexions has identified lead Personal Advisors in each locality with responsibility for teenage mums
 - B2B offers a range of courses for young parents/parents to be, which include educational courses where accreditations are achieved, parenting courses, such as weaning and other activities which include messy play, swimming, healthy eating, etc. Over the 2010/11 year, 58 young mums/mums to be have accessed courses.
- Due to the cessation of Teenage Pregnancy Implementation Grant, there is no longer a dedicated resource to work with young fathers.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- In July 2011, the **C-card** will be launched. This is the rebranded condom card scheme for young people. New publicity materials will be produced and training is scheduled throughout June and July. The training will include use of the c-card

system, which is a live web-based system, sexual health, Chlamydia screening and substance misuse. The c-card will offer:

- Greater choice of outlets
- Chlamydia screening as an 'opt out' which will increase uptake
- Substance misuse (alcohol) assessments integrated – potential referrals to YDAP
- C-card will also be provided by CASH and GUM in the future.
- Promote **Emergency Contraception Scheme** – whilst preventing unwanted pregnancies is clearly the major focus for sexual health services, access to emergency contraception is an important option for young people who need it. We will develop a brand and promotional materials to clearly outline for young people which pharmacies are engaged in the scheme. Any promotional material will also include signposting to other forms of contraception.
- Through the council's current reorganisation, move towards a strengthened Risk and Resilience model of working, which teenage pregnancy will be a part of.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The Risk and Resilience Partnership will monitor performance against this priority outcome using the national indicator below:

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/09	Baseline 2009/10	Year 1 target 2010/11	Year 2 target 2011/12	Year 3 target 2012/13
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate		35 per 1000*	34 per 1000	Reduce by 30% (from 1998 baseline)	Reduce by 40% (from 1998 baseline)

*It is likely that the figure given here is the target for 2009/10 as opposed to the baseline and is linked to the ten-year plan to reduce teenage pregnancy rates nationally. **Sunderland currently has a teenage pregnancy rate of 51.8** (as reported from the Q3 conception data for 2009). This is above both the national and regional average. Continued efforts, along with a recent national support visit for teenage pregnancy, are striving to make improvements to young people's sexual health and to reduce the number of teenage conceptions.

PRIORITY OUTCOME 3

IMPROVE THE MENTAL HEALTH OUTCOMES OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The CAMHS Strategy and Implementation Plan 2006-2009 sets out detailed plans including priorities and specific actions and targets to improve this outcome.

The priorities within the strategy include:

- Partnership
- Planning and commissioning
- Participation
- Meeting the mental health needs of children, young people and their families
- Effective service delivery

Priorities for improvement include:

- Work with parents to promote well being, self confidence and self esteem in children and young people
- Ensure children and young people develop personally and socially, tackling cultural, religious and moral issues through Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Social Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL)
- Provide accessible and dedicated mental health services to develop resilience skills and improve emotional health.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- A partnership of NHS South of Tyne & Wear, Sunderland, South Tyneside and Gateshead Councils has completed a review of Tier 2 service provision, including TAMHS, to inform the development of the core offer and commissioning plan, including improved access to talking therapies.
- Formal consultation to inform the commissioning of the specialist community CAMHS has been undertaken and the service has been commissioned to include services for children and young people:
 - with complex severe or persistent mental health needs
 - with moderate to severe learning disabilities and are experiencing psychological distress
 - who are in special circumstances, e.g. looked after children, those who have substance misuse issues, those who are at risk of or are involved in offending and are experiencing psychological distress
 - with severe, acute and complex mental health needs requiring an enhanced community CAMHS intervention as an alternative to inpatient admission
 - with complex behavioural mental health and social care needs that require enhanced specialist CAMH intervention as part of an integrated multi-agency package of care
- The Eating Disorder Service has been commissioned and will be operational from 1 July 2011
- The Neurodevelopmental Disorder Service has been commissioned and will be operational from 1 April 2011
- The new model of inpatient service provision has been commissioned and will be operational from 1 September 2011.

- Children and young people have been involved in all aspects of the commissioning process at each stage of the review.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Maintain the quality, range and scope of Tier 2 CAMHS services as part of an integrated pathway of care
- Ensure the new specialist community CAMH and LD service is developed, to meet the needs of the population served, as part of an integrated model of children's service delivery, with particular emphasis on meeting the needs of children in special circumstances, e.g. links between CAMHS, YOS, LDD and LAC
- Develop clear pathways of care between universal, targeted, specialist and in-patient services
- Develop clear multi-agency pathways of care for children and young people on the autistic spectrum. This will be the first of a number of specialist pathways developed in future years.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

- The original performance measure for this outcome area was NI 50 – “Emotional health of children”. This was measured by an indicator in the Tellus Survey – a survey of children and young people against the five outcomes. However, it is not now possible to report against this indicator, as reporting against the National Indicator Set has come to an end, as has the Tellus Survey.
- Future performance reporting will come from the impact of the commissioned CAMHS Services. Outcome based performance measures are built in to all contracts issued as part of the review, and service providers are required to collect and report on a minimum dataset, including outcome measures. This will be provided in future annual reports and monitoring reports for the CYPP.

PRIORITY OUTCOME 4 REDUCE SUBSTANCE MISUSE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The Risk and Resilience Strategy 2008-2012 encompasses sexual health, teenage pregnancy, substance misuse and smoking.

The detailed plan to reduce substance misuse includes:

- Prevent harm to children, young people and families affected by drugs and alcohol by:
 - reducing the number of young people frequently using illicit drugs, alcohol or volatile substances.
 - ensuring appropriate services for young people in treatment as defined by NTA.
 - reducing alcohol related Accident & Emergency attendances and hospital admissions
 - reducing alcohol related crime and disorder.
 - reducing the number of women smoking at the time of delivery
- Reduce numbers of young people and families that smoke by:
 - reducing smoking prevalence in young people aged over 16
 - ensuring all secondary schools attain gold smoke free award by September 2009
 - improving access to smoking cessation services across the city for under 18's
 - reducing levels of smoking during pregnancy by 15% by 2010.

In addition to the above, the Risk and Resilience Strategy details the way in which we aim to address young people's substance misuse, including alcohol and smoking, as part of a holistic integrated approach to promoting resilience, supporting positive lifestyle choices and addressing risk taking behaviours. Key elements of the strategy are to:

- Enable young people with drug or alcohol issues to access the full range of substance misuse treatment interventions.
- Re-provide services to establish locality based young people's Risk and Resilience workers to work as an integral part of 5 locality teams to offer brief advice and support on positive lifestyle choices including drugs, alcohol & smoking
- Strengthen support to parents and carers' of young people and their families with drug & alcohol issues.
- Enable and support universal and targeted Services to identify the drug or alcohol related needs of young people and refer appropriately.
- Increase appropriate referrals to Young People's Specialist Treatment Service from universal, targeted and specialist young people's services
- Strengthen care pathways for young people attending Health & Wellbeing Services. Support schools in the planning, delivery and monitoring of high quality drug education & PSHE.
- Ensure young people have an opportunity to feedback on the treatment they receive.

- Increase the number of Stop Smoking advisors
- Increasing the number of referrals to NHS Stop Smoking services by offering more support

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- The Youth Drug and Alcohol Project (YDAP) is funded and monitored by NTA and is regarded as a high performing service. The NTA Performance Report for the last quarter of 2010/11, showed that 100% of those young people assessed as requiring a specialist substance misuse treatment, commenced that treatment within 15 working days of referral.
- In order to prevent harm to children, young people and families a range of prevention and early intervention work is undertaken, including:
 - Specific targeted programmes have been delivered in schools and children's homes to support early intervention work
 - Prevention projects continue through SAFC Foundation
 - Worked with the XL Youth Villages preparing non-alcoholic cocktails for young people
 - Joint working with health around the C-Card, so that young people who take up the C-Card Service, answer questions related to substance misuse, and where a need is identified, they are automatically referred to YDAP. In addition, all YDAP practitioners will be C-Card distributors.
- To further support prevention/early intervention a number of YDAP practitioners are now based in localities through Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Team Around the Child (TAC). All YDAP practitioners will be fully integrated into locality based working from 1 September 2011.
- So that YDAP receives referrals that are appropriate to the service, the Risk and Resilience Partnership has rolled out training for practitioners in the use of the YDAP screening tool. That training is now complete and is, in part, contributing to the appropriateness of referrals now being received by the service. In 2008/09, there were 300 referrals, which rose to 320 in 2009/10. For 2010/11, referrals reduced to 263.
- Regarding alcohol related admissions to hospital and A&E attendances, YDAP has a dedicated worker based within Sunderland City Hospital to work in partnership with staff in the health service to support young people presenting at A&E with alcohol related issues. This also supports the appropriateness of referrals the service receives, which, in relation to this issue, have increased from a baseline of 6 in 2008/09 to 29 in 2010/11. The increase in numbers is a positive result, as it demonstrates that the service is engaging with young people and means that intervention programmes can be introduced at a relatively early stage.
- YDAP also works in partnership with the Youth Offending Service regarding alcohol related crime and disorder. Where young people who engage in criminal activities are also involved in substance misuse, the YOS refers them to YDAP. During the year 2010/11, 125 young people were referred.

- YDAP wants to ensure that young people are routinely able to provide feedback on the treatments they receive. In 2010, the service participated in a Viewpoint trial, an electronic method of gathering young people's views. However the evaluation showed that this was not an appropriate method of gathering views of young people using the service. Therefore alternative ways of obtaining user views are being sought.
- A range of carer services for families affected by substance misuse have been developed across Sunderland including Families United Supporting Help In Addiction (FUSHIA), Sunderland Area Parent Support (SAPS), Sunderland Carers Centre, Northern Engagement into Recovery from Addiction Foundation (NERAF) and North East Council on Addiction (NECA).
- YourHealth website launched to provide children and young people, their parents and carers with information on the impact of drug and alcohol use and where to access further help and support. – www.yourhealthsunderland.com

WHAT DO WE STILL HAVE TO DO

- Enable young people with drug or alcohol issues to access the full range of substance misuse treatment interventions.
- Strengthen support to parents and carers' of young people and their families with drug & alcohol issues.
- Strengthen care pathways for young people attending Health & Wellbeing Services. Support schools in the planning, delivery and monitoring of high quality drug education and PSHE. This will be taken forward by the Risk and Resilience Trainer from September 2011.
- Ensure young people have an opportunity to feedback on the treatment they receive.
- Increase the number of Stop Smoking advisors
- Increasing the number of referrals to NHS Stop Smoking services by offering more support
- Improve the quality of data collected by City Hospitals Sunderland and shared with Sunderland City Council and Northumbria Police to reduce alcohol related violence. Safer Sunderland Partnership is working with a range of stakeholders, to improve 'the Cardiff model'. The project group will agree the best way to monitor the data and make use of all the available information.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Substance misuse among children and young people

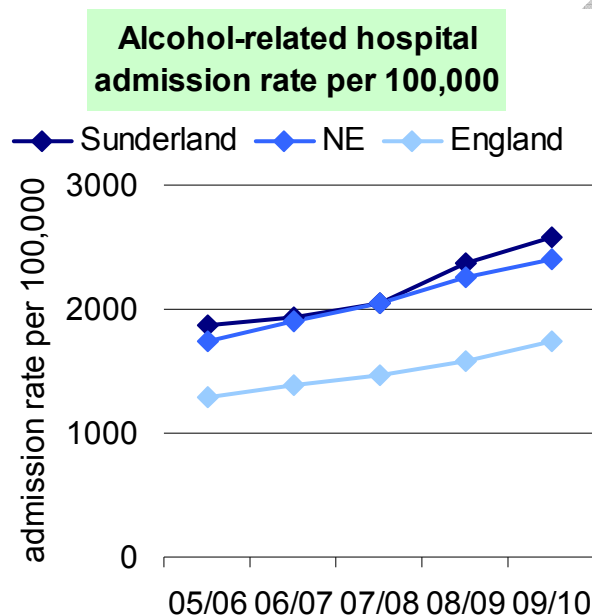
- A Sunderland Young People's Substance Misuse Needs Assessment was completed in February 2011 to assess the trends of substance misuse treatment for young people in Sunderland, particularly over the 2009/10 period. Some interesting findings included in that report, which were identified through the Health Related Behaviour Survey 2010, are summarised below.
 - There were less Year 10's drinking alcohol in the last 7 days compared to previously
 - There were less Year 10's drinking 28 units or more in the last 7 days
 - The number of Year 10's not drinking alcohol in the last 7 days has increased
 - Less Year 10's have been offered cannabis or other drugs

The HRBS findings show a positive trend change for alcohol use. Across England, the proportion of both boys and girls of school age who regularly consume alcohol (by self-reporting having consumed alcohol in the past week) appears to have fallen between 2002 and 2010. In Sunderland, the proportion of girls regularly consuming alcohol is falling but the proportion of boys has remained steady. Among both boys and girls, around 40% of children in Year 10 and 20% in Year 8 regularly consume alcohol, so this remains a significant public health issue.

Furthermore, the participation of pupils was much larger in 2010 than 2008, and while this can affect trend analysis, the increased participation provides a broader, more representative picture of Sunderland.

Alcohol related hospital admissions and A&E Attendances

- The data set out below relates to alcohol related hospital admissions, though it must be noted that this is for all ages, not specifically young people:



- During 2009/10, 291 young people under the age of 18 presented at Sunderland A&E with alcohol related concerns. This figure rose to 319 in 2010/11.
- The number of under 18's being admitted to hospital with alcohol related primary diagnosis concerns dropped from 108 in 2009 to 88 in 2010.
- Alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18's is significantly worse in Sunderland compared to the English average, and also worse than the regional average. Sunderland is ranked 311/326 in the country in relation to alcohol related admissions to hospital for under-18's (Source: Local Alcohol Profiles in England – LAPE).

Smoking cessation

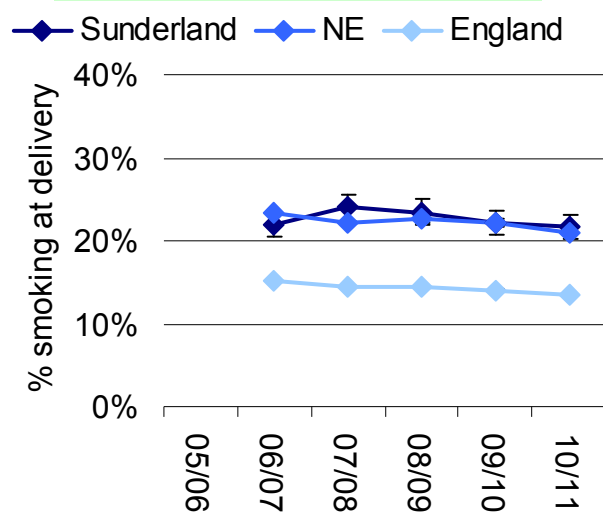
- In relation to reducing numbers of young people and families that smoke, and in particular reducing smoking prevalence in young people aged over 16, the 2008 South of Tyne and Wear Lifestyle survey, asked 2% of adults resident in Sunderland whether they smoked. Among people aged 18-24 years 23% of females and 29% of males said that they smoked, compared to 23% of all adult females and 28% of all adult males. The proportion of adults that smoke is highest in the 25-44 years age band. The survey will be repeated in 2012 and will produce comparable data which will take fuller account of the effect of the 2007 ban on smoking in public places.
- In relation to improving access to smoking cessation services across the city for under 18's, two consecutive health equity audits of NHS Stop Smoking Services across South of Tyne and Wear showed the following figures for the number of young people under 18 years accessing Stop Smoking Services

Number of young people under 18 years accessing NHS Stop Smoking Services who are resident in Sunderland			
Year	2007/08 (Apr-Mar)	2009 (Jan-Dec)	2010 (Jan-Dec)
Number setting a quit date	175	267	235
Number successfully quitting at 4 weeks	35	54	36
Percentage quit rate	20	20	15
Average quit rate among people all ages	43	47	47

Although levels of access to Stop Smoking Services among young people under 18 years have increased, quit rates among this group of service users is significantly lower than average quit rates

- In relation to reducing levels of smoking during pregnancy by 15% by 2010, although the rate has fallen in recent years in Sunderland (in 2010/11 the figure was 22%), it is still significantly higher than the England rate (14%).
- Data is presented below in relation to the proportion of mothers smoking at the time of delivery:

Proportion of mothers smoking at time of delivery



STAYING SAFE

PRIORITY OUTCOME 5

TACKLE THE IMPACT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The impact of domestic violence on children and young people was acknowledged as a key priority in the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-25. Domestic Violence is a cross-cutting issue and the CYPP Delivery Plan: 2010-13 identified the following groups/partnerships as having a leading role in making improvements:

- Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board
- Safer Sunderland Partnership and in particular the:
 - Sunderland Domestic Violence Partnership, and:
 - Violent Crime Delivery Group

Following the launch of the Government's Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy, work has been progressing across the Safer Sunderland Partnership, Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Boards to ensure Sunderland has a clear, coordinated approach to tackling violence against women and girls in the form of a joint action plan.

Key detailed actions and expectations set out in the Government's Action Plan are now being incorporated into the Sunderland VAWG Action Plan which will be monitored by the three Boards.

The Action Plan, which will be in place by September 2011, will ensure Sunderland has a clear implementation plan in tackling violence against women and girls.

The Plan will focus on 4 key areas to:

- **prevent** such violence from happening in the first place by challenging the attitudes and behaviours which foster it and intervening early where possible to prevent it;
- **provide** adequate levels of support where violence does occur;
- work in **partnership** to obtain the best outcome for victims and their families; and
- **take action to** reduce the risk **to women and girls who are victims of these crimes and ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice.**

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Until the action plan is in place, work progresses to improve this outcome, as set out below:

- The MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) Coordinator is in post and has successfully completed a secondment within the City Council to raise awareness of staff of the MARAC process.
- MARAC practical sessions in operation to allow staff to observe a MARAC so they are aware of what is required should they need to attend.

- MARAC statistics show that repeat victimisation stands at 20% which is well below the original target of 34%.
- A successful domestic violence awareness raising campaign ran for 2 weeks in December in the Sunderland Echo.
- IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) Service to support victims continues to successfully run
- Police have ran Operation Liberty in conjunction with partners to provide support to victims of domestic violence on weekends
- An e-learning package covering the impact of domestic violence on children has been introduced which will allow partners to access it ensuring a clear joined up message across the City
- Perpetrator programmes continue to run in the City
- Specialist Domestic Violence Court in operation.
- Sunderland Domestic Violence Partnership in operation now also has Task and Results Groups on key issues such as alcohol and Domestic Violence.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/09	Baseline 2009/10	Year 1		Year 2 target 2011/12	Year 3 target 2012/13
				Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11		
NI 32	Repeat incidents of domestic violence	New Indicator	34%	30%	20%*		

* 220 cases went to MARAC of which 44 were repeat victims.

PRIORITY OUTCOME 6

REDUCE LEVELS OF BULLYING

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The Sunderland Anti-Bullying Strategy and Implementation Plan 2010-2013 sets the following key priorities for tackling bullying:

- To ensure that robust anti-bullying policies are in place and children and young people are offered different options to report incidents, as well as understand what response they can expect
- To ensure that a practical method of establishing baseline information is put in place to identify local incidence of reported bullying
- To target anti-bullying services to schools, services for looked after children and other community settings
- To ensure that children and young people have the opportunity to participate in strategy and policy development
- To review Sunderland's Anti-Bullying Charter Mark and
- To appoint a Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator to enhance and drive effective partnership working and inform commissioning
- To ensure that bullying is picked up early and that 'low level' harassment is challenged

WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED

Since April 2010

- An Anti-Bullying Operational Group has been established, which meets monthly, to undertake anti-bullying work and a Strategy Group, which meets quarterly to oversee developments and co-ordinate activity
- An Anti-Bullying Co-ordinator was appointed in May 2010
- A Young People's Conference was also held in May 2010
- The Anti-Bullying Strategy was reviewed, revised was consulted on from June to September 2010, and is now published
- A young people's version of the Strategy was produced in October 2010
- An anti-bullying website is in place with advice and guidance for young people, parents and professionals – www.yourhealthsunderland.com/anti-bullying
- The Anti-Bullying Charter Mark was reviewed and updated, with the input of young people, between April and September 2010
- CharterMark has also been produced for settings and organisations, including Children's Homes. This was launched in November 2010.
- The Positive Behaviour CharterMark has been revised for nurseries
- An official CharterMark logo has been launched for schools and settings to include on their official stationery and other promotional material, demonstrating their achievement in a standard of care
- Anti-bullying awareness raising sessions have been held with:
 - City Equals (disabled young people's group)
 - Change Council (looked after children's group)
 - Youth Parliament
 - Hendon Young People's Project (BME young people's group)
 - School governors.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Explore options for a standard approach to recording bullying incidents. Work will be carried out with schools and other services to come up with an appropriate system.
- This will support the establishment of accurate baseline information to identify local incidence of reported bullying.
- Target anti-bullying services to schools, services for looked after children and other community settings to ensure that bullying is picked up early and that 'low level' harassment is challenged
- Five young people's conferences will be held in each locality in the Autumn Term. One hundred and twenty young people will attend across the five conferences, and community police will be involved. Clear outcomes will be produced from those conferences which young people can feed into school.
- An 'App Competition' will be run, where young people's groups will be asked to come up with an app to keep young people safe in a cyber-world.
- A training programme to be set up to carry out Charter Mark assessments in schools and settings. This will be a 'train the trainer', aimed at young people, so that they can train other young people as cohorts change.
- Complete the e learning package for all professionals across the city

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

The number of schools and settings that have registered for the CharterMark is set out below:

- 18 schools
- 5 children's homes
- 5 youth projects (2 commissioned and 3 non commissioned)

Of those:

- 3 primary schools
- 2 secondary schools
- 3 children's homes

have already gained the award at Silver or above with the remainder set to gain the award by end of September 2011.

National Indicator 69 – "children who have experienced bullying", was assigned to this outcome as performance information. However, it is not possible to report accurately against the indicator as reliable baseline information is yet to be established.

PRIORITY OUTCOME 7

REDUCE THE NUMBERS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE VICTIMS OF CRIME AND REDUCE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S FEAR OF CRIME

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The Safer Sunderland Strategy 2008-2023 is being implemented. Key actions to improve this outcome are:

- continue provision of YOS Prevention Service to address anti-social behaviour or potential offending.
- continue provision of the Challenge and Support Team which ensures that enforcement activity comes with greater support for young people and their parents, particularly those who are at risk of developing further problems. The Team will work with up to 20 families in the year.
- strengthen the Family Intervention Project (FIP) to work with the most vulnerable and problematic families with children at risk of offending
- implement the Youth Victim Action Plan, delivering effective support for young victims of crime across the city.
- commission the Youth Drug and Alcohol Project (YDAP) to provide a full range of specialist substance misuse services including prescription harm reduction, relapse prevention, solution-based therapy and group work
- undertake a further Fear of Crime Survey with children and young people during 2010/11.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- The additional funding received for the Challenge and Support Team ended in March 2011. The YOS Prevention Service has, however, been remodelled to incorporate the good work of the team and move towards a more family based approach to service delivery. Thirteen young people and their families had been supported by the team until this point
- As with the Challenge and Support Team, funding for the Family Intervention Project (FIP) has ended, but the work has been mainstreamed and is now a prominent feature of delivery.
- The FIP supported 56 families, working with up to 246 individuals from the most vulnerable and complex families in the city with excellent results. During this financial year, 35 cases were closed, 60% of those with an acceptable/successful closure reason, this compared to the national average of 46%. The 40% that were not closed successfully had a robust exit strategy to ensure access to services.
- 157 young people accessed and engaged with the Wear Kids Prevention Service, delivered by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) which provides support for children and young people aged 5-17 and their families in the Sunderland area. An additional 3100 young people were also able to access, participate and learn from one of the educational programmes that were delivered in schools by the prevention service. These short thought provoking interventions were delivered to ensure wider knowledge was gained on key subjects including Anti Social behaviour, Substance Misuse and Citizenship.

- A strategic intelligence assessment has been completed by the Safer Sunderland Partnership and includes a victim matrix of victimisation by age. The matrix (based on those aged 10 – 60 plus) shows the lowest risk age group is aged 10-14
- Under the Youth Victim Action Plan a range of actions have been taken to support young victims of crime, including:
 - A DVD is being produced with young victims providing positive messages to other young people on how to stay safe
 - Practice and referral procedures have been developed to identify young people accessing YOS Prevention Services who may also be a young victim and ensure the provision of appropriate support
 - A parenting information pack has been published that provides advice and guidance on how to recognise signs of victimisation
- A Victims Champion has been appointed by the Safer Sunderland Partnership and work has been done to ensure the appropriate links are in place to ensure vulnerable young victims are referred into appropriate services
- The Youth Drug and Alcohol Project has supported 96 young people who have entered treatment, having been referred by Sunderland YOS. As well as the full range of commissioned services, work is being extended to offer brief interventions at arrest referral stage.
- The YOS managed a highly successful summer media campaign (2010) around confidence in the criminal justice system and fear of crime. The campaign aimed to get the public involved in seeing justice done. The campaign generated six newspaper articles as well as specialist media coverage. As a result, Sunderland Youth Offending Service was nationally recognised by Youth Justice Board England and Wales for communicating youth justice to young people. Work with media continues through Media Strategy.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Complete the DVD being produced by young people on positive messages to other young people on how to stay safe
- Continue to positively promote the work of the Youth Offending Service through the Media Strategy.
- Undertake Fear of Crime Survey for 2011 and act on results and recommendations.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/09	Baseline 2009/10	Year 1		Year 2 target 2011/12	Year 3 target 2012/13
				Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11		
NI 17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour						

- The Youth Offending Service commissioned research in 2008, which was repeated in 2010, on young people's feelings of safety. In 2010, 61.5% of children and young people said they felt safe in Sunderland. This is 17.6 percentage points higher than in 2008 (52.3%).

- In 2010, a number of new factors had emerged around social media such as social networking sites (e.g. Facebook), Youtube, Internet, mobile phones and text messages. The survey also found children and young people's feelings are significantly influenced by TV and press coverage of crime.

DRAFT

ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING

PRIORITY OUTCOME 8

IMPROVE ATTAINMENT FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BY ACHIEVING NATIONAL AVERAGE AT ALL KEY STAGES

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The areas identified for improvement in the children and young people's plan 2010-25 and the deliver plan 2010-13 are:

- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile
- Key Stage 2 Performance
- Key Stage 4 GCSE Performance
- Achievement of Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications by age 19

Set out below is an overview of what our plans are, the achievements made to do, what we still need to do and performance information linked to the specific area.

EARLY YEARS

The Early Years and Childcare Strategic Partnership aims to improve this outcome by:

- Improving the quality of schools, settings and services by
 - Providing support and challenge on the environment
 - Monitoring children's progress
 - Developing strong partnerships with parents and professionals
 - Improving the quality of support to Local Authority providers
- Improving the ability of schools, settings and services 0-5 to identify and narrow the gap for lower achieving or disadvantaged children
- Developing specific projects to focus on areas that need significant improvement, for example boys, BME, SEN, LAC and speaking and listening skills

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- To improve the quality of schools and settings, during Summer 2010, Early Years Team scrutinised data from schools and daycare setting and carried out a Welfare Audit (daycare only). This influenced the level of support settings received. Eleven (11) schools received high level support, 5 received medium level during 2010/11. Three (3) daycare settings received high level support and 13 received medium level during 2010/2011.
- A further detailed audit of 49 daycare settings is currently underway and due for completion by the end of August 2011. The focus of the audit is around Teaching and Learning and Welfare requirements. As in previous years, the findings will help to tailor support to those settings where it is most required.
- The EYFS Capital Project is now fully complete and invested in 65 schools and settings to improve their outdoor play areas

- An electric tool to monitor children's progress from birth to 5 years has been implemented in schools and settings. This is a pilot and will be tested for a year from April 2011 to March 2012
- The 0-7 Partnership Pilot Project has developed some good practice models for improving the partnership between parents and professionals. The funding for the project has been withdrawn but some of the good practice models are being disseminated for settings to use
- Projects about specific groups of children have been developed for boys and BME. Learning from these projects has started to be disseminated to other settings. Staff have received detailed training on speaking and listening skills to roll out the learning from ECAT/ICAN to all settings. This has been well received and will be monitored after June 2011.
- Visited every school in Spring 2010 to review data of children in reception. Using the findings, schools have targeted support at those children who are not predicted to reach 6 points, to provide additional support to narrow the gap between children.
- Four schools are engaged and learning from each other to improve BME good practice. This has been running for approximately 18 months and involves focused training based on action learning.
- Training has been completed with foster carers to improve Looked After Children speaking and listening skills
- The quality of Local Authority support is being improved through detailed practice guidance for all staff, support and training from the School Improvement Service, and quality assuring reports and support visits.
- The Special Educational Needs (SEN) Monitoring Officer and EYFS Team are working together to provide advice and guidance for settings on the identification of lower achieving children.
- Training has been provided to 10 Lead Managers of Good and Outstanding daycare settings to develop a support network between themselves, with the intention that they will then roll out their learning and provide support other daycare settings to achieve a Good or Outstanding result from Ofsted

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Continue to focus on support for individual settings with levels of support matched to identified need
- Continue to focus on improving outcomes for BME, boys, SEN children and speaking and listening skills
- Disseminate the learning from 0-7 partnership pilot

Key projects that have been identified since April 2010 are:

Funding for disadvantaged 2-year olds

- Sunderland is one of 15 pilot areas and has received £365,803 from the Early Intervention Grant to trial new approaches for the early education of 2 years olds. Sunderland is committed to providing 15 hours of early education for this younger cohort by 2014. This will support the Narrowing the Gap programme in that young people should enter into primary education at higher levels than currently. The pilot will test what the issues are, and this is likely to include availability of spaces. To support this we will:

- encourage schools in the North and Coalfields areas of the city to provide additional childcare as this is where there is currently a shortage
- establish an accredited network of childminders to increase this demand among parents
- lead the work to improve the quality of settings currently rated “satisfactory” using the Every Child a Talker programme, so focusing on speaking and listening.

Tickell Review of the Early Years Foundation Stage

- The review will reform the current framework and make it less bureaucratic. One of Dame Tickle’s recommendations includes significantly reducing the number of early learning goals children are assessed against at age five from 69 to 17. The review was reported on 30 March 2011 with a view to implementing any changes from September 2012 onwards.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

- Since April 2010, improvement has been made across all the main performance measures at FSP and statutory targets have been exceeded.
- Good progress has been made by both boys and girls and the gender gap has narrowed in personal and social education (PSE).
- This is alongside continued improvement of the lowest performing 20% of pupils. This is now close to national average.

KEY STAGE 2

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The 0-16 Partnership aims to improve this outcome. During 2010-2011:

- Schools needing to maximise the progress that pupils make will carry out development activity within the Priority Learning Local Authority (PLLA) initiative and they will share good practice with other schools in the Local Authority
- School Improvement Partners (SIPs) will identify schools where Primary National Strategy (PNS) Consultants will support the implementation and development of the Improving Schools Programme (ISP) to strengthen leadership and management systems and improve the quality of teaching and learning.
- In the schools in which they are deployed, PNS Consultants will:
 - develop and embed the use of Assessing Pupils’ Progress (APP) to ensure accurate teacher assessment judgements through moderation and standardisation
 - develop and embed the use of the Primary Framework to develop understanding of progression and strengthen teachers’ subject knowledge
- Where there is underperformance in writing, schools will be targeted for inclusion in the Every Child a Writer (ECaW) programme
- Ten schools will engage with the Specialist Mathematics Teacher programme (MaST) to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics in primary schools.
- Beyond March 2011, when the PNS has ceased, the Government will drive forward improvements through “Your child, your schools, our future: building a 21st century schools system: Timetable for action”¹⁹, which expects SIPs to:

- Sign off the school improvement plans of weaker or underperforming schools, linked to the receipt of some schools improvement funding
- Help all schools to source improvement support by carrying out a brokerage role through, for example, sharing good practice, enabling school to school partnerships and other networks.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- A significant number of children in Sunderland enter primary school with low attainment levels, which can have an impact on their overall education. The PLLA initiative in Sunderland aimed to improve the levels of progress young children made between Key Stages 1 and 2. Eleven schools took part in the initiative over the last two years and improvements were evident in the 2010 Key Stage 2 SATs results of each of these schools.
- The National Strategies programmes ran until March 2011. The support, challenge and intervention provided to schools brought about continued improvements in primary schools. As a result, during this academic year:
 - Three primary schools emerged successfully from Notice to Improve within the required timescale
 - One school in Special Measures was judged to be making satisfactory progress at its first monitoring inspection.
 - A second school in Special Measures is awaiting its first monitoring inspection.
 - Of the nine additional schools currently within Local Authority Concerns, four will be removed from this category in July 2011 and the remaining five schools are making steady progress in improving outcomes for pupils.
- Before its cessation in March 2011, the ECaW programme was implemented in the Autumn 2010 and Spring 2011 terms, with all planned actions carried out. 2011 SATs results should demonstrate the impact of this intervention.
- The MAST programme is continuing. Ten schools are following the programme with maths teachers accessing good quality CPD. Change of government policy means that developments are following the agenda set out with the education white paper, "The Importance of Teaching".

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- The Coalition Government through its White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching* has charged local authorities to work in new ways with schools. Whilst Sunderland Local Authority must still challenge and support schools where there are concerns there is a clear direction of travel towards school improvement activity itself being carried out 'school to school'. The government aims to create a system which is more effectively self-improving, rather than using a centralised approach.
- As a result of the cessation of the National Strategies programme, the funding for SIPs and PNS Consultants has ceased. However with the agreement of its schools the Local Authority has put in place a one year 'transitional' Service Level Agreement to provide challenge and support to those schools buying into it.

We will:

- Support and challenge schools where results are below the floor standard that is, where the proportion of pupils achieving Level 4+ in English and mathematics combined is below 60% and the proportions of pupils making two levels of

progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in English and mathematics needs to improve to reach national averages

- Target underperforming schools at Key Stage 2 to improve pupil performance by engaging them in relevant English and mathematics development activities
- Develop school to school support through ,for example, National Leaders of Education (NLEs) Local Leaders of Education (LLEs) Lead Teachers and Lead Schools
- Fully implement and embed Assessing Pupils' Progress and ensure accurate teacher assessment judgements through moderation and standardisation and by facilitating established Lead Schools to spread their good practice in this
- Provide training and support for schools to implement approaches from Every Child a Reader and Every Child Counts, which to date have been Key Stage 1 intervention programmes, so they can be used to meet the needs of pupils struggling to grasp basic skills in Key Stage 2
- Further promote and develop the use of 'Support for Writing' and 'Talk for Writing' materials
- Provide training in conjunction with the Open University for a third cohort of teachers to become accredited Maths Specialist Teachers through the Maths Specialist Teacher (MaST) Programme

2010 PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

- 2010 results for English and mathematics combined for the 49 schools that took SATs increased by 1 percentage point from 2009 to 71%.
- 2010 results for pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in English increased by two percentage points to 85% and in mathematics remained at 82%. The result for progress in English was particularly pleasing because it was one percentage point above the national average.
- In 2010 in KS2 the Teacher Assessments which were carried out by all schools showed that improvements were made at level 4 and level 5.
- In each of the 11 schools involved in development activity to increase the proportion of pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and 2 in either English or mathematics standards were raised successfully as a result of their work.

KEY STAGE 4

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The 0-16 and 14-19 Partnership both aim to improve this outcome. The two partnerships work together around shared pieces of work. The Secondary National Strategy (SNS) Action Plan 2009/10 sets out overarching priorities, actions, milestones and impact measures.

After March 2011 the SNS will cease and the Government will drive forward improvements through "Your child, your schools, our future: building a 21st century schools system: Timetable for action". A national consultation process is taking place and Sunderland will be prepared to accommodate anything that emerges from this.

Until that time, we will continue to strive to make improvements across the key stage. We will:

- Respond to the new Schools' White Paper which will inform future actions
- Continue to consistently challenge schools on their performance through: the revised SIP programme cycle of visits; National Challenge monitoring; implementation of the Gaining Ground initiative; good quality risk analysis; the effective use of data; setting challenging targets
- Strengthen the use of assessment as a tool to inform support and intervention for targeted students and improving the quality of teaching.
- Further develop and target intervention strategies at KS3 and KS4 including Study Plus, guided group work, improving subject knowledge, developing functional skills, improving planning, well-articulated consultant-school agreements
- Reduce significantly the gap between vulnerable pupils (including SEN and Gifted & Talented) and all other groups are developed and implemented in schools
- Have in place effective teaching and learning policies with a focus on assessment for learning
- Support and monitor the national one-to-one tutoring initiative
- Strengthen the quality of school self evaluation in targeted schools, to focus on readiness for Ofsted inspection
- Support the delivery of effective leadership of Teaching and Learning through strengthened line management and senior middle leadership levels

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- In response to the Schools' White Paper we have begun to develop:
 - a recruitment programme with the national college, and have appointed Local Leaders Education (LLEs) and National Leaders Education (NLEs)
 - a triad peer to peer school, including three schools: Oxclose, Sandhill View and Monkwearmouth, to promote government's agenda in supporting schools
 - Network Learning Communities across themes and subjects.
 - (all of the above are in their very early stages of development)
- Sunderland has also written its plan in response to how we will deal with schools underperforming, and has submitted this to the DfE for approval
- A series of Headteacher consultative groups have been held with the purpose of establishing partnerships between schools and the local authority.

In challenging schools to improve attainment, we have achieved the following:

- The SIP programme was followed until it came to an end on 31 March 2011. It was an extremely effective scheme in supporting schools to complete self-evaluation and focussing local authority support to schools.
- Farrington School was identified as a National Challenge school September 2008, as part of a three year programme. The progress of pupils at the school was so good it was subject to DfE research. It has consistently been one of the highest achieving schools on the programme, being in the top tranche for rate of improvement.
- The Gaining Ground Initiative will conclude in August 2011. It has been implemented in six schools in Sunderland and evaluation is still to be completed by DfE.
- Risk analysis in Sunderland on schools' performance continues to be effective. School Improvement Partners understand how schools are performing and are

able to predict where schools require specific support or are at risk of falling into Ofsted categories.

- Schools continue to set challenging and realistic targets. In the 2009/10 academic year, all local authority maintained schools' combined results exceeded the local authority target for 5A*-C, i.e. the gold standard
- Programmes of Assessing Pupil Progress (APP) were implemented in English, maths and science in schools. However, with the closure of the national strategies this programme has come to an end.
- The National Strategies funded a programme of targeted intervention at Key stages 3 and 4, which was effective and led to the improvement in performance.
- The Functional Skills Programme came to an end on 31 March 2011. Since then, subject development and school support has continued in English and maths and will continue to do so.
- Implementation of the Narrowing the Gap plan has supported young people from identified vulnerable groups to close the gap between themselves and their peers.
- Early evaluation indicates that the national one to one tutoring initiative was effective in supporting programmes in English and maths at Key Stage 3 for targeted groups. The programme is continuing to be mainstreamed during the course of this year and there are plans for this to be continued in the academic year 2012.
- There has been a local authority supported programme based around Pre Inspection Briefings (PIB) which is building the capacity of schools leadership teams to self evaluate accurately and to support other schools in doing the same. This programme is likely to expanded in the course of the 2011/12 academic year (See Bullet 1).
- CDP is also being made available to develop skills of model leaders in self evaluation and reference.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

- Key Stage 4 results (GCSE and equivalent) for pupils at the end of statutory school age are the highest achieved in Sunderland, continuing a strong upward trend over the last five years.
- The government's gold standard measure requires sixteen year olds to achieve at least five GCSEs or equivalent at grade A*-C including at least grade C in both GCSE English and maths. Sunderland's results for 2010 are the highest achieved and also the highest year on year improvement since the measure was introduced.
- 5+A*-Cs including English and Maths has improved and it is likely the gap with the national average has been reduced
- More young people are achieving A*-C in two or more sciences
- The percentage of young people achieving 5+A*-Cs in any subject has increased
- Strong rate of improvement for both boys and girls

ACHIEVEMENT OF LEVEL 2 AND 3 QUALIFICATIONS BY THE AGE OF 19

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

- In order to meet the 14-19 Entitlement the following priorities have been identified:

- Having an effective strategy for Raising the Participation Age (RPA) to reduce the proportion of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, employment and/or training (NEET)
- Having education pathways in place for all children and young people
- Having effective collaborative partnership arrangements in place
- Providing high-quality impartial information, advice and guidance to young people
- Supporting employers to develop a growing, adaptable, sustainable skilled workforce for the City of Sunderland Council Having sufficient high-quality facilities providing a range of high quality provision – in schools, colleges and training providers across the area for delivering Apprenticeships, Diplomas, Foundation Learning and General Qualifications
- Providing targeted provision for young people at risk of disengagement, i.e. those NEET
- The 14-19 Partnership will develop and implementation plan that will detail actions to progress these priorities.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

The new Coalition Government made immediate and significant changes to the 14-19 agenda in the summer of 2010, which impacted on the relevance of the current 14-19 Strategy.

It was announced that there would be a review of national curriculum and, as part of the proposed reforms, Professor Alison Wolf was commissioned to carry out a whole-scale review of 14-19 vocational education. The findings of that review were published in March 2011.

The responsibility for the local authority to act as lead commissioner for post-16 provision was also withdrawn.

Nevertheless, the 14-19 Partnership has continued to support the 14-19 curriculum in the following ways:

- Produced a local strategic analysis for 2009/10 and summary of partnership priorities
- Explored the implications of the RPA in Sunderland
- The findings of these two projects are, that despite there being a projected decline in the total 14-18 population in Sunderland by 2015, there will still be a requirement for Sunderland to have more post-16 provision in 2015 than in 2010 if we are to meet the RPA target. Plans are currently being developed through the NEET Improvement Board
- Explored the implications of the withdrawal of EMA. As an interim measure, some providers across the city have continued to provide some learners with the equivalent funds from their own resources
- Sunderland continues to have education pathways in place for all children and young people, through the Sunderland Model. The model is built around an infrastructure of pooled resources - human, physical and financial and not around the delivery of any one suite of qualifications, whether they are academic or vocational
- Memorandum of Understanding in place with the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS). Looking to work with NAS to improve the links with employers locally and regionally

- European Social Fund (ESF) – Engaging Vulnerable Young People. Partnership produced successful co-financing tender bid valued at £1,347,042. The funding will provide tailored packages of education and support to assist the engagement of young people who are NEET. It also will aim to close the attainment gaps between advantaged and disadvantaged young people at Levels 2 and 3. The period of this activity is 2011-2013. Activities will be delivered by a consortium of local providers and strategic organisations, including City of Sunderland College, Springboard, Sunderland AFC Foundation, Jobcentre Plus and voluntary and community groups.
- To support IAG, Sunderland continues to contribute to the Area Wide Prospectus and the 14-19 website has been redesigned and relaunched
- Through the 14-19 Partnership, the local strategic analysis and Curriculum Leaders' meetings, we continue to deliver a high quality 14-19 curriculum
- Carrying out an Options Analysis around the development and introduction of University Technical College and Studio School in Sunderland
- For the second year, schools agreed to have a shared INSET day where training was offered for all teachers at a number of locations across the city, as opposed to being delivered in their home school.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

Continue to implement strategy for RPA.

Implement the recommendations from the forthcoming reviews of national curriculum.

Implement the recommendations from the Wolf Review. The report includes three clear principles for reform, namely that programmes of study, whether 'academic' or 'vocational', should:

- provide for labour market and educational progress;
- provide people with accurate and useful information, so that they can make decisions accordingly; and
- the system needs to be simplified dramatically, as a precondition for giving people good and accurate information, to free up resources for teaching and learning, and to encourage innovation and efficiency.

- In November 2010 the Government announced the creation of an all-age careers service for England, to be fully implemented by April 2012. The responsibility for careers advice will be placed directly with schools. Consideration will need to be given as to how the Partnership can support this.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 target	Year 3 target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal, Social and Emotional	44	53	50	58.1	59%	60%

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 target	Year 3 target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
	Development and Communication, Language and Literacy						
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	42	37	37%	32.9	33%	30%
NI73	Achievement at Level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	72	70	75	71	77	Not set til 2011
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	43	45	53	52.6	54	57
NI76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 55% of pupils achieve level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2	8	13	6	5	4	2
NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 A*-C GCSE grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths	2	2	0	1	0	0
NI79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	71	74	76	76.3	78	80
NI80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	37	41	45	42.8	48	51
NI84	Achievement of 2 or more A*-C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent	45	49	52	59	54	55

PRIORITY OUTCOME 9

IMPROVE ATTAINMENT FOR ALL VULNERABLE AND UNDERPERFORMING GROUPS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The areas identified for improvement in the children and young people's plan 2010-25 and the deliver plan 2010-13 are:

- Children living in poverty
- Children from black and minority ethnic communities
- Children in care
- Children with a learning difficulty and/or disability

Set out below is an overview of what our plans are, the achievements made to do, what we still need to do and performance information linked to the specific area.

CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY

Children living in poverty is measured by looking at those with free school meals. Plans are in place to monitor the link between free school meals and attainment. Actions will be put in place to respond to the analysis.

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

A Narrowing the Gap plan was developed which underpinned the Child Poverty Action plan. The following overarching actions identified what the School Improvement Service would undertake to support the narrowing of the attainment gap:

- Ensure that all vulnerable pupils are identified across the Local Authority.
- Ensure that schools have effective processes in place to track pupil progress and set realistic targets
- Ensure appropriate provision is in place to meet needs and monitor their gaps
- Improve the ability of Early Years settings, services and practitioners to identify and narrow the gap for the lower achieving or disadvantaged children

WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED

- Identification of vulnerable groups is more robust and school leaders are aware of the need to ensure effective targeting of pupils through the use of data
- The majority of schools now have costed provision maps in place that clearly identify the range of interventions that are available to support individual pupil needs. However, further work needs to be carried out to ensure that interventions are robustly monitored and evaluated
- Schools have delivered 1-1 tuition to identified pupils through the pupil premium.

WHAT DO WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Place a high premium on Quality First Teaching and emphasise that effective action to narrow gaps begins with children's learning and progress in lessons

- Put in place timely and appropriate interventions for under-performing pupils and monitor the impact
- Engage pupils in helping to improve learning
- Make effective use of teaching assistants and tutor support
- Engage and empower governors to offer support and challenge to senior leaders about the progress of identified groups.
- Work with parents and the community to raise aspiration and engagement with learning.
- Develop a culture which is pupil centred and failure free.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

In the academic year 2009/10, the gap between those young people entitled to free school meals and those who are not, narrowed at Key Stage 2 L4+ to 21% from 26% in the previous year.

CHILDREN FROM BLACK AND MINORITY ETHNIC COMMUNITIES

Bangladeshi children and young people and other BME groups – the Primary National Strategy Action Plan 2009/10 sets out overarching priorities, actions, milestones and impact measures. At the time of print (of the CYPP) actions for 2010-13 were being discussed.

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

- Ensure that schools have effective processes in place to track pupil progress, set realistic targets and ensure appropriate provision to meet needs
- Narrow the attainment gap between EAL pupils (English as Additional Language) and all pupils by establishing individual and school performance summaries for BME pupils and using data to identify specific support packages for schools
- Increase the capacity of Ethnic Minority and Traveller Achievement Service (EMTAS) Team to meet the needs of schools through personalised support in learning and teaching to meet individual school needs

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Through the School Improvement Partner (SIP) programme all schools have been supported to ensure that they have effective systems in place to track the progress of pupils from BME backgrounds and to set realistic targets and ensure provision in the school is appropriate to the needs of the pupils
- School performance summaries have been made available to support services allowing them to identify targeted packages of support to individuals and groups of pupils. As a result, the attainment gap has been narrowed at Key Stages 2 and 4
- Targeted work has been carried out by the EMTAS team to support schools to build the capacity of all staff in meeting the needs of students through a range of programmes including the New Arrivals Programme and the EAL toolkit.
- Two teachers from the EMTAS team have been trained as ECAR (Every Child a Reader) and ECC (Every Child Counts) teachers. During this training, these staff

supported identified groups of pupils from a BME background in order to narrow the attainment gap

- An Early Years BME project was carried out throughout 2010 which included cross-phase working and external support through the National Strategy link adviser for Early Years and EAL.
- Opportunities were provided for senior leaders in all schools to attend training events addressing equality, diversity and community cohesion. These whole day events provided up to date information in relation to equality and diversity matters in general, and matters to do with race equality, cultural diversity, religion and belief, and community cohesion more particularly. This supports schools to create objectives for their own equality plans, and helps them to meet the Equality Duty 2011.
- Opportunities were also made available for staff to reflect on how the curriculum can be utilised to address race equality, cultural diversity, religion and belief and community cohesion with practitioners from within the City explaining how they already engage with these matters.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Develop an assessment framework to identify Lead Schools/Teachers for EAL
- Audit current provision in special schools and schools where there is good EAL practice to establish a breadth of specialist expertise that can be used to develop practice across schools
- Identify lead schools/teachers in each SEN in each of the five locality areas supported by specialist partnership working
- Identify three cross phase lead schools for EAL
- Establish and implement a training package for staff in lead schools for EAL by supporting the development of systems and processes to track progress and inform school improvement activity
- Establish systems to quality assure the support offered by lead schools/teachers
- In light of the current re-organisation of services, ensure effective working practices within the revised EMTAS team Facilitate the development of an EAL network to be led by a Lead teacher for EAL with the support of a Local Authority Officer

CHILDREN IN CARE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

Specific actions in place include:

- The LACE Team (Looked After Children's Education) will support children in care with one-to-one sessions, especially targeting literacy and numeracy
- The residential "Maths Supercamp" for children looked after in years 10 and 11 will be further developed
- Children in their early years will be targeted, with the aim of supporting children as young as possible and then throughout their educational career to improve their educational outcomes

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Celebrated the achievements of students

- Certificates issued to students for participation, engagement and achievement at school or in other contexts and carers receive an accompanying letter to thank them for their help in supporting the child or young person
- Schools demonstrating exceptional working practice with looked after children receive a commendation letter
- Have held a Year 12 Celebration and Motivation evening

Staff roles and responsibilities have been developed with Lead Practitioners in:

- Early years, to support children who are looked after to improve their educational outcomes, as well as baseline attainment
- Extended learning, which includes home learning
- Transition Support and Aimhigher Co-ordinator
- Inclusion and Behaviour for Learning

Progression and Continuity

- Closer working links have been formed with work based learning providers in the city, particularly with Springboard Sunderland, who hold Sunderland QA Gold Award and have successfully completed the Sunderland Safeguarding Checklist
- Closer working links with the University of Sunderland and currently working directly with the Manager of the 'Choices Together' Programme for Key Stage 4 LAC students
- Organised individual visits to university to meet with students currently at university who were LAC

Implemented and/or revised policies, procedures and proformas:

- The Sunderland Virtual School Policy has been received by all staff
- Produced a Looked After Children Policy for Sunderland Virtual School, which was distributed to schools via the Governors' Agenda booklet
- Safeguarding Policy and Procedures implemented
- Educational Visits Policy and Procedure implemented
- Performance Management Policy and Procedure introduced
- Procedure and proformas for INSET, linked to the School Improvement Plan and Performance Management
- Student Supervision Policy implemented
- Inclusion Framework and Procedures implemented May 2011
- PEA Policy introduced (April 2011) to correspond with the new financial year. Application forms and a PEA Panel has been introduced as part of the new procedures.

Safeguarding

- Assistant Headteacher of Sunderland Virtual School attends Designated Person meetings
- All team members and sessional tutors have received safeguarding training and all safeguarding documentation has been issued with agreement forms being completed by staff

- Educational Visits Coordinator (EVC) training has been undertaken by the Assistant Headteacher and SVS uses the Evolve IT system for recording visits
- SVS and the Education Safeguarding Team commenced a partnership in May 2011 in order to provide a continuum of service by holding joint meetings, aligning documentation

Personal Education Plans

- PEP Template reviewed with other professionals to focus on learning, development and achievement
- SVS monitors that all LAC have a PEP in place to ensure that we meet the local target of all 95% of LAC have a PEP in place within 20 working days of becoming looked after. Support is provided to schools by the service to achieve this target.

One to one tuition

- One-to-one tuition for children in care has been completely revised in line with the new Personal Education Allowance (PEA) Policy.
- Sunderland Virtual School (SVS) now monitors pupils receiving tuition and their progress, as well as monitoring staff delivering tuition. From April 2010–April 2011, 2,279 hours of one-to-one teaching and learning sessions were carried out for 132 pupils from Reception to Year 11, involving teachers and learning support assistants from the pupil's own school and those of Sunderland Virtual School.
- In addition, in the academic year 2010/11 SVS extended one-to-one tuition to include Foundation Stage (ref PEA Policy) for Personal, Social, Development and Reading.

Inclusion

During the academic year 2010/11, focussed communication and work with Designated Teachers for Looked After Children has established a more inclusive school community for LAC, so that they participate in their home school activities rather than holding specific and exclusive programmes outside of school for them. This has included revision and booster classes, as well as other learning programmes and events. This approach has contributed to an improvement in attainment and attendance.

Early Years

- An SVS specialist teacher now has responsibility for EYFS children, which has involved:
 - Liaising with Nursery and Reception teachers
 - Teaching and supporting children in EYFS
 - Providing LAC in EYFS with 'Little Book Bags'
 - Extending one-to-one support for EYFS children for personal, social, development including behavioural support and reading
 - Providing individual children with support in transition where need was identified

Attainment

- Progression database has been set up for termly data collation from all schools in Sunderland and other local authorities. A more robust IT system is being investigated. Progression of looked after children attaining the expected levels of progress are monitored within each key stage. This information helps to measure the impact of PEA funding and other intervention on progress.

- Study Support pamphlets have been issued to Year 9 students in preparation for Key Stage 4
- Termly Literacy and Numeracy competitions have been implemented for Year 6 pupils.
- Letterbox Club has been extended to include Year 7 pupils and Literacy results show improvement
- SVS has ensured that schools are aware of the need to place LAC on the National One-to-one Scheme
- SVS monitors exclusions
- SVS has introduced an Inclusion Framework with emphasis on attendance, enjoyment and achievement and attainment with focused support on the needs of young people in Children's Homes and EBD/PRU schools.
- Behaviour support courses for pupils and young people have been implemented in primary and secondary phases with the aim of reducing behaviour incidents at school by focusing on the development of self-esteem and realising talents, skills and potential.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- To review the progression database and IT programme for the collation of attainment data.
- To investigate and implement ways of improving the return of school attainment data by the deadline dates each term.
- Improve liaison with Virtual Headteachers to support the information required from schools in their local authority.
- In light of the new pupil premium, work with schools to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children continue to be met within the school setting.
- Continue to work with schools to increase educational attainment.

CHILDREN WITH A LEARNING DIFFICULTY AND/OR DISABILITY

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

Partnership agreements have been established with schools to promote the delivery of services to support pupils with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities):

- The sensory partnership offers support to children and advises schools on strategies to support pupils with Hearing and Visual Impairment in mainstream and specialist settings (Partnership lead – Sandhill View School)
- Physical disability and medical partnership provide support for pupils with physical and medical disabilities (Partnership Lead – Oxclose School)
- The language and learning partnership supports pupils with language and communication difficulties (Partnership Lead – Sunningdale Special School)
- The Autism Outreach Service supports and provides advice on pupils with autism in mainstream settings (Partnership lead – Columbia Grange Special School)
- Curriculum Access Provisions (CAP) are based in Washington School, Academy 360 (5-16), Usworth Grange Primary School
- Language unit provisions are based at Highfield Primary School, Hylton Red House Primary school, New Penshaw Primary School, and Hetton School

In addition to the above, the School Improvement Service Plan sets out the following actions:

- Focus SEN monitoring on those pupils identified as SA /SA+ with reference to quality of provision and target setting. Links have been made to the EYFS team in considering early identification and intervention for pupils identified within datasets
- Work with a group of targeted school with the largest SEN/Non-SEN gaps have been identified for focused support
- Disseminate the key messages within the Progression Guidance documentation with an emphasis on 2 levels of progress.
- Reviewing provision mapping in schools with reference to the Value for Money Toolkit
- Rollout of Inclusion development Programme in Autism and BESD. Continue the rollout of Inclusion Development programme for SLCN/Dyslexia ensuring that Headteachers understand how these programmes can support priorities identified in school development plans, e.g. Improving the quality of speaking and listening, raising standards in reading across a school.
- All schools will be given a synopsis sheet outlining progress of SEN pupils, funding arrangements for SEN pupils, % of children accessing FSM, LAC, Ofsted judgements. The schools will also receive a series of questions regarding their datasets for further exploration
- Roll out national Accreditation for SENCos
- Continue the development of the Language and Learning partnership
- Review and develop the Language unit provision at Hetton School
- Provide opportunities for staff in schools to access a comprehensive training programme to that develops the skill base of staff to meet the needs of pupils with SEMD in their schools

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- 48 schools have received targeted support in reviewing their procedures and provision to narrow the SEN attainment gap.
- All schools have received a SEN Synopsis sheet that collates all the SEN data that is available to the school with respect to SEN provision within their school. Allowing schools to identify trends over time.
- Worked with 12 regional local authorities to establish systems to ensure progression guidance documentation has been implemented across our schools with emphasis on raising schools expectations for young people with SEN. Systems that have been developed in Sunderland have been identified as good practice at a regional and national level
- Primary and Secondary SENCOs have received training on the Progression Guidance which is now informing the setting of challenging targets in line with the guidance. This training has ensured that SENCOs have raised expectations of pupil with SEN. PIVAT and provision mapping training has complemented this process by ensuring that attainment data is used to inform appropriate provision for pupils in schools.
- Twenty-one (21) SENCOs enrolled on the first phase of the national accredited training which the Local Authority is leading on and another 12 SENCOs have enrolled on the second phase of training. Additionally we have a cohort of 12 teachers involved in the accredited Dyslexia training
- The language and learning partnership is now well established and is providing support to primary schools and early years settings across the City through programmes such as Portage. The partnership receives referrals through the CAF process and as a result provides targeted support to schools and parents in meeting the needs of individuals and groups
- The language unit provision at Hetton has been reviewed and developed in partnership with Health
- A Secondary ASD provision has been established at Biddick School and we are currently looking at the development of two primary mainstream provisions.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- Consider the proposals within the Green Paper and review our current services for children so that they can be more responsive to any changing needs. For example, review our current service delivery in terms of the SEN partnerships and resourced provisions in line with future developments in funding arrangements and school to school delivery
- Ensure that we prepare all of our schools and settings for future ways of working as identified in the Education White Paper by:
 - Developing an assessment framework to identify Lead Schools/Teachers for SEN
 - Audit current provision in special schools and schools where there is good SEN practice to establish a breadth of specialist expertise that can be used to develop practice across schools
 - Identify lead schools/teachers/SENCOs in each of the five locality areas supported by specialist partnership working.
 - Establish and implement a training package for staff in lead schools SEN in supporting the development of systems and processes to track progress and inform school improvement activity

- Establish systems to quality assure the support offered by lead schools/teachers

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PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 target	Year 3 target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
NI92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	42%	37%	37%	32.9%	33%	30%
NI81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	21.6%	23	20.5%	23	20%	19.5%
NI82	Inequality gap in the achievement of a level 2 qualification by the age of 19	50	56	60%	60	62%	64%
NI102a	Key Stage 2 achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers	24%	26%	22%	21.2	22%	21%?
NI102b	Key Stage 4 achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers	28%	28%	26%	32.3	26%	25%?
NI106	Young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education	Not set, awaiting baseline data					
NI99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	79	42%	45%	61.5	63%	55%
NI100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2	93	47%	45	61.5	50	55
NI101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and mathematics)	6%	10%	26%	6.5	13%	22%
NI104	The special Educational Needs/non SEN gap – achieving key stage 2 English and maths threshold	52%	54%	50%	54	49%?	48%?

NI1 05	The special Educational Needs/non SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE including English and Maths	49%	48%	46%	55.6	45%	44%
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PRIORITY OUTCOME 10

HAVE LOCALLY ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE FUN, PLAY AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The Active Sunderland Board currently works to meet objectives set out in key partner strategies, including the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy (2005-2010), and the Play and Urban Games Strategy – Moving Forward (2007-2012) each of which set out overarching priorities, including detailed actions, milestones and impact measures to improve this outcome.

At the time of publication, the Active Sunderland Board was developing its own strategy, which aimed to build on the Board's current priorities and include:

- Establishing effective partnership working between all providers: public, private and third sector
- Developing clear pathways for volunteers into play, sport and physical activity
- Attracting funding and develop a range of promotional campaigns and information tools.
- Attracting and prioritising funding to deliver key city needs
- Working with regeneration providers to ensure that child friendly neighbourhoods exists to support play and physical activity and green transport
- Commissioning preventative activities and specific training to all staff working in play, sport and physical activity with children and young people.
- Commissioning more play and positive activities for children aged 5-13

These aims have been reflected in the work undertaken with specific regard to children and young people.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

The outcomes and activities offered to children and young people can be categorised into three areas:

- Play
- Sport
- Physical activity & wellness.

Play

- Twenty-nine (29) new or refurbished play facilities for children and young people have been made available. The Partnership is making further progress with an updated Play & Urban Games – Moving Forward Addendum to identify facilities for improvement.
- Work has already commenced to deliver one new and one upgraded facility in Washington and a phase two development in South Hylton
- The 'Lets Play' campaign was launched to inspire families to enjoy their local play spaces and to challenge negative perceptions of children playing and further events are planned.

- The City Adventure Centre, including outdoor and indoor play provision at Silksworth has been a great success to date.
- The Play and Positive Activities programme aimed to engage a minimum of 925 young people across the city and is also working with play providers to ensure the workforce is upskilled with nationally recognised qualifications.
- During 2010/11:
 - more than 2500 children engaged in meaningful play activities across the city, of which 759 children participated in more than 4 sessions. This was key in promoting long term participation
 - Twenty six (26) community groups received 'one to one' support in developing their groups, and looked at areas of concern such as funding, health and safety and constitutional issues.
 - Four (4) voluntary groups were supported and assisted in submitting external funding applications. Almost 100 people received training to develop their skills and obtained nationally recognised qualifications. This ensured activities delivered with in the community and voluntary sector continued to be delivered in a safe and appropriate manner once the project had concluded, adding sustainability.
- Away from the Pathfinder programme, play developments were also completed relating to new floodlighting at Washington Wheeled Sports Park, the creation of an attractive open space at Grosvenor Street, the refurbishment of the Blackfell play area and the opening of the developer play area at Biddick Woods.

Sport

- The Active Sunderland Board has appointed two externally funded posts that have contributed to the above events. The Community Sport Network (CSN) Coordinator has a specific remit for developing the city's sports network and a Football Development Officer was appointed in November 2010 with a remit to increase participation for young people.
- Funding from Sport England has enabled 3394 young people within the city to access and participate in the Sport Unlimited programme of new sporting opportunities over the last year. The programme is targeted at young people who may have some interest in sport, but aren't currently engaged with community or club sport. The project has now concluded and has engaged 6474 young people into regular sport outside of curriculum time over the past three years.
- 'Thrillseeker' was held during the Easter holidays and was delivered in partnership with the BBC's national Dropzone campaign. The week encouraged children and families to take part in adventure sports such as rowing, rock climbing and fencing. In total 600 people took part across the whole week.
- The ActiveSunderland Week took place between July and August 2010. The week saw three major events take place across the city, targeted towards young people.
 - Sunderland FIFA International Beach Soccer Trophy at the Stadium of Light (300 young people)
 - Active Sunderland Beach Festival at Roker Park and beach (700 young people).
 - Active Sunderland Open Weekend, when Council leisure facilities opened their doors free of charge (3800 young people).
- Positive Futures is an activity based social inclusion programme, based in the Southwick area of the city. The project, which ceased in March 2011, offered a range of challenging 'no cost' activities to young people aged 8-19. It engaged

with nearly 200 young people each week offering them local, safe and fun opportunities to participate in. The project last year saw 108 young people attain an accredited qualification and each young person receiving 81 hours of support, against a target of 17 hours. This programme has been superseded by a new initiative called Growing Sport and is explained further in this report.

- Sunderland Sports Fund has helped 40 young people and disabled athletes access small grants to support their involvement in performance sport. The sports fund aims to support a further 290 young athletes and develop an Olympic Fund for the city's future Olympic and Paralympic athletes.
- Funding was secured from the Coalfield Regeneration Trust to develop a youth inclusion program focused on football and to support up to 40 coaches to gain a Level 1-2 coaching qualifications. The programme is being delivered from Community North Sports Complex with 40 young people regularly engaged.
- Following the opening of two new 25m pools in Silksworth and Hetton, programmes have been developed to offer new opportunities at these facilities including Learn to Swim programmes. The LTS programme offers opportunities for up to 1,000 young people each week and the new National Teaching Plan is also currently provided to 23 city schools.
- Two funding applications to the Football Foundation were made to develop artificial pitches at Farringdon and Biddick Community Sports Colleges as part of the Football Investment Strategy. The developments will contribute towards four Community Charter Standard Clubs being developed, providing new opportunities for girls and young people with disabilities to participate. These will be completed in 2011.
- In terms of events, the 2010 UK School Games was hosted across Gateshead, Newcastle and Sunderland and attended by 1,600 elite school aged athletes. The Games included competition across 10 Olympic sports and Sunderland's contribution towards the Games included the hosting of events at the Aquatic Centre (swimming) and Silksworth Sports Complex (table tennis and fencing).
- The Physical Education (PE) School Sport Young People Group has been established to drive forward the city's strategy for delivering five hours of high quality sport and PE for all young people in the city. The group is currently under review following the Comprehensive Spending Review, but will be reshaped to fit new PE targets.
- The School Sport Partnership was supported in delivering 'Sports Ability' with three multi sport events held targeting 200 young people with disabilities. Plans are in place to hold two more events in 2011. Further plans for disability sport are in place to establish a Wheelchair Rugby and Basketball Club, and for Sunderland Ski Club to establish a disability strand in partnership with the Sunderland Adaptive Skiers. The city has been supported by a Disability Inclusion Officer working within schools to support those with disabilities.
- Following the completion of the Government funded Schools Competition Manager's post in March 2011, the service (in partnership with Biddick School) has delivered over 300 competitions involving 29,000 young people. The competitions have encompassed 23 different sports, ranging from traditional sports such as athletics, cricket and rugby, to the introduction of new sports such as indoor rowing and triathlon. In total 77% of primary schools accessed the competitions on offer and 100% of the city's secondary schools.

Physical Activity & Wellness

- There are several fitness classes available within the city's Wellness and leisure centres for those children and young people under the age of 16.

- The Lifestyle Activity and Food Programme has been developed with the aim of supporting children and families to adopt and maintain healthier lifestyle choices. This is achieved through fun and interactive group sessions, which provide healthy eating advice and the opportunity to be physically active. From May 2010 to March 2011, 281 referrals have been received from GP's and school nurses.
- For those young people between the ages of 16-19 there are several programmes available including:
 - Mums on the Move
 - Wellness Walking Programme
 - Active Sunderland Project
 - Cycle Sunderland
 - Exercise Referral and Weight Management Programme
 - Specialist Weight Management Service
 - Maternity Lifestyle Programme

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

In the coming year, 2011/12, the Active Sunderland Board intends to:

- In December 2010 an update of the **Play and Urban Games Strategy** was approved by Cabinet and provides strategy direction and a framework from which to guide future investment and resources. In 2011 work will commence on completing refurbishments and development relating to the Oxclose and Millfield play areas, and equipment replacement at the Pirates Play Park in Seaburn.
- As detailed previously in this report, Sport Unlimited has now ended and an alternative programme called **Sportivate** is to be established, which comprises of an activity programme offering 6 weeks of sporting opportunities available to 14 - 25 year olds.
The Schools Competition Managers funding ceased in March 2011. However, moving forward the service will continue to support the Sunderland School Sport Partnership, and therefore ensuring Sunderland schools are fully represented at the **2011 Tyne & Wear School Games**.
- **Growing Sport** is a new sports intervention programme for young people funded by the Home Office, which will focus on reducing violence and knife crime. It will target hot spot areas across the city where Anti Social Behaviour has been highlighted as a problem by Local Multi Agency Problem Solving Group (LMAPs). The programme will comprise 12 weeks direct delivery of sport (predominantly football). Then at week 6 community partners will become involved in taking over the programme with the support of Council coaches. This will encourage the transition from young people causing problems to becoming engaged in a community project. Another facet of the project will be to support the community groups to secure funding to ensure that the programme remains sustainable with the final journey for the young people concluding in them being accepted by a sports group or club.
- The **National Citizen Service** will offer 15 young people in the city the chance to develop 'sports leadership' skills and the young people will have the opportunity to gain both sports leaders qualifications and a first aid certificate. It is hoped that by enabling the young people to develop their leadership skills, they will have developed the skills to become future sports leaders
- The **Active Sunderland Adventure Week** will be delivered again in 2011 with the aim of attracting over 600 young people. Promotional events leading up to

the Adventure Week will take place such as 'Massive Attack Paintball' and BMX events.

- The inaugural **Sunderland Bike Ride** is planned for 2011 with special programmed ride for children and families
- **Area participation** will be organised to encourage participation in sport and physical activity specifically up to 2012 and beyond.
- **Centres for Excellence** and elite performance pathways will be established with specific regard to girls football, establishing a boys football academy and further development of the swimming Beacon programme
- New sports facilities at **Houghton Sports Centre** will be developed to encourage participation by young people as part of the Houghton Primary Care Centre development
- Work will commence with **local sports clubs** to develop participation pathways for children and young people into priority sports such as aquatics, cycling, cricket boxing, football, netball, athletics, snow sports, tennis martial arts, rugby and gymnastics. This will also include maintaining and developing Centres of Excellence and elite programmes.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1 Target	Year 1 Actual	Year 2 Target	Year 3 Target
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10 data	2011/12	2012/13
NI55	% children in reception with height and weight recorded who are obese	10	n/a	13%	11.32%		
NI56d	% children in year 6 with height and weight recorded who are obese	21%	22%	21%	21.1%	20%	20%
110	Young people's participation in positive activities	69.4	Target not set				

Additional identified performance measures for this outcome were:

- NI 50 – Emotional health of children
- NI110 – Young people's participation in positive activities

NI 50 was measured by an indicator in the Tellus Survey – a survey of children and young people against the five outcomes. However, it is not now possible to report against this indicator, as the National Indicator Set has come to an end, as has the Tellus Survey.

Other relevant performance information is described below:

- In 2007, just 19% of children had access to high quality play 1km from their door. Currently, 70% of children have access to high quality play facilities. New facilities and programmes have been developed to enhance local provision and to make a positive contribution to social inclusion and community cohesion.
- Since 2003, resident satisfaction levels in play areas have risen from 26%, to 50% in 2008 and levels are now at 59% in 2010. In addition, those residents dissatisfied with the services have encouragingly decreased from 36% in 2008 to 30% in 2010.
- The Schools Competition Manager has undoubtedly made a significant impact on the provision of schools competition in Sunderland, which has been demonstrated by the improve performance data. At the start of 2007, Sunderland's percentage of pupils taking part in inter-schools competitions was 36% (12,043), with current figure now having increased to 54% (18,065), which is 7% above the national average.
- Over the three years of the Sport Unlimited programme, Sunderland achieved an actual retention figure of 6,474, against a target of 5,239 (overachieving by 1,235

participants and 124% of target). Sunderland's performance of 124% exceeded all other sub regional authorities.

- Evidence of how young people's programmes have improved sustainability in local sport, can be demonstrated through the 2010 Active People Survey results, showing Sunderland higher than the Tyne & Wear, the North East and England average for residents involved in local Volunteering (7.20%), Coaching (18.20%) and Competitive Sport (14.80%). In addition, the percentage of adults now participating in sport (16+) has benefited as a direct result of sustaining physical activity in younger age groups. The Active People Survey results has seen Sunderland rise from 19.5% (2009) of the city's population participating in regular physical activity to 22.5% (2010), with the Sunderland performance levels higher than average scores for Tyne & Wear, the North East and England.

DRAFT

MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

PRIORITY OUTCOME 11

REDUCE LEVELS OF OFFENDING (RE-OFFENDING AND FIRST TIME OFFENDING)

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

Sunderland's Youth Justice Plan sets out the purpose and 5 key aims of the YOS and describes how these key aims will be achieved through the setting of clear priorities for the service at a strategic and operational level.

The five key aims are critical to the success of the YOS as a service and provide the focus for the delivery plans linked to each aim:

- Prevention of offending by intervening early to prevent first time entrants
- Reduce re-offending by intervening early to prevent the escalation of re-offending
- Engagement: as the key to achieving behaviour change with robust enforcement arrangements for those who refuse to comply
- Assessment: as the foundation to effective service planning and delivery
- Risk management: to manage offender risk of reoffending, harm to others and vulnerability/safeguarding

The delivery of these aims is underpinned by specific work plans and monitored through the YOS Partnership Board and Youth Justice Board.

For 2010/2011, the YOS will be required under the YJB Planning Improvement Framework, to develop a Youth Justice Plan and a Capability and Capacity assessment by 31 March 2010. The Performance Improvement Framework includes a range of elements that work together to improve YOT practice and performance across the eight outcome areas of:

1. Assessment, planning interventions and supervision (APIS)
2. Resourcing and Workforce Development
3. Reductions in first-time entrants
4. Reducing reoffending
5. Use of custody
6. Risk of serious harm
7. Safeguarding
8. Victim and public confidence

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- A comprehensive analysis of First Time Entrants was undertaken and as a result a six-month pilot is being run around how to improve the quality of assessments and how we intervene where risk and vulnerability is identified in young people to ensure a more consistent approach to engagement.
- During 2010 Sunderland Youth Offending Service undertook a number of quality assurance and benchmarking exercises to ensure quality around assessment, planning and intervention. Robust monitoring through monthly case file audits confirms that target improvements in quality are being achieved, e.g. timeliness of assessments.

- Changes have been made to the delivery model to produce a tiered approach to risk in relation to prevention, so that risk and need are linked.
- YOS has worked with Safeguarding to understand the triggers to engaging in anti-social behaviour and youth offending. This has had a positive impact on the appropriateness of referrals received.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- The Green Paper, “Breaking the Cycle” states the intention to introduce “payment by results” This means that rehabilitation/criminal justice service providers (such as Youth Offending Services) will receive funding based on performance. In addition, new performance measures will be introduced, and so we will not be able to compare our performance against previous years. This may show less favourable results than previously.
In light of these two points, the Youth Offending Service must begin to prepare for these changes and understand what the effects will be.
- The Youth Offending Service has attracted extra funding from the Department of Health (£69,000 for two year), to improve health pathways for young people and in particular to identify need at an early stage. This will create better networks with CAMHS.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/09	Baseline 2009/10	Year 1		Year 2 target 2011/12	Year 3 target 2012/13
				Target 2010/11	Actual		
NI 19	Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders	0.96	1.1	3% reduction	27% reduction*	No set target	No set target
NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17	766	751	1.9% reduction	34% (261)	No set target	No set target

* Reported in the Youth Justice Plan 2011/12.

National targets for reducing re-offending are no longer measured. However, the following local targets have been agreed in the Youth Justice Plan:

- First Time entrants will be reduced by a further 5% in 2011-12
- Re-offending will be reduced by 2% in 2011-12.

Targets for 2012-13 will be developed in line with Youth Justice Planning for 2012-13, which will commence in January 2012.

PRIORITY OUTCOME 12

REDUCE LEVELS OF ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

Key factors to tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB) are:

- Community empowerment
- Identifying the alternatives that youths want and involve them in the solution
- Using resources wisely, balancing the funding of new initiatives (e.g. Youth Village) with sustaining established youth provision accessed and valued by young people
- The link between ASB to private rented issues and repeated displacement (e.g. using selective licensing, ASBOS and other tools and powers to tackle bad landlords)
- Reducing alcohol misuse, the harm it causes and alcohol related crime and disorder

Both the grant funded Challenge and Support team and the Family Intervention Project will be embedded into mainstream service provision from 2011 onwards.

The development of a community resolution scheme by Northumbria Police will bring an alternative way of dealing with less serious crimes, allowing officers to use their professional judgement when dealing with offenders, for offences such as low level public order, criminal damage, theft and minor assaults. This scheme will have a direct impact on anti-social behaviour, reducing first time entrants into the youth justice system, enabling victims to have quick resolutions and closure to their crime, and offenders will receive speedy justice.

Effective information sharing arrangements with partners across the city, particularly between key preventative services, aim to support the delivery of reductions in first time offending, antisocial behaviour and re-offending.

Information on levels of youth related ASB and on perceptions of teenagers “hanging around” will be routinely collected and monitored, and findings of specific consultation with children and young people will be utilised to inform our needs assessment and ensure progress is made in improving this outcome.

The Children’s Trust will actively explore the relationship with this outcome and the outcome around public perceptions of children and young people.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- The ASB Unit is working in a targeted area of Sunderland West which is suffering from alleged anti-social behaviour being perpetrated by youths. Questionnaires have been carried out with the community in order to gauge the level of issues. The details revealed community tension, noise, youth disorder and rowdy and disruptive behaviour. Officers attend residents meetings to speak with the community and take on board their ideas and concerns about how the issues can be tackled. As a result a Project Group has been established to look at youth provision and diversion, environment, community tensions, enforcement and education.
- Residents play an active part in providing information about anti-social behaviour and are regularly consulted and updated with regard to ongoing work in their community.

- The ASB Unit has worked with the youths in the Sunderland West area to try and understand why they are gathering and has subsequently provided information about the youth diversionary activities available in the area.
- The ASB Unit is also working with a number of secondary schools to provide information about the long-term implications that enforcement action may have on a child or young person's future, such as the impact on obtaining a driving licence; gainful employment in certain fields; travelling abroad, etc. with a view to encourage the youths to think about how they look for other activities rather than engage in anti-social behaviour. The lesson plans delivered are aimed at preventing anti-social behaviour and reducing re-offending. Presentations have been delivered at Venerable Bede, St Robert of Newminster, Southmoor and Castlevew Academy. Further schools will be approached with a view to rolling this presentation out across the City.
- The ASB Unit has strong partnership arrangements in place with private landlords to support them to tackle anti-social behaviour by their own tenants
 - Support is provided to landlords to work with tenants engaging in anti-social behaviour to modify their behaviour rather than using eviction as an option. This also avoids displacement of tenants, and moving difficulties to another area of the city
 - As a result of a Neighbourhood Assessment in the Hendon area, Selective Licensing arrangements are in place, with heavy fines imposed on landlords in breach of the conditions of the licence. There are approximately 650 properties within the Selective Licensing area in Hendon, and as at June 2010, 66% have either applied for or have received a licence.
 - Sunderland City Council operates a Private Landlord Accreditation Scheme. As at June 2011, the scheme has 357 members.
 - The ASB Unit offers a vetting service for private landlords. During 2010/11, 251 vettings were carried out on behalf of Accredited Landlords. Of these, 139 were suitable to be recommended for a tenancy, 37 were unsuitable to be recommended for a tenancy and 75 were deemed insufficient to enable a firm decision to be made.
 - The ASB Unit also offers joint tenancy sign-ups with private landlords and their new tenant to positively promote relationships and encourage reporting of anti-social behaviour. There were 12 joint tenancy signups undertaken during 2010/11.
 - Private landlords are also key partners in supporting victims of anti-social behaviour, when that victim lives in rented accommodation.
- The contract for the Anti-Social Behaviour Family Intervention Project ended on 31 March 2011. Since then, the Challenge and Support Team and the Youth Crime Family Intervention Project, based within the Youth Offending Service, have moved toward a Think Family approach. Workers are now based in each locality area of Sunderland, providing group work with those children and young people who present a lower risk of perpetrating anti-social behaviour and work intensively with the highest risk families to prevent re-offending.
- There is strong liaison between the ASB Unit and Youth Offending Service, particularly in relation to Acceptable Behaviour Agreements (ABA) and first time entrants into the criminal justice system
- Common Assessment Framework referrals are made in majority of cases when ABA is required.
- When a young person is identified as engaging in anti-social behaviour, sibling links are made and referrals made to the YOS Wear Kids early intervention programme, to try

and engage the sibling in diversionary activity and prevent them from emulating the behaviour of their brother or sister.

- The ASBU undertakes community engagement questionnaires which provide details of perceptions of youth related anti-social behaviour. Findings from the questionnaires are used to inform relevant partners of the issues facing communities and how the partners, including the YOS, Police, Gentoo, Youth, can work together to prevent and stop the anti-social behaviour.
- There have been 690 fewer victims of anti social behaviour (3%) in Sunderland in 2010/11. This includes a 13% reduction in youth related anti social behaviour.
- Mobile Youth Villages have been rolled out across the City in areas where incidents of ASB are high. Some areas have seen a 30% decrease in youth disorder during the time the events are on. In the last year, 165 villages have been held with 3383 children in attendance.
- Sunderland Youth Offending Service has worked with young offenders on community payback to tackle criminal damage and anti social behaviour by clearing fly tipping, removing graffiti and litter etc.
- Operation Horizon ran in the Washington area. This involved Police & ASB Officers working Friday and Saturday evenings between the hours of 5.00-10.00pm. It reduced youth related ASB by 11%.
- Five Community Respect days have been held in the Washington area. The aim of the events was to bring residents and young people together in a fun atmosphere to break down barriers.
- Mobile youth buses are deployed across the city and have engaged and supported over 1000 young people in the last year.
- An ASB campaign ran last year 'Respect and Consideration, It's a Two Way Street'. The aims of the campaign were to raise awareness that not all young people are perpetrators of ASB, engage teenagers in developing messages for the campaign and raise awareness of summer activities available for young people in their neighbourhood. Area specific 'What's on where cards' were also developed for young people.
- Youth re-offending reduced by 27% at the end of 2010 against a three year (2008-2011 target of 10% reduction. Also, young people entering the youth justice system for the first time reduced by 34% at the end of 2010 against a national target of 1.9% for 2010 – 2011.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

- The Anti-Social Behaviour Service provided by the Council is currently under service review; the outcome of which will be implemented within this financial year.
- The purpose of the review is to provide a more transparent, effective customer focussed service which will assist to meet the outcomes within the Children and Young Peoples Plan.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual	Baseline	Year 1		Year 2 target	Year 3 target
				Target	Actual		
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		2011/12	2012/13
NI 17*	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	23.5%	22.2%	20%			
NI 111	First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17	766	751	1.9% reduction	34% (261)	5% reduction	No set target

* The Coalition Government removed the requirement to measure against this indicator in 2010, therefore no information is available.

Additional performance information linked to the response times to anti-social behaviour cases, is set out below for 2009/10 and 2010/11, so a comparison can be made:

Indicators	2009/10	2010/11
% of ASB cases responded to within 2 days	June – 94.4% Sept – 99.4% Dec – 95.7% Mar – 97.1%	June - 98.5% Sept – 99.3% Dec – 99.3% Mar – 99.3%
% of ASB cases responded to within 5 days	June – 99% Sept – 99.4% Dec – 100% Mar – 98.9%	June – 98.5% Sept - 99.4% Dec – 99.4% Mar – 99.5%

PRIORITY OUTCOME 13

IMPROVE THE PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

- Align with the Sunderland Strategic Partnership on this priority outcome for improvement and identify a partnership to take this priority forward
- Review use of promotional and publicity material including investment plans for the funding
- Carry out needs assessment across generations, identifying issues to be resolved and set baselines for measuring improvement
- Apply the 'turning the curve' exercise to improve this outcome
- Research and identify opportunities for intergenerational projects
- Develop the notion that communities are all age communities
- Promote positive images of young people, their activities and their need for 'Space'
- Have a communications strategy which places positive stories about young people in council publications and the Sunderland Echo
- Establish performance indicators and measurements during 2010/11 and set targets for 2011 and beyond

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Whilst there is no formal Communications Strategy in place, there is certainly lots of evidence of good practice. Children's Services has a long-standing good relationship with the Sunderland Echo and the Youth Development Group, Youth Offending Service and schools, as well as other services, regularly place articles in the newspaper to promote the positive activities young people in Sunderland engage in.
- Through support from the Council's Communication Team, other media channels are used, with news features and reports on local and regional radio stations
- Sunderland Echo and Metro Radio are long-standing sponsors of the Young Achievers' Awards
- Regarding Intergenerational projects, examples of the projects that have taken place in the last year are:
 - 11m take over day, where young people shadowed adults in different roles. Specific examples are young people shadowing the Mayor, other Councillors and senior council officers.
 - Councillor Shadowing Programme, where young people and councillors worked together, as part of a national programme, so that young people could learn about leadership in the council. When funding ceased for that programme, aspects of it were piloted in the "Get to Know Your Councillor" project (see below)
 - The "Get to Know Your Councillor" pilot took place in the east of the city, and councillors and young people from Youth Parliament held joint surgeries.
- Groundwork NE has undertaken a **Community Philosophy** programme, to increase community engagement with young people in Peat Carr (Houghton le Spring), Pennywell and Southwick. Though the project is now complete, officers are working with local partners and communities to continue to provide support, enabling project sustainability. Local schemes that came out of the project were: Thompson's Park Arts Project (Southwick), St Andrew's Community

Garden (Southwick), Electronic Village Hall (Pennywell), Achievement Centre Garden (Pennywell), Pop Up Allotment (Peat Carr/ Moorsley), community events and activities including estate tree planting, XL youth village etc (Peat Carr/ Moorsley). Funding to the value of £90,000 from the North East Empowerment Partnership was secured by the council to support this project.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

There is a new Commissioning Lead for this outcome, and there will be a drive to better understand the issues. During 2011/12 we will:

- Carry out needs assessment across generations, identifying issues to be resolved and set baselines for measuring improvement
- Establish performance indicators and measurements
- Apply the 'turning the curve' exercise to identify actions needed to improve this outcome

ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING

PRIORITY OUTCOME 14

INCREASE THE PROPORTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The 14-19 Strategy sets out detailed plans including actions and targets to improve this outcome. Key overarching actions are to:

- Ensure all key stakeholders are engaged in the development of a robust and deliverable action plan and that they are committed to timely delivery
- Support young people to maintain their engagement and support staff working with them to understand issues and respond effectively
- Enable young people to have good information, advice and guidance and support at transition.
- Place a collective responsibility for ensuring young people are appropriately placed on all partners
- Ensure learning providers offer an appropriate curriculum for all young people.
- Increase the number of supported apprenticeships across partners
- Improve performance management framework in relation to NEET

Following a Turning the Curve exercise that took place in September 2009, a refreshed action plan has been prepared and is being actioned by the NEET subgroup.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

There have been some major strategic changes in relation to the NEET agenda in the last year:

- Sunderland has been a 'NEET hotspot' for many years, and in 2009 – with the NEET figure at 13.2% – it was agreed that urgent and sustainable action needed to be taken. A senior manager in Children's Services carried out some in depth work with Connexions to improve monitoring and information. By 2009/10 the NEET rate reduced to 8.5% and that figure has been sustained until early 2010.
- In addition, a NEET Improvement Board, which includes council officers and relevant partners, has been convened to be accountable for this area and continue the good progress made. Governance arrangements are being reviewed in summer 2011. That Board is also aiming to get schools included as partners, as they are key to influencing young people's progression.
- The NEET Improvement Board has an action plan in place.
- In 2010/11 Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee carried out a review of 'Learning and Into Work', which includes young people who are NEET. The review acknowledges that the country is in an economic downturn, which will affect the availability of employment opportunities, particularly for young people. It also recognises that the cessation of the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) will affect the engagement levels of young people in further education. Recommendations from this review have been included in the NEET Improvement Board's Plan.

- Government Office North East (GONE) did independent review in 2010 of Sunderland's position with regard to NEET. The resulting report also contains key actions for improvements, which are again included in the NEET Improvement Board's Action Plan.

In addition, lots of good operational work has continued to improve this outcome. This includes:

- NEET Panels take place to review the hardest to help young people and develop strategies to get them engaged in EET activities. IN 2010/11, 166 cases were presented and of those 69 young people moved onto education, employment or training. The format of the panels is currently under review.
- Improved data sharing processes have been put in place with City of Sunderland College to ensure that Connexions can track the EET/NEET status of young people.
- Overseen the Engagement Support & Prevention (ESP) Project, where staff have worked intensively to identify and intervene early with young people to raise their aspirations, as well as working with school leavers.
- Implemented the Activity Agreement, where staff work one to one on a weekly basis with NEET young people aged 16-17 to help them to achieve a positive outcome. Training providers also have drop in sessions at Connexions centres as part of this programme to raise awareness and help recruit young people who are NEET into positive opportunities. Funding for this initiative ended in March 2011.
- Connexions attend College Progression Boards to identify those not able to progress to the next level of their course (June 2010)
- Conducted a review of joiners and leavers to and from the NEET group. Partners working together more collaboratively to ensure young people progress from programmes to remain EET.
- Had a Local Strategic Partnership event to promote Apprenticeships to key employers in the city
- Connexions Advisers now based in each of the five localities across the city
- Risk also that our colleagues in other areas have upped their game.
- JobCentrePlus constantly reviews and enhances support for unemployed people and provides additional specialist provision for specific customers groups, including young people. Early access to all Get Britain Working (GBW) measures and the Work Programme is also offered. GBW measures include work clubs, volunteering, work experience, work activity, self employment support, enterprise clubs, work academies and skills training.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

The challenge for EET/NEET activities in at least the forthcoming year is the current economic recession. There are fewer jobs available and young people will be particularly affected in their search for employment. Further considerations in relation to the outcome are:

- The way NEET is measured is changing, so that it is based on young people's residency, i.e. the place where they live, as opposed to the location of their education, employment or training. This is likely to have a positive impact on Sunderland's data, but will significantly add to issues of tracking young people as an additional 3000 will be included in the cohort to follow up.

- The NEET Improvement Board will endeavour to engage schools in the NEET programme, as they could be instrumental in influencing young people's progression routes post-16
- Improvements need to be made in engaging with employers to promote and increasing the number of apprenticeships available across the city. This will also support the Government's intention to award £150,000 to support apprenticeships in the next couple of years.
- Wolf Report – the Government commissioned Alison Wolf to conduct a review of vocational education for 14-19 years olds across England and Wales. The findings were published in March 2011 and include three clear principles for reform, namely that programmes of study, whether 'academic' or 'vocational', should:
 - provide for labour market and educational progress;
 - provide people with accurate and useful information, so that they can make decisions accordingly; and
 - the system needs to be simplified dramatically, as a precondition for giving people good and accurate information, to free up resources for teaching and learning, and to encourage innovation and efficiency.
- The age of compulsory education or training increases in 2013 for all 17 year olds and in 2015 all 18 year olds. Schools, the local authority and other partners, need to prepare for this.
- In November 2010 the Government announced the creation of an all-age careers service for England, to be fully implemented by April 2012. Plans will need to be formulated to action this.
- Jobcentre Plus will implement the new skills offer (also known as skills conditionality) for unemployed customers. From August 2011, any customer in receipt of Job Seekers Allowance, or Employment Support Allowance (Work Related Activity Group), who is identified as having a skills need that is preventing them moving into work, will be supported in having those needs met.
- Department of Work and Pension will bid for funding from the European Social Fund to be in place from December 2011. It will allow employment related support to be provided for families identified as having multiple barriers to employment. All adult members of the family unit will be able to access the provision. Referral to provision will be made initially by local authorities, followed by an eligibility check by Jobcentre Plus.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/09	Baseline 2009/10	Year 1		Year 2 Target 2011/12	Year 3 Target 2012/13
				Target 2010/11	Actual 2010/11		
NI17	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	13	10	9	8.5	8	7

PRIORITY OUTCOME 15

PROVIDE DECENT HOMES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

The 2010-13 CYPP Delivery Plan set out plans to improve this outcome, detailing actions in:

- Sunderland Strategy 2008-25
- Local Area Agreement 2008-11
- The Housing Strategy 2006-11.

The latter of these two plans have been superseded by the following:

Sunderland's Housing Priorities Plan has been developed by Sunderland City Council working in partnership with the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) to ensure that we have a shared and agreed understanding of the ambition for Sunderland's future economy and to create sustainable places and communities for all in Sunderland.

The Housing Priorities Plan sits alongside other key plans for the city and together they form a suite of plans guiding the delivery of the overall Local Strategic Partnership's Sunderland Strategy. It details what the City's overarching housing priorities are up to 2025. Also in place is the Economic Masterplan for Sunderland, setting the aims for the City's current and future economy.

The key actions identified in the CYPP have been transferred into these two plans. They were:

- The Council's work on fuel poverty has made available a specially subsidised price for cavity wall and loft insulation for families with children under 4 who don't qualify for free measures – thus ensuring that children and young people do not suffer from the effects of fuel poverty
- Information on energy efficiency support to families with young children is being made available through nurseries and parent groups
- The development of a supported housing project of 18 units for homeless young people aged 16-21 which aims to reduce the chronic shortage of immediate access accommodation for people aged 16-21 in Sunderland
- Actions to minimise rough sleeping amongst young people.
- Trying to reduce costs to the Council by spending less on bed and breakfast.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Against the priority to improve **fuel poverty and energy efficiency**, subsidised home insulation has continued to be delivered to families with young children using the Single Housing Investment Pot (SHIP) funding. This funding ended in March 2011, but the scheme will continue in its current format until at least March 2012 due to legacy funding being available.
- The partnership between Sunderland City Council and KNW (the Council's procured installer) has:
 - Confirmed the availability of funding and the spend rate for 2011/2012

- Identified the priorities for 2011/2012 which are to maintain the current installation rate and commence with the 'Hardship Scheme' for vulnerable people to improve their own homes
- Develop longer term objectives in response to Government policy, specifically relating to the Carbon Emissions Reduction Target (CERT), the end of 'Warm Front' and the introduction of the 'Green Deal' in December 2012.
- For the year April 2010 to March 2011 the 'Council – KNW' partnership:
 - Conducted 2,698 energy efficiency measures in total
 - Provided 919 homes with cavity wall insulation
 - Insulated 1,779 lofts
 - Levered in £455,000 from npower (electricity and natural gas supply company) to reduce the overall costs of energy efficiency measures to the home owner
- For the supported housing project, Gentoo, in partnership with Centrepont, started building on site in December 2010 with the completion of the new 18 bed supported housing unit for homeless single people aged 16-21 expected in January / February 2012.
- Proposed changes to welfare reform, which include housing benefit, will be monitored and proposals have already been responded to. The aim being to minimise the impact in Sunderland to ensure that any proposed reforms do not have a detrimental impact on the sustainability of the new project as well as other supported housing schemes as housing related support undergoes funding changes over the coming year.
- Minimising rough sleeping continues to be both a key priority for Sunderland, but also nationally, with a greater emphasis on the accurate reporting of rough sleeping by local authorities.
- Specific work in Sunderland revolves around the proposed restructure of the Housing Options Team. The new structure will become more area focused in its approach, with all of the committee areas having an Access to Housing Caseworker and Support Worker concentrating specifically on the presenting needs of those areas. This will enable a greater understanding of the services available and more importantly enable earlier identification of any cases to prevent homelessness and potentially rough sleeping from occurring. It is intended that the new structure will be in operation from 1 August 2011.
- Additionally Sunderland has been awarded £60,000 from the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on behalf of the North East to lead on the development of further work to minimise rough sleeping. This money has been pooled with other resources received by Newcastle Council and will be used to develop a consistent approach to rough sleeping by all North East councils building on the nationally recognised work currently carried out by Cyrenians in Newcastle. A further element of this funding will be a pilot on personal budgets carried out in Sunderland on behalf of the North East. This is still in its infancy but will be developed by the Substance Misuse / Rough Sleeper Officer within the team, building on the findings of the initial pilots that were completed last year.
- A great deal of work has been carried out to address the problem of Bed & Breakfast accommodation both in terms of actual numbers and more importantly in terms of support. Since 2006/07 there has been a decline in the number of households placed in B&B from 146 households per year to 126 households in 2009/10 to 104 in 2010/11.

- The number of 16-17 year old households has reduced by 54% from the peak of 42 households in 2007/08 to only 19 cases in 2010/11. This was also reflected by a similar reduction in the number of single male/female households placed in B&B accommodation.
- There has been an increasing trend since 2008/09 for households to spend more time in B&B accommodation. In 2008/09 households on average spent 2.8 weeks in B&B. In 2010/11 this increased to 3.5 weeks. For single households aged 16-17 though performance improved, particularly for single females who, in 2008/09, spent on average 6.1 weeks in B&B, in 2010/11 this reduced to 2.1 weeks. Although not as dramatic, the length of time single male households spent in B&B also reduced from 2.8 weeks to 1.5 weeks on average.
- Over the course of 2010/11 the support provided by the Housing Options Team via the Family Liaison Officers to families placed in Bed and Breakfast has been further developed with improvements being:
 - Drop in at St Peters Children Centre
 - Home from Home at Austin House Children's Centre, Southwick
 - Links to other agencies such as Sunderland City Council Works Club, Community Development Team, Child and Family Support workers, Youth workers, Healthy Eating Team, health trainers.
 - Children Centres
 - Teenage Pregnancy Planning Group
 - Children Missing from Education
- Additionally if any placements are made outside of the Sunderland area the Family Liaison Officers ensure the continuation of support from the receiving Local Authority. For example in South Tyneside links have been established with a Health Visitor who has agreed to link in with any families who have been placed into Bed & Breakfast accommodation within that area and will sign post to local facilities.

PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

Ref	Description	Actual 2008/09	Baseline 2009/10	Year 1		Year 2 target 2011/12	Year 3 target 2012/13
				Target	Actual		
				2010/11			
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty						
NI 141	Percentage of vulnerable people achieving independent living	90.6	77.7 (at Q2)	87%	June 10: 77% Sept 10: 83% Dec 10: 78% Mar 11: 79%		
NI 142	Percentage of vulnerable people who are supported to	98.1	98.8 (at Q2)	Target: 100%	June 10: 99% Sept		

	maintain independent living				10: 99.09% Dec 10: 99.07% Mar 10: 99.07%		
NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation	88.5	86	86	94.4		
NI 156	Number of households living in temporary accommodation	9		10	June 2010: 10 Sept 2010: 7 Dec 2010: 6 Mar 2011: 9		

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PRIORITY OUTCOME 16

IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY AND AFFORDABILITY OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT

This priority came about as a direct result of young people's comments that fares for those in full time education were extremely high – around £56 per month – which is a real burden on young people and their families, who don't earn a lot.

A link has been made between this priority and one of the Sunderland Partnership's, namely Attractive and Inclusive City. There is not an obvious partnership within the Children's Trust that would be responsible for this priority. As such, the commissioning lead will look to progress this priority outcome through the relevant delivery partnership.

WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED

- Currently only young people up to the age of 16 are entitled to a travel pass, which offers reduced fares on public transport. It is not available to young people over 16 who may be travelling to further education or training.
- A 16-19 Transport Policy is in place, which sets out the concessions that the travel companies offer for students post-16. It also details how the local authority supports young people from Sunderland who travel outside of the Tyne and Wear boundaries for education, against certain criteria.
- In addition, fares for young people in Tyne and Wear are subsidised by Nexus, and so are relatively low compared with neighbouring counties.
- The Education Maintenance Allowance is a grant of £30 a week for students who meet certain criteria, to support travel to education and training. This grant ceased in March 2011, which may have a negative impact on young people continuing to attend college.

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

A partnership approach is required if a positive impact to this outcome area is to be achieved, i.e. reduction in fares for young people attending further education and training. In the coming year, the appropriate delivery partnership will be identified to take this priority forward.

OUTCOME 17 – IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT

WHAT WE SAID WE WOULD DO

During consultation with young people, specific issues regarding the environment were very common in the free text, these ranged from more parks in the local area, through to keeping the community clean by reducing litter, graffiti and other forms of vandalism. It was also apparent that pupils had an understanding of, and wished to focus on wider environmental issues as many mentioned issues such as recycling, green house gases, pollution and endangered species:

“Keep the environment clean”

“...stop pollution in the environment”

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Lots of good work is happening within the city to improve the environment, including:

Greenspace

This is a project to support the Green Infrastructure Strategy. To date the green space sites around the city have been mapped and audited to understand how they are used and where there are surpluses and gaps in the space. The next stage of the project is to ensure that there are adequate green spaces across the city, in line with what residents in the area have said they would like to see. This could be parks, walking and bridle paths, cycling routes, etc. Throughout September work will be conducted through schools and other settings specific to young people, to gain their views on how green space land can be developed.

Eco-Schools

Eco-Schools is an international award programme that guides schools on their sustainable journey, providing a framework to help embed these principles into the heart of school life. Twenty (20) schools in Sunderland participated in the two-year project, up to July 2010, supported by the City Council's Sustainability Team and Groundwork North East, working on environmental issues such as water, waste and transport issues. Within the project schools achieved Eco-School Awards at bronze, silver or the highest level of Green Flag Award. Of the schools that were supported by the council's Sustainability Team and Groundwork North East, four schools achieved the Green Flag award, 10 achieved the silver award and three achieved bronze.

Groundwork

Groundwork North East delivers innovative environmental education and positive engagement activities to unlock the full potential of children and young people. The types of learning activities it provides include:

- Alternative education
- early years education
- learning outside the classroom
- sustainable development education
- positive engagement activities.

During 2010/11, in Sunderland, Groundwork worked with:

- 30 schools
- 1400 young people
- 30 training sessions for teachers
- 200 sessions with young people

WHAT WE STILL NEED TO DO

The task for Children's Trust for the coming year is to identify a delivery partnership to co-ordinate this work and ensure that children and young people can have a voice in how the environment should be shaped in the future.

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