



Executive Board

**Thursday, 6 March 2008 2.00 p.m.
Marketing Suite, Municipal Building**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

**ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH
IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

PART 1

Item	Page No
1. MINUTES	
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any personal or personal and prejudicial interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda no later than when that item is reached and (subject to certain exceptions in the Code of Conduct for Members) to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on the item.	
3. LEADER'S PORTFOLIO	
(A) CITY EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY	1 - 10
4. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PORTFOLIO	

Item	Page No
<p>(A) WORKING ARRANGEMENTS TO ALIGN PCT CHILD HEALTH SERVICES WITHIN THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S DIRECTORATE; AND CHILDREN'S TRUST ARRANGEMENTS IN HALTON</p>	11 - 20
<p>5. PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION, REGENERATION AND RENEWAL PORTFOLIO</p>	
<p>(A) HOUSING GROWTH POINTS</p>	21 - 24
<p>PART II</p>	
<p>ITEMS CONTAINING "EXEMPT" INFORMATION FALLING WITHIN SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985</p>	
<p>In this case the Board has a discretion to exclude the press and public but, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, it is RECOMMENDED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, having been satisfied that in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act.</p>	
<p>6. PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION, REGENERATION AND RENEWAL PORTFOLIO</p>	
<p>(A) MERSEY GATEWAY - LAND ACQUISITION</p>	25 - 28

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 6th March 2007
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director of Environment
SUBJECT: City Employment Strategy
WARD(S): Borough-wide

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek authority to proceed with the implementation phase of the City Employment Strategy (CES) through Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council acting as the accountable body for the CES partnership.

2. RECOMMENDED: That

- 2.1 **Executive Board approves that Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council be designated as the accountable body for the Liverpool City Region City Employment Strategy.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 The City Employment Strategy (CES) concept as developed by government is that local consortia are formed of public, private and voluntary sectors which will work together to target those wards with the highest levels of worklessness i.e. worklessness above 25% of working age population. In Halton, the Department of Work and Pensions have identified - Windmill Hill, Castlefields, Riverside, Halton Lea, Grange and Kingsway. The six local authorities in Merseyside submitted a joint business plan to the Department of Work and Pensions that was successful and the area is now one of the national pilots.

Progress to Date

- 3.2 The draft Business Plan is expected to be signed off by the Department of Work and Pensions in the next few weeks. Appendix One contains a summary of the key points of the plan.
- 3.3 The first meeting of the City Employment strategy Board has recently taken place. Chaired by the Chief Executive of Knowsley it comprises representatives from – 6 Local Authorities, Job Centre Plus, Learning and Skills Council, Trade Unions, Voluntary Sector, The Mersey Partnership, Merseyside Employers Coalition and the Government Office. The Halton Representative is the Operational Director, Economic Regeneration.

- 3.4 The North West Development Agency (NWDA) is formally considering a funding application for £3m made by Knowsley Council on behalf of the Partnership. The cash flow has £2.7m in 2008/09 and £700,000 in 2009/10. The key project within this application is aimed at reducing child poverty by working with both the unemployed and the low paid. A national child poverty tool kit is shortly to be launched and will provide information on a local authority basis to enable targeting to take place. A team is to be established to work across all six local authorities to implement the project. This joint working across the strategy area is an essential part of the City Employment Strategy and the lessons learnt through this project will be applied to future joint working.

Issues and Next Steps

- 3.5 The Board is to hold an away day, hopefully in March. It was agreed that as there is a significant amount of work for it to do in a tight timescale, having one dedicated day was the most sensible way forward. Issues for decision at that time will include – signing off of the NWDA package, establishing the commissioning framework and group, agreeing the structure of the small central team, considering progress of the MAA and development of a formal critical path programme.
- 3.6 The development of the plan has been through an inter agency working group with Liverpool City Council leading. As the partnership is now moving from strategy development into the implementation phase, responsibility for management is being passed from Liverpool City Council to Knowsley MBC. This aligns with the developing Multi Area Agreement (MAA) for which Knowsley has the lead on employment and skills.
- 3.7 Looking to the future, the CES partnership will be making a number of funding submissions such as the present request to the NWDA. As such, there needs to be a formal agreement as to which organisation should be the accountable body for the CES partnership. Given that Knowsley is the lead in the MAA and is overseeing the management of the CES, it is proposed that it should be designated as the accountable body.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Being part of a city region consortium City will help the Council and the LSP achieve targets within the Community Strategy and Corporate Plan, most notably under the Employment, Learning and Skills Theme.

5. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 No other implications.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton.

Young people that are not in employment, education or training are a key target group within the CES strategy.

6.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

The CES will increasingly enable joint working across the 6 local authorities all aimed at reducing worklessness and unemployment. A key element of this will be the agreement of best practice provision across the area.

6.3 A Healthy Halton.

Supporting people who are on incapacity benefits back into work is a key action within the CES. As such, the Board at its first meeting agreed to extend membership to cover health. Discussions are to take place with the Strategic Health Authority and the Merseyside Health Commission.

6.4 A safer Halton

No implications identified at this time.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

Whilst the CES seeks to enable workless/unemployed people into work, the urban renewal work that is underway in Halton (and elsewhere in the partnership area) is critical in attracting business and jobs to the area. Increasing the number of jobs is a fundamental activity that must take place if the CES is to succeed.

7. RISK ANALYSIS

7.1 There are a number of risks associated with this programme, but they are considered acceptable and manageable at this time. The key risks are

- Potential delays in finalising any enabling measures that are allowed
- The uncertainty as to how local LSPs will allocate the new Working Neighbourhood Fund.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

8.1 Equality and diversity are key aspects in the CES plan with a number of key groups being identified for priority actions.

9. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

9.1 None under the meaning of the Act.

Contacts

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City Employment Strategy- Summary of Key Points

Spatial priorities. The Consortium will have a general focus on those Deprived Area Fund wards with the worst concentrations of worklessness as well as targeting activities on smaller areas within these wards where the worklessness rate is above 25%.

Areas covered by CES and Deprived Areas Funding

Local Authorities	DAF Wards	Working Age Population	Total IS/IB/JSA
Wirral	6	44,587	19,058
St. Helens	5	24,894	9,135
Sefton	6	43,206	15,825
Liverpool	23	172,183	79,236
Knowsley	16	57,107	24,195
Halton	6	19,478	7,265
Totals	62	361,455	154,714

In Halton, these are Castlefields, Windmill Hill, Halton Lea, Grange, Riverside and Kingsway.

Priority groups; lone parents, Incapacity Benefit claimants, people with no / low qualifications, young people Not in Employment, Education or Training, over 50s, workless people in the Black and Racial Minority (BRM) communities, women returners, residents of low income households where children are living in poverty.

Strategic strand 1 – supporting employers for greater productivity

These actions aim to improve the service to employers both in the public sector which continues to be important, and the private sector where the goal is to support business productivity, investment and growth.

Action	Description
Liverpool City Centre recruitment and skills	Liverpool City Centre recruitment support project for a forecast increase of some 10,000 jobs by 2009, mostly in retail, hospitality and leisure. The project opens up access to the new jobs for residents of the DAF wards across Merseyside.
Public Sector Demand-led Routeway Programme for Unemployed Adults and Young People	Customised training programme reflecting the priorities of each Local Authority District, for 1500 unemployed adults and young people to access public employment opportunities whilst enabling the public sector to benefit from a skilled labour force.
Sector employment and skills strategies, Employer HR Forum and Business Champions	<p>A substantial programme to develop a demand led / business facing approach;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action planning for labour and skills demand in the 13 Merseyside growth sectors – as integral elements of sector development plans, extending existing sector action plans. ▪ Joint work with participating employers to develop specific customised employability, recruitment, retention and workforce skills solutions through an HM Forum. <p>A package of activity to engage champions from the business community for the ESS including businesses championing specific areas, adopting the ESS training charter and promoting the ESS through their supply chains</p>
SME pilot programme	SMEs are key drivers of economic growth but smaller businesses often find it difficult to recruit and many do not have workforce training plans. This pilot project will support small businesses with a comprehensive package of service support.
Social enterprise programme	Social businesses are an important part of the economy with a major role in providing employment opportunities for workless people. This measure will support social businesses to increase the scale of their support & improve their workforce skills
Simplified action menu, information, contact and relationship management	To improve business engagement the Consortium will develop streamlined arrangements for business contacts including relationship management protocols and vacancy sharing agreements and will consider the possibility of a single portal / single branding for the ESS.
Business Forum	The development, support and facilitation of a Business Forum, to provide better connectivity between existing business and sector networks and practical means by which employers can inform the content and delivery of the ESS. This project will provide key links between all the elements of this action strand.

Strategic strand 2 – neighbourhood targeting and renewal

These actions will aim to improve targeting of effort and resources on the areas of highest worklessness integrated with neighbourhood management services, investment in housing and local infrastructure, to provide a comprehensive package of support to individuals and households and therefore better value for money through multiple goals:

Action	Description
Local Authority ESS neighbourhood targeting action plans, Partner Engagement Plan, and Housing renewal and housing investment	Building on LAA action plans Local Authorities will produce an action plan for neighbourhood targeting in their area, building on their existing programmes and introducing common best practice elements, linking LAA targets for worklessness with the ESS Delivery Plan. Identifying cross-border activities for those DAF wards that span Local Authority Districts but which are effectively the same neighbourhoods as far as residents and / or employers are concerned. This action will seek integration between the ESS and housing renewal.
Improved local data for more effective targeting	Data management and access project to enable outreach projects to target workless households & individuals more effectively and monitor the outcome of referrals.
Supporting diversity and equal opportunity	The BRM employment rate is well below that of Merseyside as a whole and in some areas is very low. This project will bring together the existing raft of diversity provision to develop a common standard and to accelerate the rate at which BRM communities can start to close the gaps.
Financial services and debt counselling	Many beneficiaries of the programme will have been out of the labour market for considerable time and will need specialist advice and support to manage the financial transition into work. This project will develop a common approach to these services across the six areas.
LEGI and ESS	This action will seek to ensure full integration and alignment between the two LEGI programmes (St Helens and Liverpool / Sefton) and the ESS in the areas covered by both of these.

Strategic action strand 3 - the employment and skills continuum

Central to the ESS approach is the delivery of a seamless continuum of services to employers and individuals to increase the employment rate, build a highly skilled and flexible workforce and help more people leave poverty and acquire lifelong employability and a career.

Action	Description
Outreach & engagement programme	Programme of intensive outreach targeting areas within the DAF wards with worklessness above 25% via outreach teams, local RSLs, GP practises, community & voluntary groups, schools, Job Centres and local employment projects.
Information advice and guidance	Better coordination and enhancement of existing Personal and Careers Adviser teams for young people (aged 16 – 19) and adults (25 +) to provide universal access for individuals to support in career planning and development, across all the partner organisations. The project will create a single gateway to careers information, advice and guidance for individuals in the DAF wards.
Pre-employment support	<p>Firstly, improved targeting & better integration of existing services.</p> <p>Secondly, it will review existing programmes and develop a new extended menu of provision such as Skills Passports and customised training tailored to employer needs.</p>
Transition into work	The Consortium will improve the quality of recruitment services to employers and individuals including vacancy matching, referral of potential candidates, jobs fairs in conjunction with the HR Forum, sector networks and key participating employers. The affordability and adequacy of childcare provision will be reviewed with all key barriers or gaps in provision.
Retention	Employers will be engaged to provide work-based support. Individuals will be supported either by Personal Advisors and / or Trade Union workplace learning mentors.
Work-based skills development	Many residents in the targeted areas have low or no qualifications or outdated skills, or skills that are not currently in demand from employers. To help individuals into sustainable employment, and to support the development of a more flexible and highly skilled workforce, the consortium will work with individuals and employers to put demand-led and appropriate skills provision in place.

Skills passports and skills escalators	The Consortium will co-ordinate, refocus and expand measures such as workbased mentors, Skills Passports and Skills Escalators into the menu of provision. It will also work with Unionlearn to join up support services to employers and individuals.
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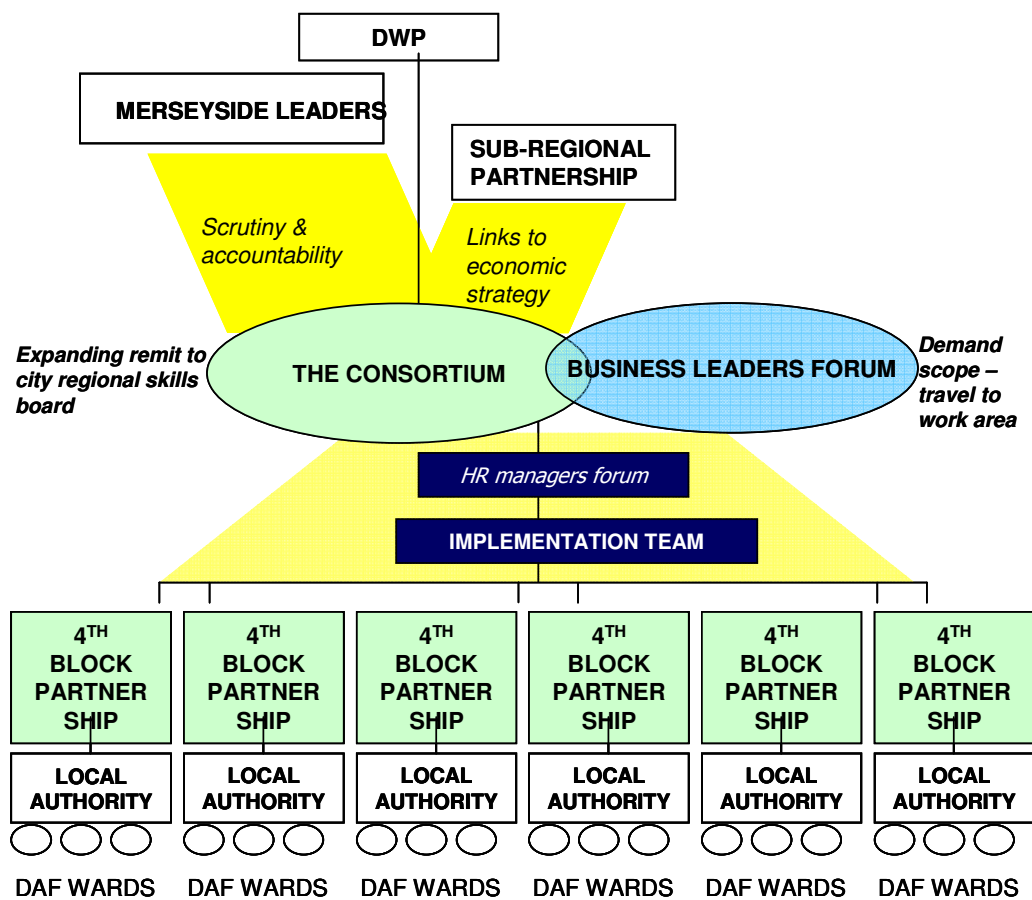
Strategic action strand 4 - building strategic and operational capacity

The ESS is a new strategic model that aims to deliver a more integrated suite of employment and skills measures through more effective deployment of existing resources. In addition to the specific measures identified in Action Strands 1, 2 and 3, partners have identified the following further actions to strengthen strategic and operational capacity;

Action	Description
Joint labour market intelligence system, single programme and targeting framework and programme management & monitoring systems	The Consortium will consolidate and expand existing Labour Market intelligence systems. Building on the mapping of current programmes and services, the Consortium will establish a joint single programming and targeting framework as a key tool for improved planning, monitoring and co-ordination of activity.
Joint Commissioning Group	The Consortium's strategic and fund holding partners will establish a Commissioning Group with the remit of managing the pooling and alignment of funds and for the commissioning and procurement of provision via funding from NWDA, ESF, DWP, DfES, and other appropriate funding streams.
Best practice & knowledge management	A key function to be delivered by the Co-ordination Team will be to capture, evaluate and disseminate best practice across the partner agencies, to provide the basis for a joint training and development programme, to inform the rolling out of a common approach and to feed into the Consortium's annual programme review and business planning cycle.
Provider network	To support a real step change in the effectiveness of service delivery, the Consortium will facilitate a provider network to bring together existing networks and delivery organisations from the public, private and community & voluntary sectors for a common work programme of sharing of best practice,

	professional development and training.
New delivery mechanisms	In Year 1 the Consortium will review existing delivery mechanisms and explore options for new models for more employer facing and neighbourhood focused, integrated delivery.

Proposed Governance Arrangements



REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 06th March 08

REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director, Children & Young People's Directorate
Operational Director, Halton & St Helens Primary Care Trust

SUBJECT: Working arrangements to align PCT Child Health Services within the Children & Young People's Directorate; and Children's Trust Arrangements in Halton

WARDS: All

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To seek agreement on the next steps in the integration of services in Halton for children and young people, through new working arrangements between Halton and St Helens PCT and the Children & Young People's Directorate of Halton Council.
- 1.2 To seek agreement to place those new arrangements and their Governance within the context of Halton's Children's Trust Arrangements (Alliance Board).

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 2.1 **Executive Board agrees to the development of new working arrangements for PCT staff working with the "well" and "vulnerable" child within the Council's Children & Young People's Directorate.**
- 2.2 **Executive Board notes that Health Services for the "sick" child remain the exclusive responsibility of the PCT and thus outside these arrangements.**
- 2.3 **Executive Board agrees that work be undertaken to use the Alliance Board (Halton's Children's Trust arrangement) as the Governance Body for the new partnership arrangements with the PCT.**
- 2.4 **That all Council Services within the new working arrangements continue to be accountable to the Executive Board.**
- 2.5 **The geographic footprint that will be used for the future deployment of Children's Services will need to be agreed. The options are, depending on the nature of the service:**

- **Boroughwide delivery**
- **Runcorn or Widnes based delivery**
- **Locality based delivery, perhaps building on the area networks or other recognised locality**

2.6 That Appendix 2 be approved as the structure for the Children's Trust arrangements.

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

3.1 The following proposals are intended to improve outcomes for children and young people by:

- Bringing together a full range of services (Education, Health and Social Care) for children and young people within one Directorate under the auspices of Halton's Children's Trust arrangements;
- The further integration of services will enable the Council and its partners to provide better tailored and coordinated services, particularly for vulnerable groups of young people;
- They will provide, over time, the opportunity to create a series of "Teams Around the Child" delivering services in a much more effective and efficient way and one that is much more accessible and understandable to the public.

3.2 The report seeks to build on the integration of Education and Children's Social Care services that formed the Children & Young People's Directorate in 2006.

3.3 The proposals focus on the way the Children & Young People's Directorate and its partners will do business together in future. An integrated approach will enhance the Council and its partner's ability to deliver the key objectives of the Community Strategy, under the umbrella of the Local Strategic Partnership. All the services within that Partnership will continue to be directly accountable to their parent body for the quality and effectiveness of their services.

3.4 The proposals enhance the Council's ability to fully discharge its new statutory duties to children and young people in the Borough. This in respect of the statutory responsibilities of the Lead Member for Children & Young People, and the Strategic Director of Children & Young People Services.

3.5 The Health Services referred to are:

- The Health Visiting Service
- Child Therapy Services
- Midwifery
- School Health Advisers (School Nurses)
- The management/administrative structure and resources that supports these services.

- 3.6 Health Services for children are focused on three principal groupings:
- The Sick Child – children who require specific medical interventions due to illness or injury;
 - The Vulnerable Child – children who have a particular set of circumstances that make their health vulnerable, for example hearing loss, a chronic condition, or their welfare or safety
 - The Well Child – routine health matters that all children need.
- 3.7 Integration of those services will be complemented by the further alignment of other health related services such as, for example, substance misuse and teenage conceptions. A dialogue will be established with General Practitioners in the Borough on the “best fit” with General Practice. Dentistry Services are not part of this arrangement.
- 3.8 The Primary Care Trust is moving towards being a commissioning organisation; this is being mirrored elsewhere in the NHS. This sharpened focus on commissioning will ensure health needs are met as a result of a rigorous health needs analysis and better commissioned services to meet identified health needs.
- 3.9 In light of this, the PCT will explore a relevant NHS provider to deliver services to the “sick” child, whilst entering into this management arrangement with the Council for health services for the “well” and “vulnerable” child (as described above).
- 3.10 The proposed structure for the new joint arrangements within the PCT and Council are enclosed as Appendix 1.
- 3.11 Underpinning these proposed new partnership arrangements are the following prerequisites for the Council and Primary Care Trust:
- 3.11.1 NHS staff will not be subject to TUPE or Seconded to the Council; there will therefore be no change to the terms of employment or conditions of any NHS employee affected by these arrangements.
- 3.11.2 There will remain a clear line of accountability to the Primary Care Trust for all NHS services involved in the new working arrangement. The PCT Operational Director of Children, Families and Maternity Services (Commissioning) will have ultimate accountability for all Children’s NHS staff working within the arrangement.
- 3.11.3 All NHS staff that are part of the working arrangement will be professionally accountable to the Executive Nurse, Halton & St Helens PCT. They will provide health guidance, support and supervision to the Assistant Director from the PCT.
- 3.11.4 The PCT will identify a named individual (Assistant Director, Child & Family Health, Halton) to become part of CYPD’s Senior Management Team. This post will have direct Line Management responsibility for all PCT staff

in the new working arrangement. This post will report directly to the Council's Strategic Director of Children's Services for day to day management of services. They will also report to the Operational Director, Children, Families & Maternity Services for NHS accountability purposes. The latter accountabilities in the areas of, for example, risk management, health and safety, clinical governance and medicines management.

- 3.11.5 The Alliance Board (Children's Trust Arrangement) will act as the Governance Body for the Primary Care Trust and Council. This will cement the Children's Trust arrangements that have to be in place by April 2008.
- 3.11.6 Over the last year, the PCT Assistant Directors, Child & Family Health, have participated in the Senior Management Teams of both Halton and St Helens Councils. This "shadow" arrangement has helped develop an understanding of roles and responsibilities for Children's Services within the Council and Primary Care Trust.
- 3.11.7 The above prerequisites will be documented in a formal agreement that will be developed over the next three months. The agreement will be presented to both the Executive Board of the Council and the Primary Care Trust Board. The proposals are initially for one year and then to be reviewed.
- 3.12 These arrangements will be dovetailed with services for adults in three principal ways:
- The first through Halton's Parenting Strategy, ensuring that the child is seen in the context of their family or carer;
 - The second, through robust transition arrangements; and
 - The third, through joint working in the areas of adult mental health, domestic violence and adult substance misuse.
- 3.13 Following the approval to embark on these new partnership arrangements, further structural development will take place to identify how the range of PCT health services for children can be better aligned with Council and Voluntary Sector services, to create a series of "Teams Around the Child and Family". This alignment would be developed within Halton's identified Levels of Need for Children (Levels 1 to 4 : Universal, Preventative and Specialist Services).
- 3.14 In practical terms, both the Council and PCT will look for opportunities to co-locate, or align NHS staff with the Council's Children's Centres / Extended Schools services; and with Specialist Services such as the Child Care Teams working with Children in Need and Child Protection; as well as children with complex needs.
- 3.15 The geographic footprint that will be used for the future deployment of Children's Services will need to be agreed. The options are:
- Boroughwide delivery
 - Runcorn or Widnes based delivery

- Locality based delivery, perhaps building on the area networks or other recognised locality

3.16 It is likely that the configuration will be different, dependent upon the service in question. For example, "Adoption Services" will need to be Boroughwide; Building Schools for the Future will be on a Runcorn/Widnes basis; and Children's Centres/Extended Schools will be by locality. Locality working will be the principal model for all the Preventative Services, this in order to allow services to work much closer with local communities.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The establishment of Children's Trust arrangements in each Local Authority Area is a requirement of the Children Act 2004, and the accompanying Statutory Guidance on Inter-agency Co-operation to Improve the Well-being of Children: Children's Trusts.

4.2 Each Local Authority must have a Children's Trust in place by April 2008. Whilst the Government expects that Children's Trusts will be led by the Local Authority, the need for an inclusive partnership driven model is vital to the success of meeting outcomes for children, young people and families.

4.3 The Children & Young People's Alliance Board was established in September 2005 as part of a new strategic planning structure which aimed to progress the Every Child Matters agenda and integration through partnership working. At the same time arrangements were made for the establishment of a number of children's mini-trusts which would pilot various aspects of the integration agenda, with a view to using the learning from the mini-trusts to inform future Children's Trust arrangements.

4.4 The Alliance Board agreed in September 2007 to review the function and structure of the strategic planning arrangements in order to rationalise in line with the above developments and drive the progress of Children's Trust arrangements.

4.5 Appendix 2 outlines the proposed structure of the Children's Trust arrangement.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The adoption of formalised Children's Trust arrangements will ensure that the Council and its partners are fully compliant with Government expectations around the integration of services for children at both a strategic and operational level. This next step must be completed by April 2008.

5.2 The new management arrangements for NHS services will ensure that the priorities set by the Council and those found within the Children & Young

People's Plan and LAA are delivered in an efficient and effective way across organisations.

- 5.3 Legal advice, or the like, will be provided by the employees parent Authority.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The proposed changes involved in the new working arrangements are intended to be cost neutral. The Primary Care Trust has agreed to the alignment of the management and administrative structure that currently supports medical staff. The Council will look for opportunities to co-locate staff wherever possible. Any financial or staffing implications of co-location would be reported separately.

7.0 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 All partner agencies employees involved in the new arrangements will remain on their current terms and conditions of employment. The PCT will continue to manage all personnel matters concerning NHS staff.
- 7.2 Through the formal agreement for the new arrangements there will be an explicit definition and documentation for employees of the extent of separation and alignment of services.
- 7.3 Capability and disciplinary proceedings within an integrated working arrangement will remain the responsibility of the employing authority.

8.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

8.1 Children and Young People in Halton

The proposals will ensure that services to children and young people are integrated, providing a range of one stop services.

8.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

The proposals will enhance services that enable young people to enter employment, education and training.

8.3 Healthy Halton

The alignment of NHS services with those of the Council will have significant health gains for children and young people.

8.4 A Safer Halton

Both Children's Trust arrangements at a strategic level, and the new working arrangements between the Council and PCT, at an operational

level, will ensure that services are aligned with a range of community safety activity and the work of the Youth Offending Team.

8.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The integration of services creates cohesion across organisations that will align a range of capital and revenue initiatives.

9.0 RISK ANALYSIS

9.1 The principal risks for the Council are addressed within Paragraphs 3.7.1 to 3.7.5 above, and are the pre-requisites to the new working arrangements.

9.2 All insurances necessary in relation to employees are preserved with the current accountable body.

9.3 The agreement on the new working arrangements will be subject to review at the end of the first year, before more permanent arrangements are agreed.

10.0 NEXT STEPS

10.1 It is proposed that the new working arrangements start in April 2008.

10.2 Development work on the alignment of PCT staff within the Children & Young People's Directorate Departmental structure will take place during 2008/2009. Services will initially be aligned within the Directorate in their current structural form.

11.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

11.1 The alignment of NHS services and the Council will enable both Authorities to have a common approach to equality and diversity and factors that can narrow the gap in terms of opportunities for vulnerable children. Services will be aligned across Levels of Need and targeted on disadvantaged groups.

12.0 CONCLUSIONS

12.1 The incorporation of health services for the well and vulnerable child on the basis described above, within the C&YP Directorate is the logical next step in creating an integrated service for Children & Young People in Halton. The benefits will be significant in terms of cementing genuinely multi-disciplinary "Teams Around the Child" that can offer a one-stop service for all levels of need.

12.2 Subject to the approval of this stage of the process, further detailed work will take place with front line staff across organisations about how we can better align and join up services across the Levels of Need.

13.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

- Bringing together a full range of services (Education, Health and Social Care) for children and young people within one Directorate under the auspices of Halton's Children's Trust arrangements;
- The further integration of services will enable the Council and its partners to provide better tailored and coordinated services, particularly for vulnerable groups of young people;
- They will provide, over time, the opportunity to create a series of "Teams Around the Child" delivering services in a much more effective and efficient way and one that is much more accessible and understandable to the public.

14.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

Alternative options regarding the development of integrated services with the NHS and the proposals on Children's Trust arrangements include:

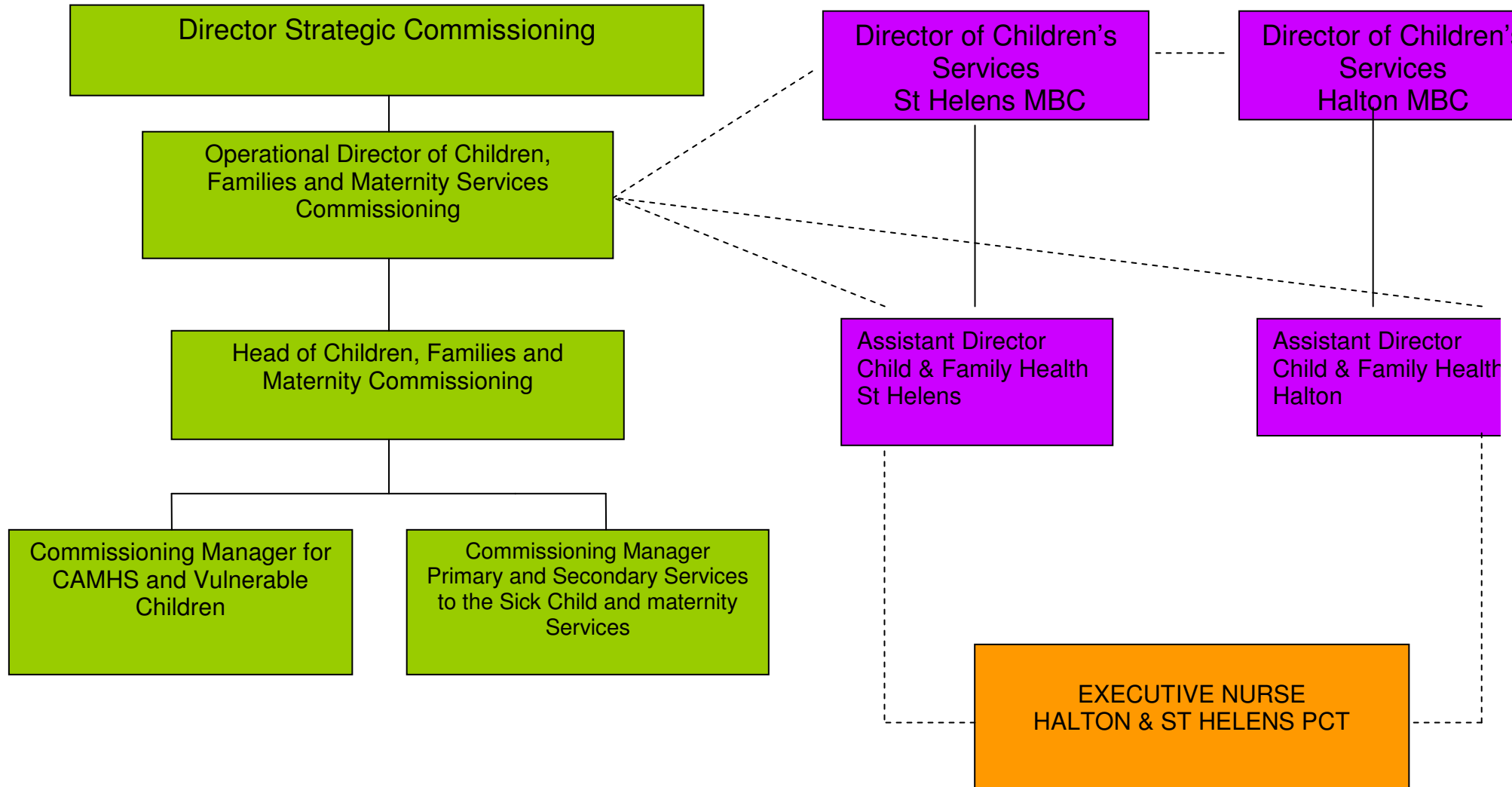
- No change, that is current management arrangements and strategic oversight would remain the same.
- The principle reason for this option being rejected is that the Council will miss an ideal opportunity to bring together the principal services for children and young people under one operational umbrella.
- It is a requirement that the Council leads Children's Trust arrangements and that this should be fully in place no later than April 2008. It is therefore a requirement that Children's Trust arrangements are cemented within the Borough.

15.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE:

The Children's Trust arrangements would become effective by the 30th April 2008. The new arrangements for aligning NHS services would come into effect at the same time. During 2008/2009, work will be undertaken on the development of new structural arrangements at the front line, this in close consultation with operational staff. Also during 2008/2009 a formal agreement will be developed. The new arrangements will be reviewed in April 2009.

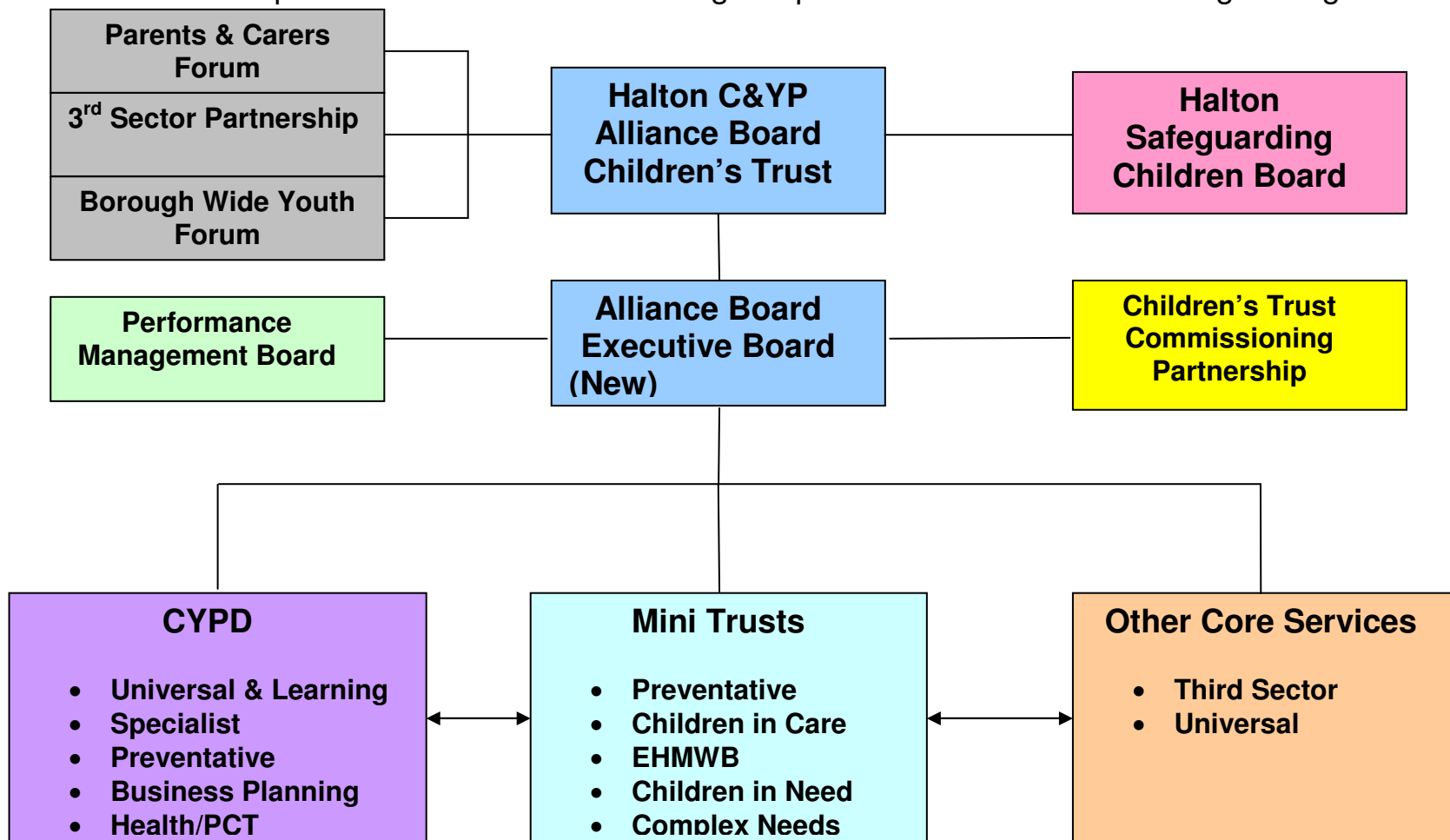
PCT STRUCTURE OF COMMISSIONING

OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR EACH BOROUGH



APPENDIX 2

Proposed Halton Children & Young People's Children's Trust Planning Arrangements



REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 6th March 2008
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director - Environment
SUBJECT: Housing Growth Points
WARDS: Boroughwide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To inform Members of progress in respect of our Expression of Interest for Halton for Growth Point Status since the previous report of the 13th December 2007.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That the Board

- (1) ratify the actions taken following the submission of the Growth Point Expression of Interest;**
- (2) authorise officers to work with our partners in the Mid-Mersey area and where appropriate private landowners to further work on the successful delivery of the Growth Point agenda;**
- (3) approve that Halton offer to act as ‘Lead Authority’ for the Mid-Mersey Growth Point; and**
- (4) note the intention to work with Peel Holdings to produce a Masterplan and Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to inform the development of the Runcorn Docklands site, in advance of the previously proposed date of 2010 for production of this SPD as contained in the 2007 Local Development Scheme.**

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1. Following publication of proposals to extend the Government’s Growth Points and Eco Towns programme to cover the north of England in the Housing Green Paper (July 2007) we were invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) to Government Office by 31st October.
- 3.2. The Merseyside Policy Unit (MPU) co-ordinated submission of a joint EoI on behalf of Halton and the other Merseyside authorities, divided into two potential growth areas centred on Liverpool and Wirral Waterfronts, and Halton and St.Helens.
- 3.3. As Halton and St.Helens are grouped with Warrington under the title ‘Mid-Mersey’ for Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) housing matters,

Warrington were approached with a view to submitting a joint Mid-Mersey proposal but they initially declined choosing to submit their own stand-alone Eol to GONW.

- 3.4. Following post submission advice from GONW agreement has now been reached with Warrington to co-ordinate their proposals with those from Halton / St.Helens under the "Mid Mersey" banner.
- 3.5. DCLG subsequently requested significant post submission reassurances and information, principally in respect of flood risk, transport, affordable housing and governance. Significant joint working has therefore been undertaken involving colleagues from St.Helens, Warrington, GONW, the Environment Agency, the Highways Agency, Mersey Travel and United Utilities to furnish the additional material requested.
- 3.6. As previously reported to Members, Halton's Eol was dependant upon bringing forward sites within the Runcorn and Weston Docklands Regeneration Area (Halton UDP). The landowner Peel Holdings are intent on bringing this site forward as a matter of urgency and have indicated that they wish to work in partnership with the Council to produce a Masterplan to be incorporated into Planning Policy as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in a manner similar to the joint working with English Partnerships on Sandymoor.

4.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Growth Point Status would have implications for the Local Development Framework. Delivery would be heavily dependant upon development around Runcorn Docks and this would have implications for the Core Strategy and subsequent development plan documents. This would introduce significant population numbers into an area currently sparsely populated and generate service requirements. Integration with Runcorn Old Town would be an important element to the wider success of this proposal.

5.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 No other implications.

6.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

6.1 Children and Young People in Halton

Halton's' contribution to the Mid-Mersey Growth Point is largely dependant upon development around the Runcorn Docks area. This will increase the population within a sparsely populated area generating demands for services and facilities for children and young people.

6.2 Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton

Will provide additional housing opportunities, contribute to improving the image of the Borough and support continued economic development. The proposed development should help improve accessibility to the Runcorn College Campus.

6.3 A Healthy Halton

The proposed development will regenerate underused former industrial land and be expected to contribute towards healthy travel options.

6.4 A Safer Halton

The proposed development will regenerate underused former industrial land and be expected to adopt design principles as contained in the Designing for Community Safety SPD.

6.5 Halton's Urban Renewal

The proposed development will directly regenerate a significant area within a previously defined Regeneration Area and will increase the local population within the catchment of Runcorn Old Town centre and contribute towards further improving the image of the borough.

7.0 RISK ANALYSIS

The Growth Point proposal is primarily based upon the development of land within a single ownership in a previously allocated Regeneration Area.

Without this, delivery of the additional units required under the Growth Point status would not be achievable without release of greenfield sites elsewhere within the Borough that the Council has not previously allocated.

8.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

There are no equality and diversity issues contained in the report.

9.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
The Housing Green Paper (July 2007)	Rutland House	Alasdair Cross
Merseyside Expression of Interest (Halton & St.Helens)	Rutland House	Alasdair Cross
Mid-Mersey Letter to GONW 9 th January 2008	Rutland House	Alasdair Cross

Mid-Mersey Letter to GONW 14 th January 2008	Rutland House	Alasdair Cross
Mid-Mersey Letter to GONW 31st January 2008	Rutland House	Alasdair Cross

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted