

Shropshire Council
Legal and Democratic Services
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Date: Tuesday, 6 September 2016
:

Committee:
Young People's Scrutiny Committee

Date: Wednesday, 14 September 2016
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury,
Shropshire, SY2 6ND

You are requested to attend the above meeting.
The Agenda is attached

Claire Porter
Head of Legal and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer)

Members of the Committee

Joyce Barrow (Chairman)
Peggy Mullock (Vice Chairman)
Andy Boddington
Hannah Fraser
Vince Hunt

Nic Laurens
Kevin Pardy
John Price
Robert Tindall
Kevin Turley

Co-opted Members (Voting):

Carol Morgan
Vacancy
Vacancy
Vacancy

Diocese of Shrewsbury (RC)
Diocese of Hereford (CE)
Parent Governor – Secondary Schools
Parent Governor – Primary & Special Schools

Co-opted Members (Non-Voting):
Mark Hignett

Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly

Substitute Members:

Dean Carroll
Peter Cherrington
Roger Evans
Jane MacKenzie

William Parr
Arthur Walpole
Tina Woodward
Paul Wynn

Your Committee Officer is:

Tim Ward Committee Officer

Tel: 01743 257713

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk

AGENDA

1 Apologies and Substitutions

To receive apologies for absence from Members of the Committee

2 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members are reminded they must not participate in the discussion or vote on any matter in which they have a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

3 Minutes (Pages 1 - 8)

The minutes of the last meeting, held on 20 July 2016 , are attached for confirmation.

4 Public Question Time

To receive any public questions or petitions from the public, notice of which has been given in accordance with Procedure Rule 14. The deadline for this meeting is 5.00pm on Friday 9 September 2016

5 Members' Question Time

To receive any questions of which Members of the Council have given notice.

Deadline for notification: 5.00pm on Friday 9 September 2016

6 Impact of Budget Cuts on Services

To receive a presentation from the Director of Children's Services

7 Proposed Recoupment of Academy Conversion Costs (Pages 9 - 14)

The report of the Director of Children's Services is attached

8 Shropshire Children's Centres - 2016 /17 update (Pages 15 - 32)

The report of the Service Manager is attached

9 Work Programme (Pages 33 - 46)

The current Scrutiny Work Programme and Cabinet Forward Plan are attached.

Members are asked to consider whether there are any other items they wish to be added to the work programme

10 Date of Next Meeting

Members are reminded that the next scheduled meeting of the Committee will be held on Wednesday 14 December 2016



YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on 20 July 2016

10.00 - 11.32 am in the Shrewsbury/Oswestry Room, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND

Responsible Officer: Tim Ward

Email: tim.ward@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 257713

Present

Shropshire Councillors

Councillors Peggy Mullock (Vice Chairman), Andy Boddington, Vince Hunt, Nic Laurens, John Price, Kevin Turley and Roger Evans (Substitute) (substitute for Hannah Fraser)

16 Apologies and Substitutions

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Joyce Barrow, Hannah Fraser (Substitute: Roger Evans), Kevin Pardy and Robert Tindall.

Apologies for absence were also received from Sue Hudson representing the Diocese of Shrewsbury (RC).

17 Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

Members were reminded that they must not participate in the discussion or voting on any matter in which they had a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest and should leave the room prior to the commencement of the debate.

Councillor Kevin Turley declared that he was the Vice Chairman of Shifnal Swimming Pool Committee.

18 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 23 May 2016 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

19 Public Question Time

There were no public questions.

20 Members' Question Time

Councillor Roger Evans asked the following question and the written response was tabled.

"In 2014 the then Cabinet Member decided to implement a policy of charging for issuing travel passes to post 16 students. These to be used for travelling to college and sixth forms. The Cabinet Member at that time decided to delegate this to the appropriate Director with the expectation that increases would be applied yearly from that September for 3 years. The last of these is due to commence this coming September.

For those students who are on defined benefits the increase means that the travel pass will now cost £142.50 per academic year. For students not on defined benefits the cost will be increased to £875.00. This is a huge amount of money for parents living in rural areas, areas where walking to the appropriate education establishment is too far and is unsafe.

The corresponding amount charged from September 2015 was £105.00 and £766.00. Those students on defined benefit therefore will have an increase of over 35%. Those whose parents earn in excess of the £16,190 threshold will have an increase of 14% imposed on them, is this fair?

According to information supplied by officers the total number of students using the service is reducing. 915 students applied for a pass in September 2014. This had fallen to 432 in February 2016. This is partly due to bus operators marketing their own bus passes which are more cost effective to the student and offer greater enhancements.

Can the present Cabinet Member inform us whether he supports this policy or will he revisit it and look to see if a better value option can be made available."

Response:

The Post/16 transport contribution scheme for those Post/16 students entitled to transport assistance commenced in September 1995. It is perhaps helpful to note that Post/16 transport is a discretionary area and this policy is supported by the Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Highways and Transport Services. At the same time it does need to address the disparity between the cost of Post/16 travel and the contributions received towards this.

Following formal consultation in 2014, it was agreed to adjust the Post/16 contribution levels (over a 3 year period) from £550 to £875 and from £30 to £142.50 for those families in receipt of defined benefits, with the upcoming 2016/17 academic year being the final year of this. The 2016/17 contribution level compared to that in 2015/16 represents 11 pence per journey for those students on defined benefits and 30 pence per journey for others.

There are currently 395 entitled students accessing this scheme, of which 125 pay the full contribution and 270 who pay the reduced level though their entitlement to benefits. The reduction in numbers accessing the Council's scheme is mainly through students going to bus operators to purchase tickets directly, such as the 24/7 bus pass offered by Arriva at its current cost of £485 pa.

Category	Current Income Levels	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Post-16 full contribution	£550	£658	£766	£875
Post-16 Low Income	£30	£67.50	£105	£142.50

In a supplementary question, Councillor Roger Evans commented that Shropshire Council was charging over £800 for a bus pass compared to Arriva who were charging just over £400 and which represented greater value for money. He questioned if Shropshire Council could make better use of this and also asked if there was anything more that could be done for those students with no access to Arriva buses.

In response the Director of Children's Services explained that Post/16 transport was a discretionary area and did not have to be supported in quite the same way as for statutory school age children. Officers in Integrated Transport had worked extremely hard with Arriva and other operators to secure a reduced season ticket cost. However, this was only available to those children where there was a commercial route available.

Shropshire Council was making savings and these savings represented a reduction compared to what we would be paying if the packages were not in place and we were having to pay commercial prices.

Shropshire Council's provision post 16 contribution scheme did compare favourably with other authorities.

In conclusion, she commented that although Councillor David Minnery was not the Portfolio Holder at the time the policy had been agreed and implemented, he was very supportive of it and at this point in time did not propose to put it forward for review.

A Member questioned what months the figures covered and questioned whether the figures would change if based upon the academic year or financial year.

AGREED: That a written response to Councillor Roger Evans's supplementary question be provided.

21 Corporate Parenting

The Head of Quality Performance and Assurance was in attendance and presented the report which included the recent assurance report to Shropshire's Safeguarding

Children's Board in March 2016 and set out the arrangements put in place by Children's Services to ensure that those young people for whom we have Corporate Parenting responsibility for are safeguarded.

Following a suggestion by a Member and with regard to paragraph 1.3(A) of the Shropshire Corporate Parenting Strategy 2016-18, the Head of Quality Performance and Assurance indicated that they were constantly exploring ways to engage with our partners and children to get an idea on what they were thinking and also to understand their experiences and needs. During the ensuing debate and following a suggestion that Members could attend a Corporate Parenting Panel as an observer, it became apparent that the newer elected Members might not have signed up to be a Corporate Parent. It was agreed that following the meeting Councillor Peggy Mullock would send an email to all Members urging them to commit to the Corporate Parenting Pledge.

(NB: Following the meeting and further investigation it was established that the Corporate Parenting Pledge was currently undergoing a review. Following this review the intention was to relaunch and seek commitment from all Members. It was anticipated that this would take place before the end of this calendar year. Following the meeting an email was sent to all Members of this Committee informing them of this review.)

In response to questions from Members, Officers explained that employability opportunities for Looked After Children (LAC) were good and Shropshire Council actively encouraged care leavers to go on to undertake apprenticeships, work experience and work placements. Data relating to the numbers of LAC, young people and care leavers etc was circulated and made available to the Corporate Parenting Panel and this could be sent to all Councillors if required. LAC would not normally contribute to a review report. In response to comments that 12 LAC had not received a visit within the permitted timescale, the Head of Quality Performance and Assurance explained that all timescales were continually monitored, it would be rare to achieve 100% visits for many reasons, some children did not want to be seen as a LAC, and there would always be a number of LAC who could not cope with arrangements. Structural issues in Children's Services had now been resolved and all children had been allocated a Social Worker.

RESOLVED: That the report be noted

All Officers were thanked for an excellent in-depth factual report.

22 Children's Safeguarding Peer Review

The Director of Children's Services was in attendance and presented the report which provided a further update on the actions being taken following the Children's Safeguarding Peer Review undertaken by the Local Government Association in 2015.

During the ensuing debate, Members noted that the frequency and number of Adoption Panels had not reduced but an increase in the number of children had led to longer days for Adoption Panel members. In response to concerns raised

regarding the safety of young people when using Apps, Members noted that cyber activity and the impact on a young person's safety was an area of work undertaken and considered by the Shropshire Safeguarding Children's Board.

RESOLVED: That:

- (i) The report and Action Plans as set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3 be noted; and
- (ii) An update on the financial implications of implementing any actions arising from the Children's Safeguarding Peer Review be presented to a future meeting of this Committee for consideration.

23 Schools Organisation

The meeting received a presentation from the Service Manager for Education Improvement & Efficiency (copy attached to the signed minutes) which provided an overview of the Area Meetings undertaken with Head Teachers and Governors and outlined the next steps for Head Teachers, Governors and Shropshire Council.

During the ensuing debate, Members noted that regular meetings and dialogue with both the Shrewsbury and Herefordshire dioceses had been undertaken and would continue, and both dioceses had expressed their agreement to the prospect of mixed Multi Academy Trusts (MATs). At this point in time, it was not clear how many MATs there would be in Shropshire.

24 How Shropshire Council will meet the statutory requirements for the provision of swimming

The meeting received a verbal report from the Leisure Services Manager. He advised that local authorities were not duty bound to provide swimming pools – this, along with leisure services, was a discretionary service. The national curriculum for Key Stage 2 children, aged 7-11, required pupils to be taught to:

- Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres;
- Use a range of strokes effectively; and
- Perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

The national curriculum is mandatory for all schools that are maintained by local authorities but not for academies and free schools although the majority did follow the national curriculum. Head Teachers and Governors are responsible for the curriculum of their respective schools and should ensure that it meets the needs of pupils and the requirements of the national curriculum where they apply. Shropshire currently had 133 LA maintained schools, 106 of which had been identified as using the swimming pool facilities that Shropshire Council was associated with.

A key factor for the future provision of swimming was the possibility of reduced funding for leisure facilities due to the financial situation that Shropshire Council currently faced. Shropshire Council was currently:

- Working with existing operators and looking at future provision based on reduced funding – management fee and joint-use funding;
- Undertaking discussions with Town & Parish Councils to see where they could support facilities in the future;
- Working with proactive local groups – discussing operational options, fund raising, etc;
- Negotiating the transfer for operational responsibility of joint-use facilities to schools; and
- Undertaking a consultation exercise on a Draft Leisure Facilities Strategy (2016-2037) (a document based on Sport England guidance, countywide demographics, affordability & sustainability, supply & demand). The consultation exercise would take place over a period of two months culminating on the 30 September 2016. Any future options/decisions would hinge on the results of this consultation.

In response to concerns regarding the deadline date and given that schools would be closed during August with the possibility of there being limited staff available to comment, the Leisure Services Manager indicated that towards the end of the consultation period he would endeavour to contact any relevant schools that had not commented.

AGREED: that, following this meeting, a briefing note outlining the main points of this item be circulated to Members of this Committee.

25 **Work Programme**

Members received and noted the Committee's Work Programme and the Cabinet Forward Plan.

It was agreed that the following items be considered at a future meeting of the Committee.

- SATS results and to include any identified pressures on the emotional health and wellbeing of the children taking them; and
- Youth Facility Grant

26 **Date of Next Meeting**

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that the next meeting of the Young People's Scrutiny Committee will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 14 September 2016 in the Shrewsbury Room, Shirehall, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND.

The Members of the Committee noted that Tina Russell, Head of Safeguarding, would soon be leaving Shropshire Council and they all thanked her for her help, hard work and commitment during her employment with this Authority and wished her well for the future.

Signed (Chairman)

Date:

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Committee and Date

Young People's Scrutiny
Committee

14 September 2016

Item

7

Public

Proposed Recoupment of Academy Conversion Costs

Responsible Officer Karen Bradshaw

e-mail: karen.bradshaw@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 252407

1. Summary

To date Shropshire Council has been able to resource the work associated with schools converting from local authority maintained to academy status from within its existing capacity. In the last five years, up to 1 September 2016, 27 academy conversions have been processed in Shropshire. However, with the combination of reduced local authority funding and the anticipated increasing numbers of academy conversions, the approach of absorbing the costs of this work is no longer sustainable.

A report is going to Cabinet on 28 September 2016 proposing the introduction of a charge to converting schools to cover Council costs, to be charged against the Government grant they receive for costs relating to the conversion process.

2. Recommendation

That Scrutiny Committee consider and comment on the proposal to recoup the Council's costs in relation to the academy conversion process, in advance of a Cabinet decision on 28 September.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

Local authorities have rights to protect their financial position from liabilities caused by the action or inaction of governing bodies. These rights are generally detailed in the local authority's Scheme for the Financing of Schools. While charging for academy conversions is not currently in the Shropshire scheme, the Council is able to add such rights.

The Shropshire Scheme for the Financing of Schools will therefore need to be amended to include the right to charge for academy conversions. It is proposed that this amendment is presented to Shropshire Schools Forum at the earliest opportunity following Cabinet approval on the recommendation to introduce a charge.

4. Financial Implications

The increased income from charging converting schools will cover the costs for the range of service teams directly involved in processing the transfer of schools from maintained to academy status and any additional services commissioned where the Council's capacity is limited, as the number and rate of conversions is anticipated to be significantly greater in the next few years given the Government's policy direction on academisation.

5. Background

The Academies Act 2010 gave all maintained schools the opportunity to become academies, operating independently and not under local authority control. There are different circumstances and conditions under which schools become academies – some choosing to convert and others required to convert with a sponsor in order to address performance concerns.

The Government policy, as articulated in the Education White Paper – *Education Excellence Everywhere* – is for all maintained schools to either become an academy by 2020, or have an Academy Order in place to convert by 2022. While there has been a subsequent step back from forcing schools to become academies, at the time of writing the policy objective remains.

The table below illustrates the position in Shropshire in respect of academisation as at 1 September 2016:

Phase	Maintained Schools		Academies/Free Schools		Total
Infant	5	100.0%	0	0.0%	5
Junior	5	100.0%	0	0.0%	5
Primary*	107	89.9%	12	10.1%	119
Secondary**	7	36.8%	12	63.2%	19
All Through	0	0.0%	1	100.0%	1
Special/PRU	2	66.7%	1	33.3%	3
Totals	126	82.9%	26	17.1%	152

* Includes Barrow 1618 CE Free School

* Sundorne and Grange academies became Shrewsbury Academy Trust from September 2016

Academy Orders have been received for a further 7 conversions over the autumn term 2016. Once these are completed there will be 119 maintained schools (78.3%) and 33 academies (21.7%) in Shropshire.

The profile of the Shropshire conversions dealt with each year since the Academies Act 2010 was introduced, is summarised below:

Year	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Conversions	2	4	6	8	4	9*

* As at 1 September 2016

If the Government policy objective remains in place for all maintained schools to have an Academy Order in place by the end of 2021/22, this would require the Council to manage, on average, around 24 conversions a year through to 2021/22, which is significantly more than has been the case to date. However, as the process is not linear and is dependent on the decisions of individual school governing bodies (for those choosing to convert), or the Regional Schools Commissioner (for those required to convert via the sponsor route), the numbers of conversions in any given year from 2017/18 onwards is impossible to forecast and could be significantly higher in any given year.

This will require an increased call on the Council resources, currently deployed, to manage significant workload peaks.

6. Council Resources in Managing Academy Conversions

In order to make each conversion happen, there are a number of administrative tasks that the local authority is required to undertake, including:

- preparing documents for the transfer of land and assets
 - liaising with the school's approved solicitors on the lease and commercial transfer agreement
 - dealing with the TUPE transfer of all school staff to the receiving academy trust
 - closing down and reconciling the school's financial accounts.
- There is a great deal of officer time involved in ensuring that each transfer is completed effectively and within the required timeframe.

The Council teams with the greatest involvement in the conversion process for individual schools are:

- Business Support and Schools Finance in Learning and Skills
- Legal and Democratic Services
- Assets and Estate Management
- Human Resources and Development.

On a case by case basis, dependent on the circumstances relating to individual school sites, support will be sought from a range of other Council teams in relation to such issues as early years provision, children's centre accommodation, programmed building works and contracts, shared leisure facilities, insurance and site specific issues.

The Council does not receive a direct source of funding to cover the costs linked to academy conversions. While the majority of councils in England are currently absorbing the associated costs of the transfer process from within their existing resources, there is evidence that an increasing number are beginning to charge for officer time. Staffordshire, Leicester, Swindon, Norfolk, Portsmouth and Medway are among those charging for officer time, with a capped sum of £5,000 per conversion emerging as the average charge.

The Department for Education currently provides converting schools with a grant of £25,000 to cover costs related to converting their legal status, including setting up the academy trust company, establishing the governance structure, transferring staff and producing a funding agreement and leasing land.

7. Proposal

Given the relatively slow rate of conversions of Shropshire schools over the last five years, no detailed costs to the Council of managing each conversion have been captured. However, the current market average rate of £5,000 being set by other local authorities, requiring the same range of work and time per academy conversion, would seem to be an appropriate and fair charge to set locally to recoup the likely increased Council costs.

The proposed sum of £5,000 is regarded as a reasonable proportion of the £25,000 grant provided to converter schools to cover the Council's costs in transferring a school to academy status. The workload associated with each conversion will, and does vary according to the complexity of the process in each individual case. However, in general terms the time required to manage an individual conversion is not specifically related to the size or phase of school and so a standard charge is deemed appropriate.

The income received will be directed to the service teams directly involved in the conversion process, given the likely significant increases in workload to meet the anticipated accelerated transfer of Shropshire's remaining maintained schools to academy status over the next few years in line with the Government's policy direction on academisation. The apportionment of the income received across service teams has not yet been determined.

It is proposed that the charge is made at the start of the conversion process, after the Academy Order has been received, the process of conversion has commenced and the school has received their grant funding. Converting schools will be required to ensure that they make sufficient provision from the £25,000 Government grant to meet these costs.

Headteachers and governing bodies of maintained schools have not been advised of, or consulted on, this proposal. In the event that Cabinet approve the recommendation at their meeting on 28 September 2016, it is proposed that school leaders be informed of this development through the recognised representative forums. It is proposed that the charging is effective for any Academy Orders received from 1 January 2017 onwards.

<p>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</p>
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<p>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</p>

<p>David Minnery</p>

<p>Local Member</p>

<p>All Council members</p>

<p>Appendices</p>

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Committee and Date

Young People's Scrutiny
Committee

14th September 2016

Item

8

Public

Shropshire Children's Centres – 2016 /17 update

Responsible Officer Sarah Wilkins

e-mail: sarah.wilkins@shropshire.gov.uk Tel: 01743 210485

1. Summary

This report provides an update on Children's Centres in Shropshire in the context of national and local developments, including how Children's Centres; the places, resources and ways of working contributes to the delivery of the priorities set out in the Shropshire Children's Trust Early Help Strategy 2016-2018, and reflects the values of the Corporate Plan. The report includes current developments and future direction of travel and a forecast of how the developments respond to the Financial Strategy.

2. Recommendations

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the details given in this paper and provide comments and feedback in respect of the Council's approach.

REPORT

2. Background

2.1. *What is a Children's Centre?*

The current supply of early help including preventative and targeted work for families with young children is significantly supported by the provision of Children's Centres directly managed and co-ordinated by Shropshire Council. Children's Centres form part of the Early Help Offer in Shropshire. The statutory duty of Local Authorities under the Childcare Act 2006 relating to Children's Centres states that Local Authorities must:

- Take steps to identify parents and those expecting a baby in their area who are unlikely to take advantage of early childhood services available and encourage them to use them; and
- Ensure there are sufficient children's centres, so far as reasonably practicable.

The Childcare Act 2006 **defines** a Children's Centre as a place or groups of places secured in order to make integrated early childhood services available either on a site or signposted to gain access to include:

- Early years education and care
- Social services
- Health services
- Assistance to parents in training, employment, information, advice and guidance

The **core purpose** of a Children's Centre is to improve outcomes for young children and their families, with a particular focus on families in greatest need of support in order to reduce inequalities in:

- Child development and school readiness
- Parenting aspirations
- Self-esteem and parenting skills
- Child and family health and life chances

2.2. What do Children's Centres look like and where are they in Shropshire?

In Shropshire a Children's Centre is defined by the operation of services from a group of places in geographical areas. There are 12 Children's Centre Areas across the county designated using child population figures, natural communities, levels of deprivation and utilising primary school catchment areas for boundaries. The table below provides a breakdown of the Children's Centre Areas showing the areas as they are registered as required with the Department for Education (DfE) and Ofsted:

Central	North	South
Borders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borders 	North East <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market Drayton • Whitchurch 	South East <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pebble Brook • River Rea • Severn Valley
Roman Way <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roman Way 	North West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ellesmere & Wem • Oswestry • South Oswestry 	South West <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mortimer Forest • Shropshire Hills

The current Children's Centre Areas were introduced in 2012. Over time other service providers have become fully or partially co-terminus with the Children's Centre Areas, for example social work services and health visiting. These geographical boundaries are used for the collation of management and performance information across a range of indicators including health, education and social care. The boundaries do not present any restrictions for service users and the staff group and partners work across areas.

Appendix 1 shows a map of the Children's Centre Areas.

The locations used for the delivery of services are often co-located on school sites with early years and childcare providers or community venues. Some buildings are managed directly by the LA team, other sites are sub-leased rented or shared with other provision.

A range of services are often delivered from the site including early years education, health services. Other early help providers use sites for the delivery of services including groups for disabled children and families and a number of sites are also used for contact visits for Looked After Children.

Approximately 50 % of service delivery places are located in the 30% most disadvantaged areas of Shropshire (Lower Super Output Areas).

2.3. *How are CC delivered and managed in Shropshire?*

Shropshire Council currently delivers Children's Centre services through an internal staff team, locality commissioning and partnership working with health, education and the voluntary sector.

The governance of children's centres is managed through multi-agency Advisory Boards as required by statutory guidance. There are five Advisory Boards for Shropshire; two for the North, one in central area and one covering South Shropshire. The Advisory Boards include parent representatives and are chaired by a range of partners including; a parent, school lead, voluntary and community sector representative and a Local Authority representative. The range of performance indicators are reported through to Shropshire Children's Trust and Local Safeguarding Board via the Healthy Child Programme Board and the Strengthening Families through Early Help Partnership Group.

2.4. What is the quality and performance of CC in Shropshire?

Shropshire has eleven current Ofsted gradings for our Children's Centre's, most of these, nine out of the eleven (81%) are graded as good.

"there is evidence of the positive impact that the centre's work has on empowering families and improving their well-being ...good support is provided by staff and partners helping families experiencing domestic violence or mental health issues to overcome the challenges they face"

Ofsted – Severn Valley (Bridgnorth) Children's Centre Inspection 2015

"one to one targeted support is very effective in helping families overcome the problems they face. Good collaborative work takes place to empower children and families experiencing domestic violence ... parents are well supported in building their confidence and skills in managing behaviour. As a result this is helping them to become more effective in parenting their children. Good quality advice and guidance raises parents' awareness of how to keep their children healthy and safe". **Ofsted – Borders (North Shrewsbury) Children's' Centre Inspection 2015**

The Peer Review (July 2015) commented on the accessibility and commitment of Children's Centre's to the provision of early help and partnership working.

Targeted case work carried out by children's centre support workers working with identified families is quality assured by managers and the Early Help Stakeholder Group using the Quality Assurance Framework for Children's social work case file audit procedure. Observations of practice are also made by managers.

Children's Centre targeted group work is quality assured through the use of evidence based programmes, for example Understanding Your Child parenting and UNICEF Baby Friendly Standards. Universal groups are quality assured using standards set by the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.

The Early Help Effectiveness Report (2015/16) which will be presented to Shropshire Safeguarding Children's Board (SSCB) in September 2016 has found most practitioners (90%) found Children's Centre services accessible for requesting early help support for families.

2.5. National direction/changes

There have been significant changes since 2012 in national policy, resourcing and commissioning responsibilities in relation to early childhood services.

Research informing thinking and planning remains strongly supportive of the importance of a good start in life for children and assisting families in being the most significant and positive influences on children.

The LA duties in relation to Children's Centres still apply but it has been recognised by Government and Ofsted that the requirements and inspection framework need reviewing.

Ofsted paused the inspection framework for Children's Centres in July 2015. Since then an All Party Parliamentary Group working with the charity 4Children have undertaken an inquiry into the future of Children's Centres and made recommendations with particular relevance to the development of the Government's Children's Life Chances Strategy. (**Appendix 2** details the recommendations of APPG inquiry)

The development of the Children's Life Chances Strategy includes: a focus on the importance of the early years, expanding parenting support, improving levels of work in families, the importance of positive and resilient relationships and mental health and addiction support.

2.6. *What is the position /direction of Children's Centres in Shropshire; the types of work and how they do it?*

In Shropshire Children's Centres make up a significant part of the Early Help Offer and the delivery of services and support is aligned to the Strengthening Families through the Early Help Strategy and the principles of the Strengthening Families programme.

The staff team work across the geography of Children's Centre areas to provide targeted family support work, group work in relation to targeted issues including; domestic abuse, Understanding Your Child Parenting courses, groups focusing on attachment and parent child relationships and parental mental health all for families who have been identified would benefit from this support.

Working in partnership and the integration of delivery; for example health visitors and children's centre staff working together to deliver services, duplication of effort is reduced and impact is maximised, this way of working has evolved and is improving constantly.

Case Study 1: Oswestry Family Hub

As part of the Oswestry Resilient Communities project the North Children's Centre team have developed a Children and Families Hub session at The Centre in Oswestry. This provides a point of contact for families with children in the area to access support from trained staff within a universal arena. The Hub also offers a place for families who are referred for Early Help support to meet and engage with services to enable swift assessment of needs to take place to identify and engage the right service at the right time.

A particular case where this has proved beneficial is with a pregnant teenager. She was at risk of being made homeless, had a limited peer and family support network and a history of mental health difficulties. She was able to attend the Hub session, to access benefits and income maximisation advice from a Strengthening Families DWP Employment Advisor. She was also able to access antenatal parenting support, financial advice and housing support, including practical support, from a Children's Centre Support Worker along with working with midwifery services.

Outcomes: early support and intervention for a vulnerable pregnant young person by using a non-threatening, non-stigmatising venue and providing access to a range of support and guidance in one place and time.

Adult Services also provide a weekly Hub session at The Centre; the project envisages that as the Hub develops a joint approach to supporting whole families can be adopted, with a wider range of public, private and voluntary sector agencies, thus empowering individuals and the local community to make and sustain positive change.

Referrals to Children's Centre targeted support are made by a range of professionals and some self-referrals come from parents.

In Q1 2016/17 the highest numbers of referrals came from health visitors, midwifery, primary schools and social workers.

Targeted support has evolved over time and as part of the Early Help Offer Children's Centre services are provided for families with younger children up to approximately 8 years old. However as the service takes a whole family approach support can benefit multiple children of any age in the family.

Children's Centre managers work closely with other Early Help provision using robust information sharing agreements to ensure the right service is offered at the right time.

Q1 2016/17 - Targeted casework for families delivered through home visiting or at Children Centre venue			
North	Central	South	
78 cases (124 children)	46 cases (73 children)	36 cases (53 children)	Total 160 family cases (357 children)
Q1 2016/17 – Targeted group work delivered at Children’s Centres venues			
North	Central	South	
11 groups (221) attendees	18 groups (103 attendees)	10 groups (66 attendees)	Total 39 groups (390 attendees)
Q1 2016/17 – Universal group delivery – directly delivered by Children’s Centre staff, locally commissioned, co-facilitated by partners or partner – led.			
North	Central	South	
603 families	515 families	445 families	Total 1563 families (a further 53 families are recorded as having addresses outside of Shropshire)
Q1 2016/17 Targeted support in universal groups – information, advice and guidance provided to families attending universal groups (early intervention) to prevent problems escalating.			
Crime/ASB			37 families
Worklessness/Financial exclusion			66 families
Domestic Abuse			37 families
Children who need help			125 families
School attendance			66 families
Health			870 families

In Q1 2016/17, 53 (33%) targeted cases were receiving support as part of a social work assessed plan. The remaining cases had all received an early help assessment and support was part of the early help plan.

Case Study 2: Targeted support provided in a Universal group

A key approach to delivering early intervention is through targeted support within a universal group or activity. This is usually a weekly drop in session that is open to any family and does not require a referral or assessment to access.

This model provides the earliest of early help support to be offered which is proven in some cases to reduce the demand for more intensive or specialist support by preventing things from getting worse.

An example of this is a mother who attended a group and shared her concerns with the support worker about her 2 year old son's behaviour as she felt that he was displaying autistic characteristics and that he also had a speech and language delay.

The family attended the weekly group over a period of time and the worker was able to give support around parenting, routines, managing behaviour at home and language development.

Help was given to register the child for a 24U early education place with a local nursery and provide the parent with ideas, through role modelling, and encouragement to support his learning and development at home.

Emotional support and containment was provided to the parent during the multi-disciplinary assessment with the Child Development Centre and the family was signposted to Autism West Midlands for further advice and peer support.

The family still attend groups which helps them to sustain the positive changes that they have made.

2.7. Staffing and the teams

The current Shropshire Children's Centre staffing structure of 3 locality teams covering north, central and south has been in place since 2010. Whilst the teams have experienced several changes and staffing has reduced by over 30% during this time the reach of services has been seen to increase and become more targeted. The DfE commissioned Evaluation of Children's Centres in England research programme, running since 2013 has shown that approximately 30% of centres evaluated have taken this approach to change.

During 2016; vacancy management challenges, the financial strategy (targets set) and the focus to target work to areas of greatest need as a response to Council and national priority changes are drivers that have resulted in further redesign and development this area of support.

From June to August 2016 the Children's Centre staff team has been subject to a consultation regarding the reorganisation and reduction of staffing. This restructure reduces staffing at every level however impact has been minimised on frontline delivery, the impact being a 17% reduction of the family support worker staff group (5.33 fte of a staff group of 32.33 fte).

This reorganisation is planned to be complete by October 2016.

2.8. *Next Steps for Children's Centres in Shropshire 2016-2018*

The new structure and staffing organisation will continue to provide more focussed targeted case work and targeted group work for families alongside work to increase collaboration and integration of targeted and universal delivery and a review of assets.

The second half of the financial year 2016/17 will focus on the assessment of sufficiency of universal provision of early childhood services, this work will be coordinated through the Children's Centres Advisory Boards and include building on feedback from the Big Conversation and will involve engaging service users and other stakeholders in mapping the availability of services and need and developing the work as described in the case studies to reduce duplication, target need and reduce costs.

Case Study 3: Community Hub at Craven Arms.

The Children's Centre team have been working with Community Enablement Officer; Home Start, Health Visitor and members of the community to bring together resources and expertise to deliver a weekly drop in session for families at the Discovery Centre in Craven Arms from Autumn 2016. This idea was developed following feedback from the community. Engagement, consultation and planning is resulting in collaborative work and resourcing with families and partners to provide information, advice, support and guidance for families with children.

Outcomes: community led group, meeting needs more effectively, reduced costs to public services, stakeholders working in partnership.

The review of building assets will include work with Shropshire Council Early Years team, Early Years providers and schools to understand sufficiency needs and demands for the proposed increase in funded places for 3 and 4 year olds (September 2017) and where appropriate assess the value of meeting these needs through use of available capacity in are currently CC buildings.

We will engage further with other public sector partners to assess and plan for joint delivery of services from appropriate locations, sharing costs and maximising the use of assets.

We will continue to increase co-facilitation of targeted work, through clarifying and focussing the lead professional role to reduce duplication on case work. Co-facilitation of targeted group work will also increase, maximising skills and availability of staff and bringing families together to increase peer support.

Case Study 4: Targeted Group work

Targeted groups and courses provide the opportunity for parents and carers to collectively access evidenced based support and advice to build their confidence through shared experience and learning.

Families are referred by a range of professionals from health, education, voluntary sector and social care and some families self-refer.

Courses are delivered from a range of places in collaboration with key partner agencies. Targeted groups are used to empower families through building confidence thus reducing the demand for caseload intervention.

Groups provide the opportunity for needs to be identified and assessed and advice and guidance to be embedded over a period of time. Workers can also provide additional support, in addition to the programme content.

The impact of parents and carers sharing experiences is invaluable and peer support and containment adds value in building community resilience and reducing social isolation. At the beginning and end of courses families complete evaluations which measure the impact of the intervention.

Parental feedback provided as part of evaluations include,

'I feel more positive about family life, my future relationship choices and friendships. I am more confident in challenging the way people treat me and my children. I can walk away from a situation and not have my views and opinions changed – I am my own person. The course has made me stronger and more independent. The Freedom Programme has changed my life!'

'My attitude to parenting has changed. The course has helped me in situations with my daughter and I have more patience. It has helped us bond and enjoy time together'.

'Mine and my child's relationship has changed as a result of the group. We have better communication and I understand that my child is still learning about her feelings and it's normal behaviour for her to express them'.

'I feel much more confident and able to understand why my children do what they do and that behaviour is secondary to emotion. I have learned to look at the reasons behind their behaviours to help me understand how they are feeling'.

'The most useful thing that I have learnt is to have belief in myself. I feel I have the skills to help me deal with my negative feelings, fear and lack of confidence and that I am not alone. I have made friends for life here, it has made such a difference'.

During 2016 two pilots with groups of schools (Whitchurch and Oswestry) have been initiated to test joint commissioning arrangements and the lead professional 'key worker' role linked to schools. Positive feedback is being received from service users and schools in relation to this work and a third pilot in Ludlow is planned for the autumn 2016. The outcomes of this work will be reviewed by the Strengthening Families through Early Help Partnership Group of Shropshire Children's Trust in 2017 and make recommendations going forward.

A different approach to the commissioning of early help for families with young children is also being tested with Armed Forces commissioners.

Case Study 5: Commissioning of services for RAF Cosford

From April 2016 – April 2017, the Royal Air Force (RAF) Cosford have commissioned Shropshire Council Children's Centre Services to support the development of three weekly family drop-in sessions on the RAF community hub, The Hive. Services for service families had previously been provided on and off the RAF base and funded by Shropshire Council.

Two of the sessions are specifically provided for armed forces families and the third, has developed into an open community group with an aim of bringing the armed forces families and the local community together to foster an understanding of each other's community and to encourage integration. In addition, is the delivery of one baby massage course to promote healthy attachments and a 10 week Understanding Your Child course which will commence in September 2016.

The aim of the commissioning is to engage service families and to provide support, advice and assistance around child development and interaction with children and parents, increase parenting aspirations, self-esteem and parenting skills.

Feedback from the first 3 months is positive from service users, the commissioner and the Children's Centre staff involved. Attendance has increased, examples of early intervention preventing issues from worsening have been seen, volunteers are being supported and developed, trusting relationships are proving to be assisting parents in seeking advice and developing new skills and parenting strategies.

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1. The assessment, planning and delivery of the core purpose for Children's Centre's is subject to risk management plans relating to sufficiency requirements. These are reported on a quarterly basis by the Children's Centre Managers. The focus on this work is to support the most vulnerable and as a result equality impact is assessed taking a dynamic approach to the set up and delivery of service but also to any changes that may occur.
- 3.2. Engagement and consultation with service users is planned into all activity and work streams. In addition the development of plans and actions going forward are being considered and assessed in the wider context of community opportunity and impact.
- 3.3. Reductions to staffing and the risk of remaining service provision not being able to meet demand is being mitigated through the planned changes to targeted support and targeted group work; increased collaboration with other early help providers.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Shropshire Council Financial Strategy 2015/16 – 2020/21 outlines the impact on service delivery of a sustainable business model. Ensuring the welfare, protection and safeguarding of all children and young people is a key priority of this Strategy. This includes services that provide targeted early help, preventing risk and needs from escalating into the need for social work assessment and child protection.
- 4.2. The Financial Strategy states “we will realign the Early Help provision across all service areas and, with our partner agencies, move forward in our commissioning of local early help. Whilst some commissioned services will be reduced we will identify efficiencies in the way services are delivered as a priority approach to achieving savings in this area”.
- 4.3. Savings targets for Children's Centres (2017/18) are Amber rated “would not be recommended but are considered achievable” The savings target for Children's Centres 2017/18 is £1,000,000. The reorganisation of staff brought forward into 2016/17 and the work being carried out to realise efficiencies of asset management is currently forecasting a savings achievement of £641,733 against the £1,000,000 target (64% of savings target). The final outcome of the consultation with staff and reorganisation along with the next steps to integrated working is intended to increase this savings achievement.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Shropshire Council Corporate Plan 2016/17

All Parliamentary Group Report on Children's Centres, Family Hubs: the Future of Children's Centres 2016

Ofsted reports:

<http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/22713>

<http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/results/4/13/any/any/any/severn%20valley/any/any/any/any/0/0#search1>

Children's Centre Statutory Guidance (2013)

Shropshire Early Help Strategy 2016 – 2018

<https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/early-help/strategies-and-reports/>

Evaluation of Children's Centre's in England (2015)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/433853/RR433A - Organisation Services and Reach of Childrens Centres .pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/433853/RR433A_-_Organisation_Services_and_Reach_of_Childrens_Centres_.pdf)

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

David Minnery

Local Member

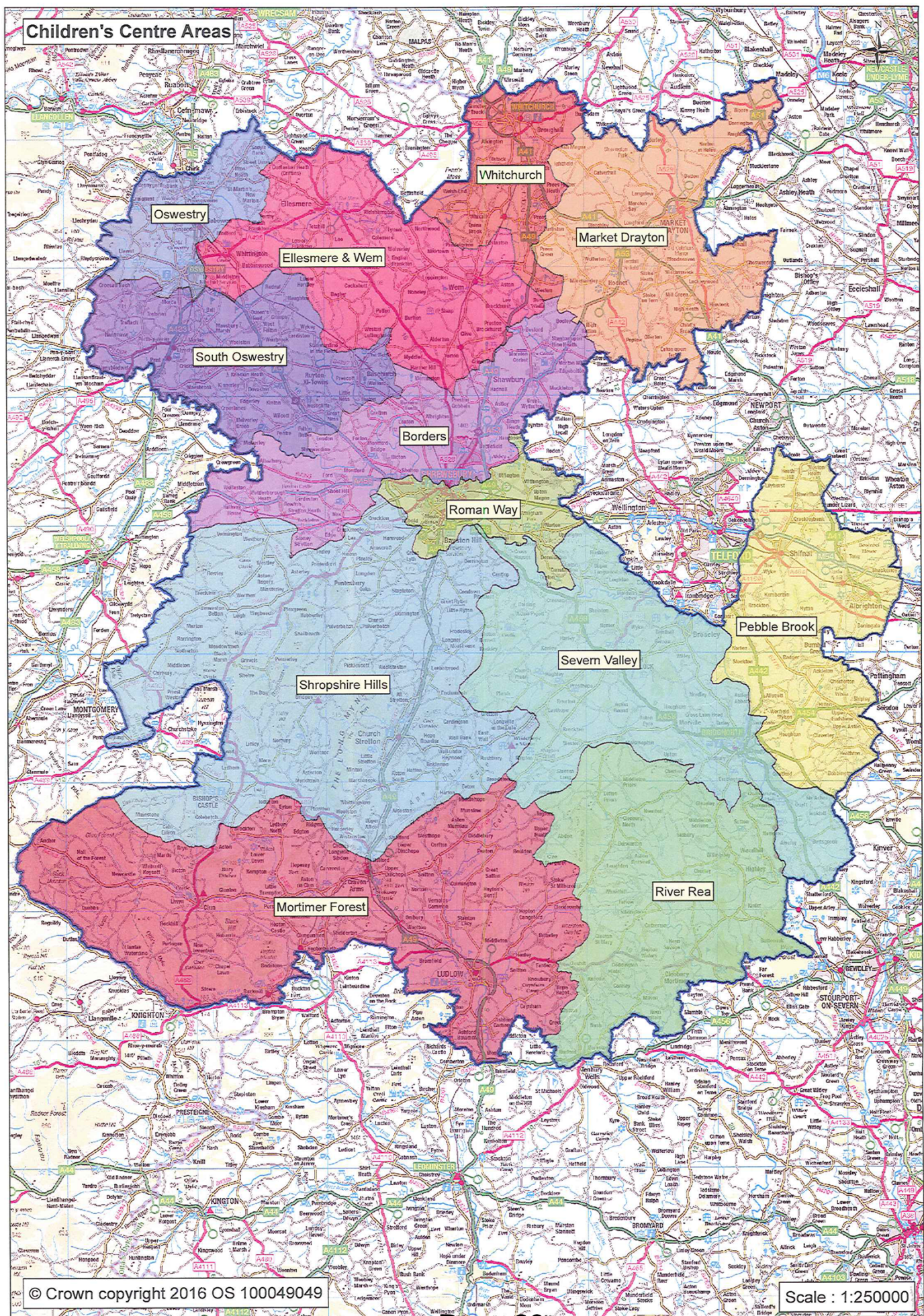
All

Appendices

Appendix 1: map of CC areas

Appendix 2: All Parliamentary Group on Children's Centres: Inquiry recommendations

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All Party Parliamentary Group on Children's Centres (2016): Recommendations

1	The Government should give full consideration to augmenting Children's Centres into Family Hubs as part of its Life Chances agenda
2	Local authority leaders and public health commissioners should position Family Hubs at the heart of their Health and Wellbeing strategies. Accessing support should be normalised, supported by messaging from local leaders
3	Emphasis should be placed on how mental health needs, and particularly children's mental health, can be addressed in Family Hubs
4	The links between Family Hubs, local employers and Jobcentre Plus should be reviewed and strengthened
5	Relationship support delivered in Family Hubs should encompass parenting support, couple relationship counselling, pre-marriage courses, post-separation support and help with parenting teenagers, at a range of levels from structure to "light touch"
6	To support Family Hubs' work, local authorities should be required to record family breakdown statistics on a statutory basis
7	Lessons from the successful Troubled Families programme should be learned, but with a focus on helping families before crisis point is reached
8	Engagement with voluntary, community, self-help and peer support organisations should be significantly expanded, with a recognition that people who have challenges can often offer solutions
9	Every National Citizen Service candidate should spend time in a Family Hub, both learning and volunteering, to emphasise that everyone has something to contribute
10	Online support should also be available, co-branded with Family Hubs, and promoted as a national, universally-recognisable point at which a wide range of support can be assessed
11	There must be a concerted effort to share best practice across the country, to overcome barriers to information sharing and improve the evidence base around the impact of services
12	Birth registration should be rolled out in Family Hubs nationwide, so that everyone is aware of the support on offer and when they or their family need it in future years

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Agenda Item 9

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

WORK PROGRAMME

DATE	TOPIC	PURPOSE
Wednesday 14 September 2016 10.00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of Budget Cuts on Services • Children's Centres • Charging Policy for Academy Conversions 	
Wednesday 14 December 2016 10.00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data/quality assurance report • CAMHS Update • Teaching Schools in Shropshire • LSCB Annual Report • CSE • Sustainability & Transformation Plan and the implications for Children's Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exception reporting on key issues

Wednesday 1 February 2017 10.00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data/quality assurance report • Social care Assurance report • Schools Performance • Compliments & Complaints 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exception reporting on key issues
Wednesday 29 March 2017 10.00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data/quality assurance report • CAMHS Update 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exception reporting on key issues

THE CABINET FORWARD PLAN

This Notice, known as the Cabinet Forward Plan, sets out the Decisions, including Key Decisions, which are likely to be taken during the period covered by the Plan by either Cabinet as a whole or by individual members of the Executive. The Plan is updated each month and at least 28 clear days before a key decision is to be taken and is available from Council Offices, libraries and on the Council's Internet site (www.shropshire.gov.uk). This edition supersedes all previous editions.

Further Information

Cabinet is comprised of the following members: Mr M Pate (Leader); Mr S Charmley (Deputy Leader); Mrs K Calder; Mr L Chapman; Mr S Jones; Mr D Minnery; Mrs C Motley; Mr M Price; Mr S West; Mr M Wood. To view more details, please click on the following link : <http://shropsdemserv.web.coop/CommitteeServices/CouncilMeetingsAndDecisions/Cabinet>

A Key Decision is one which is likely to result in income, expenditure or savings of £500,000 or greater, or to have a significant effect, on, two or more Electoral Divisions. In two member divisions i.e. Oswestry and Market Drayton, these are to be treated for the purpose of a key decision as two divisions.

Members of the public are welcome to attend Cabinet meetings and ask a question and/or make a statement in accordance with the Council's Procedure Rules. If you would like further details please email jane.palmer@shropshire.gov.uk or telephone 01743 257712

Members of the public are also welcome to submit a request to address or to ask a question of the Member making the Portfolio Holder decision. Any request should be submitted in writing to the Chief Executive at the address below by no later than 2 clear working days before the proposed Member Session. This is to ensure that the individual member has sufficient time to decide whether or not to hear such persons and if so the arrangements to be made. If you would like further details please telephone 01743 257712 or email jane.palmer@shropshire.gov.uk

All Executive including individual member decisions (except in extreme urgency) are subject to call-in and Scrutiny.

Documents submitted for decision will be a formal report, which if public, will be available on this website at least 5 clear working days before the date the decision can be made. If you would like to request such a document, please email jane.palmer@shropshire.gov.uk or telephone 01743 257712.

Documents shown are listed at Shropshire Council, The Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, SY2 6ND.

DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 7 September 2016

Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
7 September 2016	Debt Collection Policy	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	22 July 2016
7 September 2016	Proposal to Consult on the Amalgamation of Hope CE Primary School, Worthen CE Primary School and St Mary's CE Primary School, Westbury	No	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People		Karen Bradshaw, Director of Childrens Services Tel: 01743 254201 Karen.Bradshaw@shropshire.gov.uk	12 August 2016
7 September 2016	Corporate Performance Report Quarter 1 2016/2017	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	22 August 2016
7 September 2016	Smallholding Update	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Support	Exempt	Steph Jackson, Head of Commercial Services Tel: 01743 253862 steph.jackson@shropshire.gov.uk	16 June 2016

DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 28 September 2016

Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
28 September 2016	Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
28 September 2016	WME Governance	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	16 June 2016
28 September 2016	Improved Swimming Facilities for Shrewsbury, Update	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	28 July 2016
28 September 2016	Update on the Commissioning of Youth Activities	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	18 April 2016
28 September 2016	Charging Policy for Academy Conversions of Local Authority Maintained Schools	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People		Karen Bradshaw, Director of Childrens Services Tel: 01743 254201 Karen.Bradshaw@shropshire.gov.uk 01743 254201	26 May 2016

28 September 2016	Proposal re Local Authority Policy on Multi Academy Trusts	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People		Karen Bradshaw, Director of Childrens Services Tel: 01743 254201 Karen.Bradshaw@shropshire.gov.uk	12 August 2016
28 September 2016	Foster Care Payments Policy	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People		Karen Bradshaw, Director of Childrens Services Tel: 01743 254201 Karen.Bradshaw@shropshire.gov.uk	4 July 2016
28 September 2016	Update on Refugee Resettlement Programme & Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) Transfer Programme	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Children's Services, Malcolm Price, Portfolio Holder, David Minnery, Portfolio Holder		Ruth Houghton, Head of Social Care Improvement and Efficiency Tel: 01743 254203 ruth.houghton@shropshire.gov.uk	23 June 2016
28 September 2016	New Highways Operating Model: Approval to Proceed	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Highways and Transportation		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	21 March 2016
28 September 2016	Annual Health and Safety Performance Report 2015/16	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Support		Michele Leith michele.leith@shropshire.gov.uk	10 August 2016
28 September 2016	Community Energy	Yes	Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business and Economy	Exempt	George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	4 July 2016
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 19 October 2016						

Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
19 October 2016	Risk Based Verification Policy	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	12 August 2016
19 October 2016	Shropshire Hills Area Of Outstanding Natural Beauty, New Delivery Model	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing, Regulatory Services and Environment		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	20 June 2016
19 October 2016	University Centre Shrewsbury Accommodation Update	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Corporate Support	Exempt	Steph Jackson, Head of Commercial Services Tel: 01743 253862 steph.jackson@shropshire.gov.uk 01743 253861 steph.jackson@shropshire.gov.uk	18 June 2016
19 October 2016	Disposal of land for residential development and provision of new community hub on land at former Oakland School site and Library site, Bayston Hill	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing, Regulatory Services and Environment	Exempt	Chris Edwards, Head of Infrastructure and Communities chris.edwards@shropshire.gov.uk	17 November 2015
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 9 November 2016						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to	Date Uploaded onto Plan

					decision maker	
9 November 2016	Revenue Monitor 2016/17 Quarter 2	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
9 November 2016	Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
9 November 2016	Capital Monitor 2016/17 Quarter 2	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 30 November 2016						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
30 November 2016	Treasury Strategy 2015/16 - Mid Year Review	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016

30 November 2016	Corporate Performance Report Quarter 2 2016/2017	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	22 August 2016
30 November 2016	Regional Adoption Agency	Yes	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People		Karen Bradshaw, Director of Childrens Services Tel: 01743 254201 Karen.Bradshaw@shropshire.gov.uk	4 July 2016
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 21 December 2016						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
21 December 2016	Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
21 December 2016	Fees and Charges 2017/18	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016

30 November 2016	Treasury Management Update - Quarter 2 2015/16	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
21 December 2016	Setting the Council Tax Taxbase for 2016/17	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 18 January 2017						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 8 February 2017						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
8 February 2017	Revenue Monitor 2016/17 Quarter 3	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016

8 February 2017	Capital Monitor 2016/17 Quarter 3	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
8 February 2017	Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
8 February 2017	Estimated Collection Fund	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
8 February 2017	Treasury Strategy 2017/18	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
8 February 2017	Financial Strategy 2017/18 to 2019/20 - Final	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016

8 February 2017	Treasury Management Update Quarter 3 2016/17	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		James Walton, Head of Finance, Governance and Assurance (Section 151 Officer) Tel: 01743 255001 james.walton@shropshire.gov.uk	7 July 2016
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 1 March 2017						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
1 March 2017	Corporate Performance Report Quarter 3 2016/17	Yes	Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Strategy, Financial Strategy, Budget and Business Plan		George Candler, Director of Place and Enterprise Tel: 01743 255003 george.candler@shropshire.gov.uk	22 August 2016
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 22 March 2017						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan
DECISION MAKER - Cabinet 12 April 2017						
Date of Meeting	Purpose and Report title	Key Decision	Portfolio Holder	Report Exempt / confidential	Contact for further information re documents / report to be submitted to decision maker	Date Uploaded onto Plan

