

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

22 April 2010

PERFORMANCE REPORT QUARTER 3 (APRIL – DECEMBER 2009)

REPORT OF THE ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1.0 Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to provide Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee with a performance update relating to the period April – December 2009. This quarter report includes:

- Progress in relation to the LAA targets and other national indicators
- Progress in relation to the Alcohol and Young People Policy Review Recommendations
- Results of the annual budget consultation which took place during October / November 2009

2.0 Background

- 2.1 Members will recall that a new performance framework was implemented during 2008/2009. This includes 198 new National Indicators which replaces previous national performance frameworks. As part of this new framework 49 national indicators have been identified as key priorities to be included in the Local Area Agreement (LAA). Performance against the priorities identified in the LAA and associated improvement targets have been reported to Scrutiny Committee throughout 2009 as part of the quarterly performance monitoring arrangements. The LAA priorities are a key consideration in CAA in terms of the extent to which the partnership is improving outcomes for local people.
- 2.2 CAA was introduced in April 2009 to provide an independent assessment of how local public services are working in partnership to deliver outcomes for an area. The first results were reported in the Oneplace website (www.oneplace.direct.gov.uk) on 9 December 2009. Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committee considered the findings of the draft Area Assessment report in January 2010.
- 2.3 Members will recall from previous performance reports that the CAA Lead plans to adopt a Risk Assessment Matrix which will be the primary tool against which the Sunderland Partnership will be assessed. The Matrix will incorporate those issues that were identified in the first year of the CAA area assessment as having the most potential to become red flags and green flags. Once the Risk Assessment Matrix has been agreed, the CAA Lead will use it to monitor progress against the agreed performance trajectory (up until the end of September 2010) for each issue to arrive at his final area assessment judgement for 2010. Progress will be monitored through the Council and the Sunderland Partnership's performance management and reporting

arrangements.

- 2.4 As part of ongoing improvement planning the Sunderland Partnership's Delivery Plans have been refreshed to ensure that the work programme is targeting the right issues, and outcomes can be demonstrated, minimising the risk of areas for improvement becoming red flags in 2010. These Delivery Plans were presented to Scrutiny Committees in February 2010.
- 2.5 The annual budget consultation took place during October / November 2009. The consultation took the form of a survey followed by participatory workshops which were held across Sunderland with Community Spirit panel members and representatives from the voluntary and community sector. The purpose of the workshops was to prioritise approaches to addressing the budget priorities that had been drawn from the survey results and also provide attendees with:
- A better understanding of the issues that have to be addressed in the budget setting process and information about the budget priorities
 - An opportunity to hear the viewpoints of others when making judgements about budget priorities

The findings helped to inform the Council Revenue Budget for 2010/2011 which was approved on 3 March at a meeting of the full Council. A summary of how resources will be directed to the top priorities identified in relation to children and young people can be found in section 3.2.

- 2.6 As part of the development of Scrutiny particularly in terms of strengthening performance management arrangements, Policy Review recommendations have been incorporated in to the quarterly performance report on a pilot basis. The aim is to identify achievements and outcomes that have been delivered in the context of overall performance management arrangements to enhance and develop Scrutiny's focus on delivering better outcomes both as part of CAA requirements and future partnership working. Progress in relation to the Alcohol and Young People Policy Review is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 2.7 **Appendix 2** provides an overview of the position for relevant national indicators and also any local performance indicators that have been retained to supplement areas in the performance framework that are not well covered by the new national indicator set.

3.0 Findings

3.1 Performance

- 3.1.1 In relation to Children, Young People and Learning nineteen national indicators are priorities identified in the LAA. An update is available in relation to 16 NI's in relation to the period April to December 2009. An overview of performance can be found in the following table.

Ref	Description	2008/09 Outturn	Latest Update	Trend	Target 2009/10	On Target
NI 50	Emotional health of children	66.90	62.30	▼	69.50	✗
NI 56d	Percentage of children in Year 6 with height and weight recorded who are obese	21	20.20	▲	22	✓
NI 57	Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport	New in 2009/10	78	N/A	N/A	Not set
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	67.30	67.10	▼	74	✗
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate	-6%	-13.6%	▲	-46.4	✗
NI 72	At least 78 points across Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales	44	53	▲	48.4	✓
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)	72	70	▼	73	✗
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	43	45.1	▲	51	✗
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	5.2	4.7	▲	6.4	✓
NI 92	Narrowing the gap - lowest achieving 20% the Early Yrs Foundation Stage Profile vs the rest	42	37.1	▲	36.7	✗
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	83	83.5	▲	87	✗
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	80	82.4	▲	80	✓
NI 99	Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	80	42	▼	50	✗
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in mathematics at Key Stage 2	93	47	▼	55	✗
NI 101	Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS 4 (with English and Maths)	6	10	▲	20	✗
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	13.2	9.5	▲	9.5	✓
NI 161	Learners achieving a Level 1 qualification in literacy	1661	Annual		992	
NI 162	Number of Entry Level qualifications in numeracy achieved	204	Annual		120	
NI 163	NI 163 Proportion aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for	68.6%	65.4%	▼	66%	✗

	females qualified to at least Level 2					
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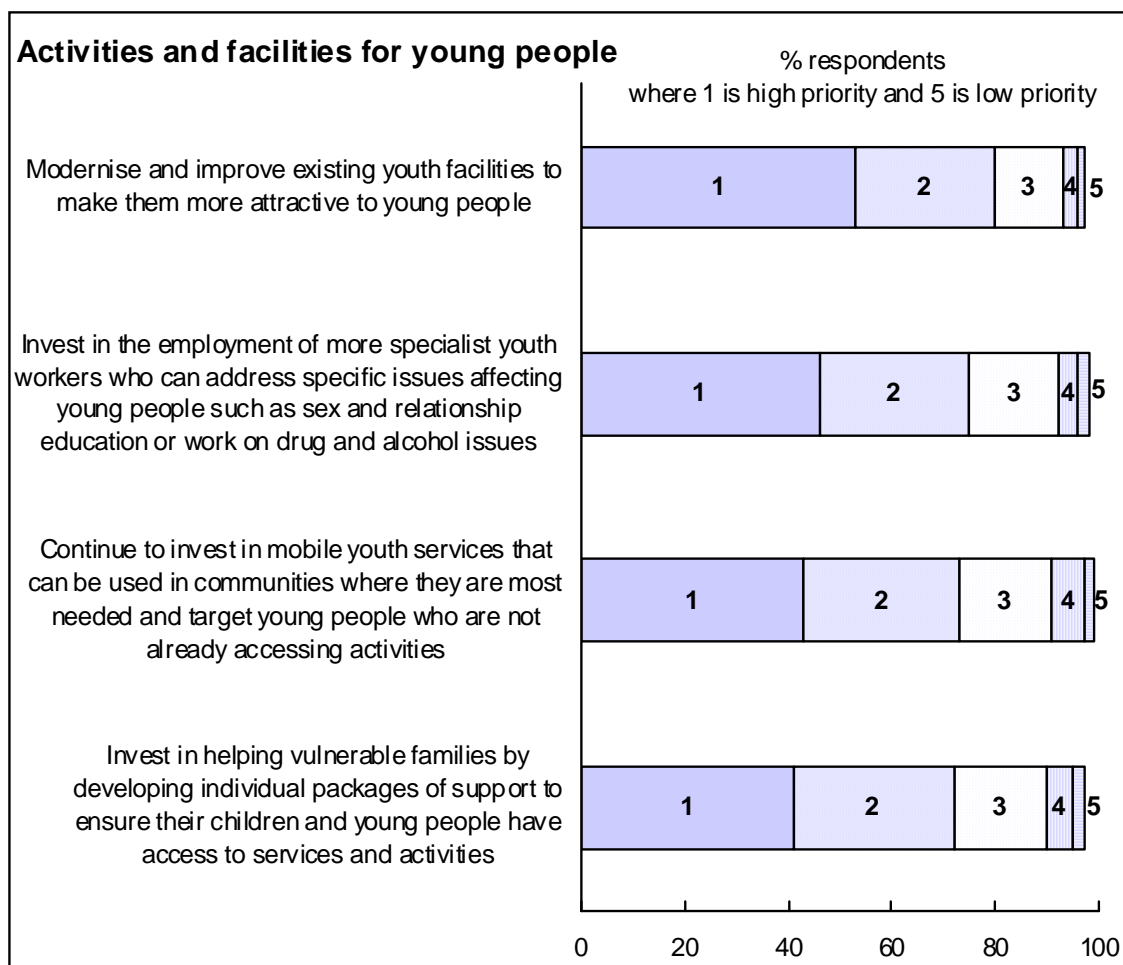
- 3.1.2 The Local Area Agreement (LAA) indicators for Children's Services include ten statutory school attainment and attendance indicators. The performance of these indicators at Quarter 3 reflects the 2009/2010 year end position, relating to summer 2009 pupil performance. Performance of these indicators remains unchanged from reported in Quarter 2 performance report.
- 3.1.3 Indicators that have declined between 2008/09 year end and 2009/10 quarter 3 are outlined below
- 3.1.4 NI 50: Emotional health of children. Indicator is based on the percentage of children with good relationships and is derived from the Tellus 4 survey. This is defined as the percentage of children who answered 'true' to having one or more good friends and answered 'true' to at least two of the statements about being able to talk to their parents, friends or another adult. Although performance in Sunderland has declined over the last two years, between Tellus 3 and 4 surveys, there has been a similar pattern across England. Sunderland's strong performance is highlighted through being ranked 2nd best local authority in England for this indicator in 2009/10.
- 3.1.5 NI 63: Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement. Indicator has declined very slightly from the year end 2008/09 figure of 67.3% to a 2009/10 Q3 performance of 67.1%. This is a rise on the position at the end of Q1 and Q2 and Sunderland compares well with both local and statistical peer group.
- 3.1.6 NI 73: Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and maths at Key Stage 2. Performance 3% points below its challenging target and 2% points below national average. This fall was due mainly to the 2009 English results where there were falls in both reading and writing standards. School Improvement Partners will have a key role in challenging schools on their progress towards agreed school targets and the identification of interventions where required. Specific support focussed on raising English include: promote and develop the use of Support for Writing and Talk for Writing materials; target underperforming schools at Key Stage 2 and implement the Every Child a Writer (ECaW) programme in 30 schools; engage targeted schools, where attainment in writing is low, in relevant development activity
- 3.1.7 NI100: Children in care reaching level 4 in English (NI 99) and level 4 in maths at Key Stage 2. Results this year were substantially lower than previous year due to exceptional performance of children in 2008. There is an overall upward trend in performance over the last three years. Strategies to raise performance in 2010 include supporting every looked after child who is not making the required level of progress with one to one tuition in core subjects. Each child in Years 4 to 7 has also been supplied with an ultra portable laptop including mobile broadband connectivity to support learning in and out of school.

3.1.8 NI163: Proportion aged 19-64 for males and 19-59 for females qualified to at least Level 2. The latest available data refers to 2008 through the Annual Population Survey. Reliability of this data year on year has been raised, however Sunderland shows a positive trend, increasing from 60% in 2004 to 61% in 2006 to 65% in 2008. More up to date analysis will be available in August 2010.

3.2 Budget Consultation

3.2.1 As part of the budget consultation a survey questionnaire was completed by 1075 Community Spirit panel members (a response rate of 67%). Sixty-one percent of respondents who expressed an opinion think that activities and facilities for young people have stayed the same over the last 12 months with similar proportions believing they have got better (20%) and worse (19%).

3.2.2 The majority of respondents considered all of the approaches to improving activities and facilities for young people to be high priority (ranked them as 1 or 2) as shown below. The most popular approach was in terms of modernising and improving existing youth facilities.



3.2.3 To explore the issues raised by the survey a series of workshops were held where participants were asked to prioritise a range of approaches to

addressing the budget priorities that emerged from the survey results. Activities and facilities for young people was an important priority not only in terms of providing young people with things to do but in terms of community safety and how communities get along together.

3.2.4 During 2010/2011 the council will allocate additional resources as follows:




An additional £300,000 will be allocated to support the expansion of youth initiatives including the XL Youth Village events which take place on Friday and Saturday nights across the city. The events have attracted many young people who did not previously access youth facilities and have led to significant reductions in anti-social behaviour.

A further £150,000 will be allocated to Mobile Youth Work. Two mobile youth buses will deliver activities to areas across the city to areas with little or no youth provision on Monday to Thursday evenings. They will be accompanied by elements of the Youth Village such as the football cage and Music Marquee.

The Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF) and Youth Capital Fund (YCF) were introduced by the Government in April 2006 as a means of developing young people's involvement in decision-making. Since then groups of young people have been supported to access a total of £1,116, 201 funding. More than 11,800 young people have benefited from improved provision and activities, More than 600 young people are managing diverse youth projects as youth leaders, participants and young volunteers, and 81 youth projects in Sunderland have been funded. There is one year left of this Government initiative. In 2010/2011 young people will be deciding on how a total of £375,300 (YOF) and £173,800 (YCF) will be spent on youth-led projects in the areas of most need, with the aim of funding.

3.3 Policy Review Recommendations

- 3.3.1 The recommendations agreed regarding Alcohol and Young People as part of the committees Policy Review will deliver a range of improvement activity. An overview of progress is attached at Appendix 2, the table below provides a summary of the number of each policy reviews recommendations that have been achieved, are on schedule to be achieved or are not on schedule to be achieved.

Policy Review	Rag Key		
	 Green (Recommendation achieved)	 Amber (On schedule)	 Red (Not on schedule)
Alcohol & Young People	0	8	0

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 That the committee considers the continued good progress made by the council and the Sunderland Partnership and those areas requiring further development to ensure that performance is actively managed.