

Thematic Performance Overview Report

Directorate: Children and Enterprise, Children and Young People Thematic Report

Reporting Period: Quarter 3, Period 1 October 2011 – 31 December 2011

1.0 Introduction

This report provides an overview of issues and progress within the Directorate that have occurred within Quarter 3. The way in which traffic light symbols have been used to reflect progress to date is explained within the Appendix.

2.0 Key Developments

2.1 Ofsted Inspections

Unannounced inspection of Children's Social Care Contact, Referral and Assessment Service

An unannounced inspection of initial contact, referral and assessment took place on the 7th and 8th December 2011. This inspection by Ofsted was undertaken alongside an inspection of the Police Child Protection Unit by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC). This was a pilot of joint inspections and Halton was only the fourth area in the country where such inspections have been undertaken. It was a very thorough and challenging inspection. Ofsted identified a number of strengths where the service was exceeding statutory requirements, and highlighted 11 areas where statutory requirements were being met. There were no aspects of the service which required priority action. However inspectors confirmed that some social workers' caseloads were too high and this was impacting on the completion of initial assessments. Proposals to realign the Children in Need and Children in Care services to reduce workloads are currently being consulted on with staff. An action plan to address the areas where improvements are needed has been drawn up. Overall the outcome of the inspection was extremely positive.

Children's Centre Inspections

During the quarter Ofsted also carried out inspections of Halton Lodge and Ditton Children's Centres. Again the inspections were forensic and thorough in nature, and therefore it was great news that both centres were graded as 'Good' overall, with 'Good' capacity for sustained improvement. Certain aspects of health and economic well-being, including access to adult learning require further improvements at Halton Lodge, and therefore working closely with key partners will continue. Children's Centres are located within the Team Around the Family structure and it is critical that our 'Early Help' to families has a real impact and improves outcomes for children.

Key Stage 4 Pupil Referral Unit, The Gateway

An Ofsted inspection of the KS4 Gateway was undertaken on 8th and 9th February. The overall effectiveness of the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) was graded as 'Satisfactory'. The main findings indicated that the PRU provides a sound quality of education and good care, guidance and support for its students. The PRUs capacity to improve was also graded as 'Satisfactory'.

2.2 Statutory Testing and Assessment 2012

In 2012 there are three major alterations to the statutory assessment requirements in the primary phase. Two of these relate to end of Key Stage 2 (KS2) testing and assessment of writing in particular, and the third relates to the introduction of a phonics screening check in Year 1. The teacher assessment of attainment in writing will be published, contribute towards an overall English level and will be used for accountability purposes in performance tables. Some schools in each Local Authority are required to administer the externally marked test as part of a sample to monitor national standards in writing. A sample of schools will be visited by an LA-appointed moderator in dealing with the moderation of teacher assessment judgements of writing. In relation to the phonics check which will confirm whether individual pupils have learnt phonic decoding to an appropriate standard

and, as such, will identify those pupils who need extra help. The LA will undertake monitoring visits to a sample of schools.

2.3 Post-16 Proposal

Members received a briefing from Wade Deacon High School on their proposal for post-16 provision and a response from Riverside College at a seminar in October 2011. Further to the briefing and following a consultation carefully conducted with the views of all partners and especially Riverside College, Wade Deacon High School have advised that they do not intend to proceed to the formal stage at this time.

2.4 Commissioning

In October 2011 Senior Managers considered a list of recommendations for each of the current commissioned contracts for Children's Services. There have been many changes both locally and nationally, which is leading to changes around the type and quality of service delivery needed, both in conjunction with needs of children and young people and their families in light of the current economic climate. As most of the current contracts were due to end on 31st March 2011 the decision was made to serve 90 day notice to all providers and review and revise our provision in line with the Children and families priorities.

2.5 The Education Act 2011

The Education Bill received Royal Assent on 15 November 2011. The key changes for the local authority within the act include;

- A new entitlement for disadvantaged two year olds to 15 hours free early years education;
- Independent appeals for exclusions with independent review panels;
- The duty on LAs to appoint a School Improvement Partner for every school removed;
- Precedence to academies given, where a LA identifies the need for a new school, and expands the academies programme to allow 16-19 and alternative provision academies;
- Extension of Secretary of State's powers to intervene in underperforming schools;
- Provision for the closure of the Local Government Ombudsman's school complaints service, and removes the duty to consider complaints about the curriculum from LA's. General complaints about schools will now be made to the Secretary of State;
- Pilots for direct payments for SEN education services allowed;
- LA powers over sixth form colleges changed; and
- The abolition of five arm's length bodies.

In relation to the disadvantaged two year old programme, Halton currently supports around 100 vulnerable 2 year olds per year via around £200k of funding and this initiative will expand incrementally to 500 places for 2013/14 rising to 1000 places by 2014/15 with anticipated funding of circa £2.8m. Halton's priority over the coming months will be to identify and secure sufficient, high quality provision for the children to access throughout the phased increase up to 2014.

2.6 Inclusion

There have been a number of key developments in relation to inclusion, detailed below:

- The establishment of an Annual Conference to promote the health and well-being of pupils with hearing impairment (HI) that will provide training for staff and role models, to develop and maintain self-confidence within that client group. It has been organised through Halton Service for Hearing Impaired Children and will be free to all Halton Schools;
- Recent establishment of parent support across the borough called Light Relief. This is a pilot programme, designed to provide a link service of support for parents of children with a range of SEN;
- Strengthening the development of the Visual Impaired (VI) parent support group, providing further opportunities for children with VI to meet socially, at local venues to reduce isolation;
- Operational guidelines supporting resource bases, which linking into national requirements outlined through NICE (National Institute for Clinical Excellence) ICAN (charity supporting children with Speech & Language and communication difficulties) and the National Deaf Children Society;

- Expansion of the Photo voice (photography programme) to support Pupil voice and transition planning across the Borough;
- CASPA (a national a system to report on progress of children with additional needs, placed within resource bases and Special schools) training delivered across the Resource bases to monitor progress and demonstrate Value added, in line with the New Ofsted Framework requirements;
- Redevelopment of Inclusive Learning Division website to provide information to Parents and schools, known as The Source; and
- The establishment of local mobility orientation service in the Borough. The Service is based at Brookfields School and deployed by the LA to ensure self-sufficiency in children and young people with VI.

3.0 Emerging Issues

3.1 New Ofsted Inspection Framework for schools 2012

The new Ofsted Inspection framework for schools was introduced in January 2012 The changes to inspection are designed to:

- raise expectations especially for teaching and pupil achievement
- give greater priority to early reading and literacy
- focus in more depth on the quality of teaching and pupils' behaviour and safety
- give greater priority to the impact of school leadership on improving teaching and achievement
- focus inspection more on schools that need to improve most.

There will be an even greater focus on:

- narrowing gaps in performance for groups of pupils
- quality of teaching and its impact on learning and progress
- reading and literacy
- behaviour and safety.

Under the new inspection framework schools will be judged on a smaller number of core aspects than before, but those areas will be examined in greater depth:

- the achievement of pupils at the school;
- the quality of teaching in the school;
- the quality of the leadership in and management of the school; and
- the behaviour and safety of pupils at the school.

The changes are expected to result in more streamlined inspections, with fewer judgments and grades, leading to sharper reports on the quality of education provided by schools and the most important aspects of their performance.

3.2 Department of Work and Pensions/European Social Fund

As part of the government's commitment to 'turning around' the estimated 120,000 families with multiple problems who have the poorest outcomes and make significant and costly demands on local services. Reed in Partnership have been awarded the contract for Halton and neighbouring LA's with the delivery of progress measures to be through a supply chain of subcontracted agencies, predominately from the private and voluntary/community sectors. LA's are required to refer families to the programme. Since the contract award there has however been a change in emphasis to the type of families who will be supported through Reed in Partnership. It is now clear that the programme will be predominantly targeted at families with less complex needs. As a consequence of this change, Halton is currently reassessing its approach to identifying the most appropriate families for referral.

3.3 Troubled Families

The Government has announced that almost £450m has been made available in a cross-government drive to turn around the lives of 120,000 troubled families. The money is being made

available to local authorities to fund a national network of Troubled Family trouble shooters and family intervention projects. This is one of several 'payment by results' initiatives that the government have announced to tackle worklessness and anti-social behaviour. . The 375 families calculated for Halton were based on an analysis from the 2005 Family and Children survey using the child welfare index and indicators of multiple deprivation. Scoping work has commenced to understand how we identify Halton's 'real' troubled families and how current services, including our own Children's Services, could be used to address the needs of these families .

3.4 Shared Services

Governors Shared Services

Halton is working in partnership with Cheshire East, Knowsley and Wirral Local Authorities to provide a revitalised Governor Training and Support Service Level Agreement through a shared service. Cheshire East are the lead authority for this service and the service will offer greater/more accessibility to face to face training, improved quality of service provided to governors supported by external providers, access to high quality e-learning, and the ability to create bespoke e-learning modules and greater value for money via group procurement. The service will be available from April 2012 with a review of the Governors Clerking and Administrative SLA being undertaken during 2012 for implementation in 2013.

Commissioning Support for Cheshire West and Chester LA

Approval has now been given for the Commissioning Division to provide dedicated commissioning support to Cheshire West and Chester which will bring in additional income to the authority. The support package will focus on areas to assist with the introductions of foundations that will ensure a collective understanding of commissioning and what it can deliver. In addition, work is also being undertaken to explore the opportunity to develop a shared service for commissioning across the two authorities during 2012/13 with Halton as the lead.

3.5 School Improvement: SIMS team

During Quarter 3 a set of IT servers were built and installed in the Municipal Building which have the sole function of hosting the School Information Management System (SIMS) for all Halton schools. The SIMS Team will migrate all Schools to the Central Server Farm, this will complete the programme of moving all key school data into a single safe server that can be accessed from any site. The new server will allow primary schools to benefit from improved functionality and will be a more secure system for all schools.

3.6 Admission Arrangements

The Department for Education has issued revised codes for School Admissions and School Admission Appeals. One key change in the revised codes is the removal of the requirement for LA's to co-ordinate the in-year school admissions process from 2013/14. However, most schools have recognised the benefits, particularly in terms of safeguarding and pupil tracking, of having a centrally managed service, and the LA will undertake a consultation with schools during 2012 to establish a revised process for the 2013/14 academic year.

4.0 Risk Control Measures

Where a 'Key' Service Objective has been assessed and found to have an associated 'High' risk, progress against the application of this risk treatment measures will be reported in quarters 2 and 4.

5.0 Progress against high priority equality actions




Where a Key service objective has been assessed and found to have associated 'High' priority equality actions, progress against the application of this risk treatment measures will be reported in quarters 2 and 4.

6.0 Performance Overview

The following information provides a synopsis of progress for both milestones and performance indicators across the key business areas that have been identified by each Directorate.

Standards in Education

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
LAS1	Improve standards in education through improved Ofsted inspection grading's and supporting schools through inspections by July 2011 (LAS1a & LAS1b)	
LAS1, LAS2, LAS3	Use appropriate data analysis for schools to align appropriate support and challenge to improve standards by December 2011 (LAS1c, LAS2a, LAS2b, LAS3a, LAS3b, LAS3c, LAS3d)	
LAS4	Plan, implement and review the resource bases for SEN provision across Halton by August 2011 (LAS4a, LAS4b, LAS4c)	

Supporting Commentary

Progress has been made towards this theme, and most notably progress has been made in regards to:

LAS1: Improve standards in education through improved Ofsted inspection grading's and supporting schools through inspections

All satisfactory schools are considered to be vulnerable and retained school improvement personnel continue to carefully monitor their progress, providing support and intervention as appropriate. The most recent review of RAISEonline data was undertaken in December, a risk assessment undertaken and where appropriate Warning Notices have been issued to challenge underperformance. The Operational Director for Learning and Achievement attends the regular meetings of the School Development Panel, providing an opportunity to carefully monitor schools' experience of the inspection process, areas for celebration and areas for development. Schools will be offered the opportunity to share best practice through the web based Mutual Learning Bank for Schools that have bought into Aspire, our traded services partnership with Serco and Warrington. In addition, in November Halton hosted a Learn Together Partnership Masterclass where an HMI (Her Majesty's Inspector) briefed a number of officers, head teachers and governors on the new inspection framework. A number of LA briefings are planned in Spring Term.

LAS1, 2, 3: Use appropriate data analysis for schools to align appropriate support and challenge to improve standards


















The membership of the cross service monitoring group (CSMG) has increased during the past quarter and there are now at least 10 services represented. This forum is used to share intelligence across a broad range of school related matters. The categorisation of schools was completed in September and a review of these will be conducted in the Spring term following analyses of validated progress data.

LAS 4: Plan, implement and review the resource bases for SEN provision across Halton

The new structure and service delivery model was successfully implemented 1st September 2011. Evaluation is on-going and is monitored through a performance monitoring framework through the Service Level Agreement.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	10/11 Actual	11/12 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
LPI01CYP	Percentage gap between Children in Care attainment	New indicator	N/A	37%	N/A	N/A





Ref	Measure	10/11 Actual	11/12 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
	at Key Stage 2 and their peers (English and Maths)					
LPI02CYP	Percentage gap between Children in Care attainment for 5+ GCSE's grades A*-C including English and Maths and their peers	New indicator	N/A	39%	N/A	N/A
LPI03CYP	Percentage of Children in Care achieving expected outcomes at KS2 and KS4	New indicator	N/A	83% (KS2)	N/A	N/A
NI075	Proportion achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C including English and Maths	50%	54%	56%		
LPI02LAS	Percentage of primary schools inspected in the period graded good or better	New indicator	100%	33%		N/A
LPI03LAS	Percentage of secondary schools inspected in the period graded good or better	New indicator	100%	None inspected in Qtr 3	N/A	N/A
LPI04LAS	Percentage of maintained primary schools in Halton with latest inspection grade of good or better	New indicator	85%	76%		N/A
LPI05LAS	Percentage of maintained secondary schools in Halton with latest inspection grade of good or better	New indicator	67%	60%		N/A
NI102a	Achievement gap at Key Stage 2 English and Maths between Free school meals and their peers	15.2%	12%	20.6%		
NI102b	Achievement gap at Key Stage 4 between Free School meals at their peers	28%	20%	28.3%		
NI104	SEN/Non-SEN achievement gap at KS2 English and Maths	50% (2008/09 latest data)	35%	53.3%		
NI105	SEN/Non-SEN achievement gap at GCSE 5A*-C including English and Maths	48.6% (2008/09 latest data)	28%	46.2%		
NI072	Percentage achieving 78+ points across EYFS (including 6 at CLL and PSE)	50%	54%	48.3%		
NI073	Percentage achieving level 4+ at KS2 in English and Maths	77%	80%	77%		
NI080	Percentage achieving Level 3 at 19	42.3%	44%	Available March 2012	N/A	N/A

Supporting Commentary

The majority of the measures in this theme are related to attainment which was reported in the quarter 2 report. Measures updated during this quarter relate to Primary school inspections. A primary school was inspected in October 2011 and was judged to require special measures. The Local Authority is working with the school to support the delivery of the school's improvement plan.

Continuum of Need: from Early Help and Support to Safeguarding

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
COPS 4	Refresh the IYSS Strategy and implement the agreed action plan by March 2012 (COPS4a & COPS4b)	
CFS2 CFS4	Improve effectiveness of support to children at all levels of need by March 2012 (CFS2a, CFS2b, CFS2c, CFS4a, CFS4b, CFS4c)	
CFS3	Revise the facilitation of the Children in Care Council to improve the engagement of young people by December 2011 (CFS3a)	
CFS3	Develop and commence implementation of a revised multiagency Children in Care strategy and undertake and audit of outcomes for Children in Care by March 2012 (CFS3b, CFS3c)	

Supporting Commentary

Progress has been made towards this theme, and most notably progress has been made in regards to:

COPS4: Refresh the IYSS Strategy and implement the agreed action plan

Currently the IYSS Commissioning Division are undertaking a tendering process for new services for young people. The decision was made by Executive Board to disband the current youth service and redesign service. This has enabled us to also reduce the age range to 10 years old from 13 year olds. Four providers have been shortlisted and are to be interviewed by a panel of young people in January and interview panels with Commissioners and key partners will take place later in the month. Following the appointment of the successful applicant a transition plan will be implemented to ensure service provision is not disrupted.

CFS2, 4: Improve effectiveness of support to children at all levels of need

The research report from Glyndwr University into the levels of need was reported to the Children's Trust to inform the review of the levels of need. The Children's Trust Executive Board agreed in November to consult partners on a new framework for levels of need.






CFS3: Revise the facilitation of the Children in Care Council to improve the engagement of young people














Additional resources are in place and will be part of the revised service specification for a Children's Rights and Advocacy Service. The format and the mechanism for facilitating Speak Up (Children in Care Council) has been significantly improved. This has already led to an increase in the number of young people engaged in Speak Up.

CFS3: Develop and commence implementation of a revised multiagency Children in Care strategy and undertake and audit of outcomes for Children in Care

The revised strategy is now agreed and in place. Implementation of the actions has commenced.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	10/11 Actual	11/12 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
LPI06CFS	Child in Need plans are independently reviewed	New indicator	50%	100%		N/A
NI059 adjusted	Initial Assessments completed within 10 working days	88.5%	85%	75.1%		
NI060	Core Assessments completed within 35 working days	89.6%	92%	81.7%		

Ref	Measure	10/11 Actual	11/12 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
LPI08CFS	Percentage reduction in the number of referrals to Children's Social Care generated by Police CAVA notifications and closed within 3 months of referral from baseline 2009-10	New indicator	-10%	-15.2%		N/A
LPI09CFS	Percentage of CIN Cases that require a multi-agency co-ordinated plan at level 2- 3a (CAF) on closure have a named lead professional and a clear plan to take forward	New indicator	100%	100%		N/A
NI062	Stability of placements of Children in Care: number of moves	7.9%	7.5%	7.4%		
NI063	Stability of placements of Children in Care: length of placement	87%	90%	78.6%		
NI117 adjusted	Percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET) – residency calculation comparison with historic not applicable	Adjusted indicator	10.5%	10.2% (Dec 2011)		
LPI12COP	Under 18 conception rate, percentage change from 2009 baseline (140 conceptions)	New	-2 conceptions	-5 conceptions on the 12 months to date		N/A
NI112 – adjusted for SCS Indicator	Under 18 conception rate, percentage change from 2009 baseline (58.9 rolling quarterly average rate)	58.9 Rolling quarterly average rate	-1.43% reduction 58.1 Rolling quarterly average rate	+0.1% increase 59.5 rolling quarterly average rate		
LD LI 07	Average time taken to complete Child Care Cases (calendar days)	336	225	190		

Supporting Commentary

Stability of Children in Care placements continues to improve with a small proportion of children having had three or more placements in the first half of the reporting year. Whilst the performance for the long term stability will not meet the very challenging end of year target, the vast majority of children in care enjoy good stability. In comparison with the national average, Halton has a significantly higher percentage in long term, stable placements.

Work around children in need and ensuring their needs are met appropriately is progressing well as demonstrated for indicators (LPI06CFS, LPI08CFS, LPI09CFS) with performance either meeting the targets set of exceeding them.

Assessment timescales (NI059, NI060) is more uncertain however with the increase in referrals and child protection activity. Additionally this quarter the Children in Need teams went live with the CareFirst6 system and whilst it is anticipated this will have a positive impact in the long term, it will take some time to bed in as people become familiar with the new system.







There are currently 243 NEET 18 year olds in Halton compared to 90 sixteen year olds and 126 seventeen year olds. The issue of long-term NEET within the borough is being addressed through two separate multi-agency case-conferencing meetings. The meetings enable professionals to discuss individual cases of NEET young people with education and training providers to match young people with suitable available provision to reengage them in EET. Data sharing protocols are currently being amended to enable practitioners and providers to freely discuss the specific barriers individual young people have which are preventing them from progressing back into learning.

During the rolling 12 months (Q4 2009 – Q3 2010) there have been 135 conceptions. During Q3 2010, there were 37 conceptions. Halton has had 5 less conceptions than the 2009 baseline. Whilst the numbers above indicate that progress is positive and therefore there is a potential to meet the end of year target, the rolling average rate is used for the Sustainable Community Strategy measure to enable Halton to benchmark against the national picture. This measure takes into account the reduction in the population base of 15-17 year olds females in the Borough (from 2392 to 2259 by 133) and therefore reflects a slight increase in the rolling quarterly rate. This is however an improvement upon the same period last year, and represents good progress.

The indicator around Legal Services timescales to complete child care cases has been included to provide oversight of this measure. Commentary from the service indicates that child care cases are complex and lengthy and resultant timescales are not always within the control of the legal staff involved. As such, the indicator is a very difficult one to deal with, and can be quickly affected by the volume of cases and the time taken to progress matters through the court process as the profile of safeguarding has been raised. The Legal team work well with colleagues in the Children & Enterprise Directorate.

Managing Resources Effectively

Key Milestones

Ref	Milestones	Q3 Progress
COPS3	Implement a strategic commissioning framework for 14-19 across the priorities for commission from September 2011 according to the appropriate action plans from September 2011 (COPS3a)	
COPS3	Implement the action plan from the review of quality and sustainability of The Gateway by March 2012 (COPS3c)	
COPS1	Implement the actions from the Children in Care sufficiency assessment by March 2012 (COPS1a)	
COPS1	Complete a comprehensive review of Early Years provision informed by the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment by August 2011 (COPS1b)	
CFS1	Ensure the social care workforce are appropriately supported and developed to meet future demands by March 2012 (CFS1a, CFS1c, CFS1d)	
CFS3	Implement actions from the Placement Strategy to increase accommodation for care leavers and the number of foster carers by March 2012 (CFS3d)	

Supporting Commentary

Progress has been made towards this theme, and most notably progress has been made in regards to:

COPS3: Implement a strategic commissioning framework for 14-19 across the priorities for commission from September 2011 according to the appropriate action plans

The six priorities agreed by the 14-19 Strategic Partnership are due to be taken to Executive Board Sub-Committee in January and action plans around the six priorities are being drafted in consultation with partners.

COPS3: Implement the action plan from the review of quality and sustainability of The Gateway

An Ofsted inspection of the KS4 Gateway was undertaken in November. The overall effectiveness of the PRU was graded as Satisfactory. The main findings indicated that the PRU provides a sound quality of education and good care, guidance and support for its students. The areas for improvement highlighted as part of the inspection process will be addressed by the Gateway Management Committee.

COPS1: Implement the actions from the Children in Care sufficiency assessment

The Childcare Sufficiency Action Plan is reviewed quarterly in Senior Management Team. A full review of the CSA, including the Action Plan will be completed and published by April 2012.

CFS1: Ensure the social care workforce are appropriately supported and developed to meet future demands

Further to the audit of supervision files in the summer, an action plan has been developed to further improve the quality of supervision. The bespoke programme of training for frontline operational managers has been developed and commenced in November 2011.

CFS3: Implement actions from the Placement Strategy to increase accommodation for care leavers and the number of foster carers

There has been an increase in both Care leaver accommodation and placements within foster care.

Key Performance Indicators

Ref	Measure	10/11 Actual	11/12 Target	Q3	Current Progress	Direction of Travel
LPI01CFS	Newly qualified social workers (NQSW) receiving the level of supervision as set out in the supervision policy	New indicator	100%	100%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A
LPI05CFS	Increase the units of accommodation for care leavers	New indicator	4	5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A

Supporting Commentary

Progress has been made towards this theme, and most notably progress has been made in regards to:

LPI05CFS: Increase the units of accommodation for care leavers: Additional accommodation is in place and a further four young people are being supported in their own accommodation.

7.0 Financial Statement

CHILDREN'S ORGANISATION & PROVISION DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2011

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	2,902	2,205	2,169	36
Premises	22	10	6	4
Supplies & Services	2,340	1,280	1,227	53
Transport	5	4	4	0
Commissioned Services - Youth Service	1,369	1,030	1,030	0
Commissioned Services – BSF	480	432	432	0
Commissioned Services– Other	1,271	834	779	55
Schools Transport	1,008	670	567	103
Agency Related	343	155	155	0
Connexions	1,323	891	891	0
Total Expenditure	11,063	7,511	7,260	251
<u>Income</u>				
Reimbursements and Other Income	-778	-386	-409	23
Dedicated Schools Grant	-822	-199	-199	0
Schools SLA	-559	-7	-7	0
Transfer from BSF	-611	0	0	0
Transfer from Reserves	-414	-351	-351	0
Total Income	-3,184	-943	-966	23
Net Operational Expenditure	7,879	6,568	6,294	274
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	273	208	208	0
Transport Support	268	192	192	0
Central Support	2416	1629	1629	0
Asset Charges	3148	0	0	0
Net Total Recharges	6,105	2,029	2,029	0
Net Departmental Total	13,984	8,597	8,323	274

Comments on the above figures:

Employee expenditure is below budget to date due to a number of reasons including maternity leave and vacancies within the Place Planning and Provision Division. In addition to this there has been a reduction in contracted hours for staff within Transforming Children's Environment Division on the SIMS and VLP cost centre.

Supplies and Services is below budget due to the renegotiation of IT software license contracts.

Commissioned Services – Other is below budget to date as efficiencies have been achieved due to the renegotiation of commissioned services contracts.

School Transport – This is currently below budget to date as a result of the retendering of contracts. Also grant monies (Extended Rights and General Duty to Promote Sustainable Travel Grant) totalling £95k have been used to offset some of the transport contract expenditure, and other areas of spend within the transport budget.

CHILDREN'S ORGANISATION & PROVISION DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2011 - Schools Related

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	557	418	418	0
Premises	431	34	34	0
Schools Redundancy	698	448	448	0
Schools Contingency	142	39	39	0
Special Educational Needs Contingency	588	26	26	0
Schools Contingency Carry forward	2,285	0	0	0
Schools Non Delegated Support	375	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	5,096	965	965	0
<u>Income</u>				
Dedicated Schools Grant	-2,465	-2,389	-2,389	0
Pupil Premium	-64	0	0	0
YPLA	-2,397	0	0	0
Additional Grant For Schools	-84	0	0	0
Total Income	-5,010	-2,389	-2,389	0
Net Operational Expenditure	86	-1,424	-1,424	0
<u>Recharges</u>				
School Recharges	111	83	83	0
Net Total Recharges	111	83	83	0
Net Departmental Total	197	-1,341	-1,341	0

LEARNING & ACHIEVEMENT DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2011

	Annual Budget	Budget To Date	Actual To Date	Variance To Date (overspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	4,247	2,680	2,552	128
Premises	34	10	8	2
Supplies & Services	2,137	693	665	28
Transport	13	0	0	0
Agency Related Expenditure	2,382	1,684	1,684	0
Independent School Fees	1,689	1,105	1,105	0
Inter Authority Special Needs	779	-498	-498	0
Speech Therapy	120	120	123	(3)
Total Expenditure	11,401	5,794	5,639	155
<u>Income</u>				
Transfer from reserves (11/12 budget savings)	-305	-312	-312	0
Government Grant	-24	-28	-28	0
Dedicated Schools Grant	-6,898	-930	-930	0
Reimbursements	-938	-113	-113	0
Schools SLA's	-38	-17	-17	0
Total Income	-8,203	-1,400	-1,400	0
Net Operational Expenditure	3,198	4,394	4,239	155
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises Support	221	166	166	0
Central Support Services	980	735	735	0
Transport Recharge Income	25	28	28	0
Net Total Recharges	1,226	929	929	0
Net Departmental Total	4,424	5,323	5,168	155

Comments on the above figures:

Revenue spending at the end of Quarter 3 is below budget.

The employee budget is currently under budget due to a number of staff vacancies.

Supplies & Services are currently under budget to date due in the main to a reduction in overall demand for supplies & services in localised areas following reduced staffing levels and streamlined workflows. This is expected to be under budget at year end.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Revenue Budget as at 31st December 2011

	Annual Budget £'000	Budget to Date £'000	Expenditure to Date £'000	Variance to Date (Overspend) £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employees	8,107	6,025	5,863	162
Premises	400	273	187	86
Supplies & Services	1,655	818	571	247
Transport	46	34	11	23
Agency Related Expenditure	384	263	183	80
Residential Placements	1,854	1,608	1,681	(73)
Out of Borough Adoption	80	60	14	46
Out of Borough Fostering	500	332	301	31
In House Foster Carer Placements	1,614	1,210	1,086	124
In House Adoption	357	268	304	(36)
Care Leavers	316	237	262	(25)
Commissioned Services	500	398	397	1
Family Support	161	39	23	16
Total Expenditure	15,974	11,565	10,883	682
<u>Income</u>				
Early Intervention Grant	-8,226	-3,818	-3,818	0
Government Grants	-356	-398	-398	0
Transfer from Reserves (11/12 Budget Savings)	-300	-300	-300	0
Fees & Charges	-690	-444	-444	0
Adoption Placements	-40	-16	-16	0
Total Income	-9,612	-4,976	-4,976	0
Net Operational Expenditure	6,362	6,589	5,907	682
<u>Recharges</u>				
Premises	441	340	340	0
Transport	123	87	87	0
Central Support Services	3,198	2,378	2,378	0
Asset Rentals	44	0	0	0
Total Recharges	3,806	2,805	2,805	0
Net Department Total	10,168	9,394	8,712	682

Comments on the above figures

In overall terms, revenue spending at the end of Quarter 3 is showing an underspend.

The Employee budget is currently under budget to date due to a number of staff vacancies predominantly in the child care and think family teams and is expected to be under budget at year end.

The premises budget is currently under budget to date due a reduction in overhead costs and is expected to be under budget at year end.




Supplies & Services are currently under budget to date due in the main to a reduction in overall demand for supplies & services in localised areas following reduced staffing levels and streamlined workflows. This is expected to be under budget at year end.

Transport is currently under budget due to a reduction in the use of volunteer drivers and this is expected to be under budget at year end.

Overall the fostering service and out of borough adoption is currently under budget to date whilst the residential, in-house adoption and care leavers budgets are over budget to date. This is mainly due to a change in the dynamics of children currently in care. However the overall position across all these children in care services is under budget to date and this is expected to remain that way at year end.




7.0 Appendix – Explanation for use of symbols

Symbols are used in the following manner:

Progress		Objective	Performance Indicator
Green		Indicates that the <u>objective is on course to be achieved</u> within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the annual target <u>is on course to be achieved</u>.</i>
Amber		Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> , whether the milestone/objective will be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that it is <u>uncertain or too early to say at this stage</u> whether the annual target is on course to be achieved.</i>
Red		Indicates that it is <u>highly likely or certain</u> that the objective will not be achieved within the appropriate timeframe.	<i>Indicates that the target <u>will not be achieved</u> unless there is an intervention or remedial action taken.</i>

Direction of Travel Indicator

Where possible performance measures will also identify a direction of travel using the following convention

Green		<i>Indicates that</i> performance is better <i>as compared to the same period last year.</i>
Amber		<i>Indicates that</i> performance is the same <i>as compared to the same period last year.</i>
Red		<i>Indicates that</i> performance is worse <i>as compared to the same period last year.</i>
N/A		<i>Indicates that the measure cannot be compared to the same period last year.</i>