

## Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Monday 11 April 2011  
7.00 pm  
Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

### Membership

Councillor David Hubber (Chair)  
Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel  
Oyewole (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE  
Councillor Adele Morris  
Councillor Rosie Shimell  
Councillor Althea Smith  
Councillor Cleo Soanes  
Reverend Nicholas Elder  
Colin Elliott  
Leticia Ojeda  
Sharon Donno

### Reserves

Councillor Patrick Diamond  
Councillor Victoria Mills  
Councillor Martin Seaton  
Councillor Nick Stanton  
Councillor Geoffrey Thornton

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**Contact** Julie Timbrell on 020 7525 0514 or email: [julie.timbrell@southwark.gov.uk](mailto:julie.timbrell@southwark.gov.uk)

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Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

**Annie Shepperd**  
Chief Executive  
Date: 1 April 2011



# Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee

Monday 11 April 2011  
7.00 pm  
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## Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
	<b>PART A - OPEN BUSINESS</b>	
1.	<b>APOLOGIES</b>	
2.	<b>NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT</b>	
	In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear working days of the meeting.	
3.	<b>DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS</b>	
	Members to declare any personal interests and dispensation in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.	
4.	<b>MINUTES</b>	1 - 9
	To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the open section of the meeting held on 14 March 2011	
5.	<b>CHILDREN'S AND YOUNG PEOPLES PLAN (CYPP)</b>	10 - 16
6.	<b>ADULT EDUCATION</b>	
7.	<b>ROTHERHITHE SECONDARY SCHOOL</b>	17 - 19
8.	<b>REVIEW OF PARENTING SUPPORT - PART 1: SCHOOL ADMISSIONS: REVIEW REPORT</b>	

**Item No.**

**Title**

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**9. CHILDHOOD OBESITY AND SPORT PROVISION : REVIEW INTERIM REPORT**

**DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER OPEN ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING.**

**PART B - CLOSED BUSINESS**

**DISCUSSION OF ANY CLOSED ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING AND ACCEPTED BY THE CHAIR AS URGENT.**

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Date: 1 April 2011



## EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee held on Monday 14 March 2011 at 7.00 pm at Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

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- PRESENT:** Councillor David Hubber (Chair)  
Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole  
Councillor Adele Morris  
Councillor Rosie Shimell  
Councillor Althea Smith  
Councillor Cleo Soanes  
Colin Elliott  
Leticia Ojeda  
Sharon Donno
- OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllr Veronica Ward; cabinet member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics
- PUBLIC AND PARTNERS:** Vince Brown; Southwark Save Adult Learning Campaign  
Dorothy Love; Southwark Save Adult Learning Campaign  
Dr Hans Meir; Skills Funding Agency (SFA).
- OFFICER SUPPORT:** Gill Davies; Strategic Director for Environment  
Adrian Whittle; Head of Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure  
Dolly Naeem; Head of Adult Learning  
Harriet Duncan, Deputy Head of Adult Learning.  
Julie Timbrell; Scrutiny Project Manager

### 1. APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lorraine Lauder.

### 2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

2.1 There were none.

### **3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

3.1 There were no disclosures of interests or dispensations.

### **4. MINUTES**

4.1 The minutes of 12 January 2011 were approved as a correct record.

### **5. ADULT EDUCATION**

5.1 The chair welcomed the lead cabinet member and officers from Southwark Council to contribute to the debate on Adult Education: Cllr Veronica Ward, cabinet member for Culture, Leisure, Sport and the Olympics; Gill Davies, Strategic Director for Environment, Adrian Whittle, Head of Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure; Dolly Naeem, Head of Adult Learning and Harriet Duncan, Deputy Head of Adult Learning.

5.2 Representatives from Southwark Save Adult Learning campaign; Vince Brown and Dorothy Love were welcomed along with Dr Hans Meir from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA).

5.3 The chair introduced the item by saying that the vice chair requested that Adult Education was scrutinised and the cabinet lead member, Cllr Ward, was keen to see this discussed. A deputation had also been taken to Council Assembly.

5.4 The Head of Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure presented the officers' reports circulated with the papers, and was supported by other officers. He emphasised that the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) had written to the council to say levels of fee income are lower than average, and reported that they had reiterated this with a follow up email. The amount of funding the SFA will give to the council is not yet known, but there is likely to be cuts. Officers noted that the submissions from adult learning users related to the 'Personal and Community Development Learning' (PCDL) courses; these are largely arts courses. Officers commented that Southwark is not the largest or most resourced provider in Southwark for this type of provision. Officers explained that Southwark College delivers a wide range of other courses such as English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and skills for life courses such as literacy and numeracy.

5.5 The chair noted one of the issues raised by the submissions was the new rule that each class needed 8 unique learners per term. He asked if there was any flexibility to change this criterion.

5.6 Officers responded that unless each class has 8 unique learners the cost of

the course will not be recovered. The service has shown some flexibility, however officers said they cannot do this on a wider level.

- 5.7 The chair invited Southwark Save Adult Learning campaign representatives to speak to the committee. Vince Brown started by noting that they are only making representations about one component of the provision; PCDL – this is commonly understood to be life long learning. He commented that he was a doctor of economics and his critique was particularly focused on the financial sustainability of the service.
- 5.8 He put forward the view that the fee structure being imposed was unlikely to increase revenue. He wondered why courses were designated as one term, rather than a year, when the guidance from the SFA talks about a year. He noted that the SFA funding allocation is quite generous, £375 per year. He commented that using the figures supplied by officers there should be sufficient income to cover course costs by getting 14 people to enrol for a year – with extra students raising additional income.
- 5.9 He reported that the figures appeared to indicate that full cost recovery was £9.50 per hour, however it was hard to identify where this comes from, moreover this figure has to be taken from a low average base of student attendance. He postulated that the problem is not enough students though the door, but argued that driving up fees will reduce numbers further. He also remarked that while increasing fees might look good in the short term it was not a sustainable economic strategy as fixed costs (such as overheads, administration and management ) will not change.
- 5.10 Vince Brown noted that people who were more mobile with higher incomes will go to Morley or Lewisham Colleges where students can access a better product at a lower cost. He said he thought the result will be classes closing with poorer students being particularly disadvantaged.
- 5.11 He commented that better advertising could have turned around the situation as this would have generated more income. He argued that the papers produced by officers assumed a crowding out problem. However he contended that Adult Learning has a problem with too few participants to make classes viable - rather than a crowding out problem, and that any potential 'crowding out' problem could be solved by better marketing and a simple rule that unique learners take precedence.
- 5.12 Dorothy Love from Southwark Save Adult learning contributed by stating that her background was health, rather than economics. She remarked that the courses are often very important for sustaining participants welling. Pensioners, those with mental health problems, single parents and other vulnerable groups will become more at risk of isolation and ill health. She reported that many of the people on low incomes, like pensioners, have been forced to leave as they cannot afford the new fees as these have risen

fourfold – from under £40 to nearly £170.

- 5.13 The chair invited officers to respond to the presentation. The Head of Culture, Libraries, Learning and Leisure commented that only 14 unique learners would make a course viable for a year, not repeat learners. He also said that 80% of benefit claimers would still be subsidised. Officers commented that some providers subsidise their provision; Lambeth Council do. Moreover when working out the cost of provision then funding for the subsidised crèche, CRB checks and advice on progression have to be calculated.
- 5.14 Officers noted that they also provide courses in the community for at risk groups, for example Cooltan Arts deliver courses funded by Southwark College and they work with people experiencing mental distress. Officers reported that partnerships are a real strength and this has led to an increase in numbers participating.
- 5.15 It was reported that there had been significant investment in Thomas Carlton centre which had resulted in an improved learning environment.
- 5.16 Officers agreed that promotion is not what it could be, and drew members' attention to the report which details the recent investment which has been made to promote this year's courses. Officers commented that they know the service can do better and more is needed.
- 5.17 Members asked if the £165 fee was upfront and officers responded that it was but that they considered the pricing fair, however they are looking into the possibility of pay as you go arrangements. The problem is that this could impact on retention and funding which is based on completion of a course.
- 5.18 Dr Hans Meir, from the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) , was invited to comment. He said that there had been a 3% cut to one part of the grant, but there had been no cut to the Adult Safeguarding grant; this pays for the PCDL courses under discussion. The grant remains; there is no cut, but also no inflationary increase. He confirmed that his agency does urge that all agencies increase fees to make them viable; however he explained that the SFA do not impose charging onto the council. The SFA also want to increase participation. If there are repeat learners then these only count once in the SFA returns to central government.
- 5.19 He stated that the Skills Funding Agency (SFA) remains and there is no general threat of thought of removal. The funding is received direct from the Treasury.
- 5.20 A member asked Dr Han Mier if Southwark did not increase fees would you have a view. He responded that the agency would look at the council's performance in relationship with other councils. He suggested that the

committee may like to look at other councils arrangements.

- 5.21 A member asked officers if the council make a direct subsidy of the service and officers responded that they did not. It was noted that report indicated that the service has overspent by a considerable amount over the last two years and this was an indirect subsidy.
- 5.22 Members commented that the Thomas Calton centre in Peckham is a difficult venue to reach and voiced concern that a £1 million investment in a building that will be underused. Officers responded that everybody has the opportunity to do one course per year that is subsidised and the hourly charges imposed by other providers, such as City Lit and Dulwich Picture Gallery, are higher at £6.50 or £7.50 per hour.
- 5.23 Cllr Ward commented that the Adult Education service is very important in terms of ESOL and gaining skills to find employment. Most of the SFA subsidy is paying for these courses and these are still free.
- 5.24 A member commented that people are worried that the range of courses delivered at Thomas Calton will reduce and this issue has arisen because we are now in the second and third term, where as the first term was subsidised. Officers reported that we have certain targets and if we get more learners we will get no further benefit or further funding. The council is a provider under constraints delivering a national agenda under local constraints.
- 5.25 A member asked how targets are set and Dr Han Mier from SFA commented that these are set through local discussion. These are based on local population, recent targets and relationship with other providers. He also commented that there is now more flexibility and the college can more between funding streams.
- 5.26 There was a query on what constitutes a 'repeat' learner. Officers explained that learner numbers that count, or get funding, are 'unique' learners. A member asked for clarification on the big jump from £40 to £165? Officers explained that this was because in the second term they were no longer unique learners.
- 5.27 Representatives from Southwark Save Adult Learning commented that it was usually impossible to gain a skill in one term, a year is needed at a minimum and sometimes several years or a lifetime is needed to master or professionally practice an art. Officers pointed out that other providers offer more comprehensive and vocational courses. Learners can do taster courses at Southwark College and then learners can move onto other providers.
- 5.28 Members expressed disquiet at the prospect of an empty building. A



member commented that he understood that the council has to make the books balance, but can we review prices? Officers responded that there would be a risk, and the council might need to bail the service out and the council is under considerable financial pressure. A member asked if the books balanced in the past. Officers confirmed they did not balance.

- 5.29 Vince Brown commented that according to the figures supplied 14 learners would cover the costs of a course for year. He added that in his view the present high price strategy will lose learners, and he had received reports that many courses had indeed closed. He also wondered if the figure of 80% of benefit claimants was for the PCDL course or other courses.
- 5.30 Vince Brown asked officers to explain why they had chosen to designate classes as termly rather than yearly. Officer explained that this was because of a criterion which determines guided learning hours. Nationally recognised qualification might last a year, but other courses would often be for less time. Vince Brown argued that this should not, in itself, prevent a course being offered for a year. Officers reiterated that they needed 8 unique learners to make a course viable.
- 5.31 Officers offered to meet with Vince to explain the technicalities and also to clarify the costs of a course and he welcomed this offer.
- 5.32 Vince Brown suggested that the service is faced with a gamble on whether to market the programme better and revise the pricing strategy in anticipation of increased revenue through greater numbers, or to stick with the present pricing policy which, he argued, will see a reduction in participation and courses. He said the 8 unique learners per term is an unrealistic marketing target and asked if this could be reviewed.
- 5.33 Officers were asked if they have taken financial advice on their pricing and business plan. Officers responded they had used in house expertise. A member commented that we need to look at marketing the programme and how this can be improved. The member said he would welcome further options on prices and for this to be considered in conjunction with marketing the product. He further commented that generating more unique learners seems to be a key task.
- 5.34 Members enquired if increases to fees could be staged and voiced their concern at the large price increase at one time.
- 5.35 The chair summed up by urging officers and representatives from Southwark Save Adult learning to meet and for the committee to receive a follow up report.

## **RESOLVED**

Southwark Save Adult Learning representatives and officers from Southwark Council with responsibility for Adult Education agreed to have a meeting to clarify the funding issues discussed, as proposed.

The committee requested a report back from this discussion and on a number of suggestions relating to the allocation of places and the recruitment/retention of more students.

## **6. REVIEW OF CHILDHOOD OBESITY AND SPORTS PROVISION PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CHILDREN**

- 6.1 The chair drew attention to the review. He reported that next year this sub committee had been invited to scrutinise the roll out of the free school meals programme. He asked members if they would like to consider rolling this review on to the next administrative year so that the obesity component could be considered together.
- 6.2 A member commented that free school meal provision is about more than obesity and this is not the main focus; free school provision is about expected gains in educational attainment, increasing nutrition and other expected positive impacts. Another member commented that children often arrive in reception overweight or obese, and usually the patterns of behaviour that have triggered obesity have been developing for the 5 years before they start school. Free school meal provision can therefore only reduce the impact.
- 6.3 Another member recalled earlier discussion which took place last administrative year on the number of hours children spent playing sports and asked officers if this was 2 hours. Officers confirmed it was. The member responded that we need clarity on if this can includes playtime.
- 6.4 Members commented that some of the questions on diet on the circulated questionnaire might not yield the results hoped for. The Scrutiny Manager reported that the Assistant Director for Leadership & Learning Support had indicated that this questionnaire could inform the free school meal pilot and that this might be a more sensitive time to ask these questions and give more robust data. It was agreed that only the sports questions would be circulated.

### **RESOLVED**

The sports questionnaire will be distributed via social media and other networks to get the views of parents and young people on sport provision.

An interim report on this will be reviewed at the next meeting, at which point the committee will decide if it wishes to roll the obesity part of the review on to the next administrative year.

## **7. REVIEW OF PARENTING SUPPORT - PART 1 : SCHOOL ADMISSIONS**

7.1 The chair commented that the evidence received so far on School Admissions from the Admissions, Governors' and Parents' Forum had been very helpful.

### **RESOLVED**

The committee will receive a report on School Admissions drawing on the evidence received so far.

## **8. WORK PROGRAMME**

8.1 The committee revised the work programme for the rest of the administrative year and asked officers to present on the Children and Young Peoples Plan and requested that the cabinet member for Children's Services, Cllr Catherine McDonald, be invited to attend. Southwark Youth Council and Speakerbox representatives will also be invited to attend. It was agreed the next, and final meeting for this administrative year, will cover :

- Adult Education
- Review of parenting support – part 1: School admissions: review report
- Childhood obesity and sport provision : review report
- Children and Young Peoples Plan with Southwark Youth Council
- Rotherhithe secondary school

8.2 The committee reviewed the plans for the next administrative year. A member suggested that the committee consider new partnership arrangements between public health, children's services, education and the new GP consortiums. It was agreed this be considered alongside the below:

- Free school meal pilot

- Annual Safeguarding report – January 2012
- Children and Young Peoples Plan with Southwark Youth Council – quarterly
- Review of parenting support – part 2: support for parents

**CHAIR:**

**DATED:**

<b>Item No.</b> 5	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 11 April 2011	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Scrutiny and Southwark Youth Council monitoring of 2010-2013 Children and Young People's Plan	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Jane Bailey, Assistant Director, 11-19 and Youth, Children's Services	

### RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That Education and Children's Services' Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the change in statutory status of the Children and Young People's Plan and the local children's trust's response, as outlined in paragraphs 5 and 6.
2. That the Education and Children's Services' Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the progress against the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP), as outlined in paragraph 11 and Appendix 1.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The CYPP is the overarching strategic framework for services for children, young people and families in Southwark. It was approved by Council Assembly on 24 March 2010 and came into force on 1 April 2010.
4. At the 12 January 2011 Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee meeting, members agreed to jointly monitor the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) at quarterly progress meetings with Southwark Youth Council, and in line with the statutory duties set out in government guidance regarding plans' development and delivery.
5. Following the 6 May 2010 general election and formation of a coalition government, the Department for Education announced that it would introduce legislation to remove the requirement on local authorities to set up children's trust boards and the requirement on those boards to prepare and publish a joint CYPP. It has already revoked the regulations underpinning the CYPP and withdrawn the statutory guidance on children's trusts. Local authorities and their partners are now free to decide how best to provide for the needs of their area, whether to publish a strategic plan, and what format this should take.
6. At its December 2010 meeting, Southwark's Children's and Families' Trust upheld its commitment to partnership working and the CYPP as local experience had shown the benefits of working together to improve outcomes for children and families. It agreed, however, to suspend arrangements to develop an infrastructure of 'delegated authorities' and joint commissioning to monitor implementation of each CYPP priority while new arrangements and policy changes, such as public health and wellbeing boards, took shape.
7. However, the CYPP and the commitments within as agreed by partners and

informed by stakeholders through “1,000 voices” has been the backbone of decision-making around budget planning and efficiencies savings, and has driven local decommissioning arrangements and plans for transformation of services. The budget plans identify opportunities to transform how we deliver services alongside releasing significant efficiency savings. Service transformation will be based on the principles underpinning the CYPP: of strong universal services; targeted early intervention to improve agreed key outcomes and reduce the call on costly specialist interventions; and smaller, high-quality specialist services that meet the needs of our most vulnerable children, young people and families.

## **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

8. Responsibility for implementing each CYPP priority sits with a strategic lead, most usually the head of service or assistant director in whose portfolio the service sits, and is delivered through the service’s business planning process. Where there are multi-agency dependencies these have formed the basis of items at the children’s trust (see paragraph 9). The children’s trust holds overall oversight, and monitors progress through an outcomes-based risk and assurance framework, through which CYPP priorities are brought to the board’s attention by exception. When the children’s trust considers a CYPP priority, it does so through a ‘deep-dive’ analysis of key policy, performance, statutory, governance and financial risks and issues.
9. Using this framework, the following priorities have been tabled for discussion and decisions at the children’s trust’s quarterly meetings since June 2010:
  - Fewer children and families experiencing domestic abuse
  - More effective support for families most in need
  - Less crime by and against young people
  - Child poverty (a CYPP sister strategy)
10. Following discussions at the most recent children’s trust meeting in March 2011, it is anticipated that the CYPP priorities relating to health and education services will be reviewed at board meetings in 2011.

## **Policy implications**

11. There has been good progress against all five themed priority areas of the CYPP, as follows:
  - Thinking family – families at the centre of all we do: As well as implementing an improved young people participation model, reconfiguring integrated and targeted youth provision and improving the range and quality of provision for young people, work is also ongoing to increase the number of families who are a healthy weight through a good range of programmes to promote healthy lifestyles, including our thriving Healthy Schools programme. In addition there has been strong performance improving the health, educational attainment and independence of children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities; while provision for families most in need has been reconfigured to provide a holistic spectrum of intervention and support
  - Narrowing the gap – better and more equal life chances for all: There have been further improvements in educational outcomes for a number of ethnic groups across all key stages and subjects, with many performing in line or

above national or statistical neighbour averages, while at early years foundation stage, the gap between the lowest 20% of children and the rest of the cohort has further narrowed for the third successive year. In addition, ongoing investment and reconfiguration of maternity and antenatal services is leading to improved performance, such as early access to services, breastfeeding and immunisation rates

- Raising the bar – high-quality provision that meets local needs: There has been sustained improvements in attainment, including above-national average rises at key stages 2 and 4, as well as strong leadership, support and challenge to schools and settings resulting in continued improvements in standards across all key stages, particularly at early years foundation stage. In addition, there has been above-national average increases in attainment at 19 and the successful development of foundation learning provision
- Succeeding into adulthood – at-risk young people achieve wellbeing: Successes include strong improvements in both participation and attainment at post-16, falling numbers of those not in education, employment or training, declines in reoffending and first time entrants rates for young offenders, and reductions in teenage conceptions, which have fallen over 25% in the ten years since 1998
- Working together – children are safeguarded from harm and neglect: A comprehensive range of services and support continue to ensure children and young people have a safe environment including further reductions in the numbers of fatalities and serious injuries from road accidents. There has also been solid performance in identifying, assessing and safeguarding children, alongside effective multi-agency work to support children with a child protection plan, as well as ongoing work to transform domestic abuse provision to better support families in need

12. More detailed progress can be found in Appendix 1.
13. The local authority and its children's trust partners remain committed to ensuring the active participation of children, young people and families in the design and delivery of services.
14. With individual services responsible for implementing actions in regard to the CYPP, and for reporting to the children's trust by exception, it is the strategic leads' responsibility to monitor implementation of the CYPP and ensure the active participation of young people.
15. Young people are routinely consulted about services which affect them. For example, Speakerbox representatives are routinely consulted about services for children in care and care leavers.
16. Young people have been involved in a range of activities in support of the CYPP. For example, Southwark Youth Council (SYC) members are currently working with the council's housing engagement team to produce films about different estates across the borough. These films capture the young people's perspective of issues and concerns, and will be used to inform future service developments. SYC has also recently met with the independent chair of Southwark Safeguarding Children Board to discuss youth crime and their views were fed into the children's trust discussion.

17. In addition, SYC members have worked with Central London Connexions to help develop a new phone application which will provide information about a range of services and opportunities including jobs, training and health.
18. Parents and young people, including representatives of SYC, have been active in the implementation of the CYPP priority 'Lower rates of teenage conceptions' through participation in the Teenage Pregnancy Commission. This is currently finalising its recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services in relation to actions which will greatly reduce the borough's teenage conception rate.

### Community impact statement

19. Although this report is an update briefing, the issues covered clearly affect all sections of the community. Equality and diversity issues were central to the development of the CYPP, and underpin its priorities. Further, potential impact on the community is central to the children's trust's risk and assurance framework, ensuring that any potential issues are flagged for the trust's consideration.

### APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Progress against CYPP priorities

### AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Jane Bailey, Assistant Director, 11-19 and Youth Services, Children's Services	
<b>Report Author</b>	Fiona Russell, Principal Strategy Officer, Strategy, Planning and Performance, Children's Services	
<b>Version</b>	1	
<b>Dated</b>	31 March 2011	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
List other officers here		
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team</b>	31 March 2011	



## Appendix 1: progress against CYPP priorities

<b>Thinking family – families at the centre of all we do</b>	
Simplifying how you access services and information about them	Work is ongoing to put information on what is universally available to children, young people and families in one place through aligning the systems supporting the authority's website and Family Information Service directory; work is also planned to pilot simpler and more effective pathways for outreach and parental engagement activities, and to make better use of existing community providers through Community Action Southwark
Improving the quality, suitability and range of activities for children and young people	In addition to relaunching Southwark Youth Council, establishing youth community councils and reconfiguring the youth service, work is ongoing to further reconfigure provision to secure a better-quality youth offer and more provision delivered through schools and the voluntary sector; this includes ongoing work to ensure young people have control of 20% of the youth services budget, in line with the manifesto commitment in this area. Young people are also involved in reviewing the quality of provision jointly with service managers and have been instrumental in supporting the development of an accreditation strategy to underpin local provision
Independence for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities, and their families	Community Action Southwark has been allocated revenue and capital funding to encourage small bids from the voluntary and independent sectors to develop their capacity to increase their short break activities or improve facilities for disabled children and their families; work is ongoing to further enhance the offer to families through the new arrangements for the delivery of community health provision in the borough; over the coming two years, this service area will be transformed through more effective commissioning, streamlined pathways and reconfigured thresholds to improve the choice, control and independence of children and families. A joint transition team across adults and children services is being developed
Children and families being a healthy weight	We have undertaken extensive consultation with children and young people to identify key actions that will deliver improvements in current obesity trends, and this has been the catalyst for our targeted approach in schools, particularly at year 5. In addition, the Free Healthy School Meals programme is underway, with full roll-out to all primary schools planned for September, and this is complemented by targeted work with parents and young children through children's centres in 'obesity hotspot' areas
More effective support for families most in need	Following a review of parenting provision, we are bringing together parenting support services and programmes across universal, targeted and specialist services into a new delivery unit, and are turning one of our children's centres into a dedicated family centre for work with high-risk families
<b>Narrowing the gap – better and more equal life chances for all</b>	
Better health for babies, infants and mothers	Work is underway to reconfigure the current community midwife service and pathway through children's centres to strengthen support. The PCT has also conducted a deep-dive analysis into the cause of infant mortality locally, and this is supporting service development in this area
Early years provision that meets the needs of vulnerable children	The reconfiguration of children's services to embed our integrated working teams has been completed; the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is in its final stages – this will underpin changes to local childcare provision with a focus on more vulnerable groups; work is also underway to implement the manifesto commitment to target help at the most disadvantaged groups to increase take-up of childcare and early years services, and to recommission more effective packages for children in need

Children in care achieving their educational potential	The looked after children education service has been restructured, and a virtual head appointed. Work is underway to develop pupil tracking and support to help improve progress for this group
Raising the achievement of those groups falling behind	We conducted a comprehensive equality impact assessment regarding attainment and this has informed future service developments; Assessing Pupil Progress materials have been rolled out across all primary and secondary schools, including academies, through an innovative partnership with the Institute of Education; and the integrated child support service is now operational, providing multi-disciplinary support to schools through two locality-based teams operating in the north and south of the borough. We have developed more robust data systems to ensure we can capture the needs and outcomes of our most vulnerable young people and target resources accordingly
<b>Raising the bar – high-quality provision that meets local needs</b>	
Children are school ready and schools are child ready	We are revising the commissioning model to enable more tailored support, enable the development of provision that works across a range of providers, and ensure provision is underpinned by a clear framework of impact and improving outcomes for individual children. Continued good progress is being made in early years foundation stage profile outcomes supporting improvements in this area.
Every school and setting aspires to excellence	We are responding to the developments in the education white paper and new legislation, including revising the school improvement strategy; this includes a focus on shifting schools from good to better, and exploring school improvement options with outstanding schools in the borough
Schools and settings are able to meet their students' needs	The recently released special educational needs green paper promises wholesale reform of this area, and we are beginning to formulate responses to the challenges around integrated working across health, education and social care, increased focus on earlier support and intervention and personalisation
Raising attainment at 19	Progress includes reconfigured delivery of information, advice and guidance to ensure provision better meets the needs of local learners. This new service comes into effect from 1 April
<b>Succeeding into adulthood – at-risk young people achieve wellbeing</b>	
More young people in education, employment or training	Work is ongoing to establish a 'youth fund' of £1m each year for the duration of the three-year budget to support young people, in particular for the mitigation of the high youth unemployment in the borough and the impact of the removal of education maintenance allowances; in addition, a drop-in centre for young people in care who are not in education, employment or training has been set up to inspire and facilitate their return to learning.
Young people in care succeed as young adults	A multi-agency group has been formed with responsibility for ensuring a joined-up approach for care leavers to ensure a smooth transition into adulthood. The group has developed strong working partnerships providing a holistic range of support for looked after children and care leavers. This includes co-locations for professionals from CareLink, lead looked after children health professionals, Connexions, housing support and professionals from the looked after children education team. A joint agency-funded post through Southwark Works also provides targeted employment and training advice for all looked after children. The creation of the corporate apprenticeship scheme is also providing valuable work experience for many looked after children and care leavers
Less crime by and against young people	Targeted work with the youth offending service to support improvements in quality of assessment and assurance. A restructure has enabled greater capacity for statutory work. Outcome indicators for reoffending and first time entrants show improvements as a result.

	Following an item at the children's trust and joint work with Safer Southwark Partnership, a leadership working group is developing a shared approach to managing the high-risk and/or high-prevalence youth offender cohort to inform new ways of working and manifesto commitment to reduce serious violent crime
Lower rates of teenage conceptions	The Teenage Pregnancy Commission, which has members from across all Southwark's diverse communities, is due to report its recommended actions to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services in April; with accepted recommendations taken forward in 2011/12 commissioning cycle
<b>Working together – children are safeguarded from harm and neglect</b>	
Services that meet the needs of our children and community	Lay members have been appointed to the Southwark Safeguarding Children Board, which has been strengthened to increase its assurance role and focus on practice improvement through a new transformational learning approach and a programme of inter-agency audits; Afruca has been commissioned to continue its work with the community, including staff training and working in the black African community to raise awareness of safeguarding issues, including facilitating relationship building between safeguarding services and community groups. It also began working more collaboratively with the voluntary sector to develop a network and information exchange for local community organisations, faith groups and communities to promote safeguarding awareness; service reconfiguration includes the establishment of a specialist pre-birth team to work holistically with vulnerable mothers
A stronger family-based approach to safeguarding	By working with the range of services, such as adult mental health and children's centres, we are in the process of scoping how we can deliver greater innovation and support to families at most risk – this includes the designation of a children's centre as a multi-agency family assessment centre; in addition, a family focus service has been established following review of parenting and council-wide discussions are taking place around developing new ways of working around shared vulnerable families
Fewer children and families experiencing domestic abuse	Following an item at the children's trust and Safer Southwark Partnership, provision is currently being reconfigured in line with the recommissioning model, resource allocations and the decommissioning arrangements of current providers agreed by the trust

<b>Item No.</b> 7	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 11 April 2011	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Sub-Committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Southwark Schools for the Future: New School Rotherhithe	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Sam Fowler, Project Director Southwark Schools for the Future	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That Education and Children's Services' Scrutiny Sub-Committee note the briefing provided below as requested at their meeting held on 14 March 2011.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. On 2 May 2007, Southwark Executive approved the Southwark Schools for the Future Outline Business Case (OBC). Southwark's OBC established the case for a new 5 form entry secondary school with a 150 place sixth form to meet the needs of an expanding population in Bermondsey and Rotherhithe that would be delivered as part of Phase 3 of Southwark's Building Schools for the Future (BSF).
3. A site selection process was conducted and formed part of the Rotherhithe Area Action Plan. This identified Rotherhithe Primary School as the most appropriate site.
4. In March 2010 Southwark Executive approved a submission to Partnerships for Schools (PfS) to confirm the funding for Phase 3 of Southwark's BSF programme.
5. In April 2010 Partnerships for Schools provisionally allocated £19.6m to fund the delivery of a new school in Rotherhithe.
6. Bacon's College is a popular school on the Rotherhithe peninsula. Bacon's trustees were invited to act as sponsors of the proposed Academy and were engaged in positive discussions with the Authority and the existing primary school.
7. In May 2010 Partnerships for Schools required Southwark to refresh our pupil place planning with actuals and resubmit for their review. This review showed that boroughwide pupil place need had remained flat, and not increased as per the planning data included in our OBC.
8. In July 2010 Southwark was informed that all our projects, including New School Rotherhithe, were unaffected by the cuts to the BSF programme that were announced.
9. In October 2010 PfS informed the council that projects referred to as 'unaffected' in July would be subject to a value for money review to be carried out on behalf of

the Department for Education (DfE). Initially, reference was made to the DfE seeking savings of up to 40% across remaining BSF programmes, referred to as BSF Legacy, nationally. This target figure was since not referred to.

10. In November 2010 the DfE wrote to the council advising us of their decision to no longer support New School Rotherhithe as a result of the pupil place planning data submitted to them in the summer.
11. The DfE had accepted our pupil place planning data showing the need for a new school but considered that the need fell outside of the timescales appropriate for BSF investment.
12. They had concluded that as demand for places would not be apparent until further in the future than projected at OBC and that, based on increases already programmed or underway (i.e. Sacred Heart, New School Aylesbury), boroughwide and without a planning margin, there were sufficient places for Year 7 intake until the start of 2018/19. The OBC delivery timescale for New School Rotherhithe was 2013.
13. The Council continued to argue the case to the DfE and PfS that there was a need to deliver the New School Rotherhithe to meet current local demand and anticipated future boroughwide need.
14. The DfE accepted the need to deliver new places in Rotherhithe through BSF and to this end confirmed support to the council to enable the delivery of an additional 2 forms of entry (300 secondary places). On this basis, the DfE arranged for the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA) to contact Bacon's College to inform them of their decision to withdraw funding for New School Rotherhithe. They also initiated a discussion in regard to their potential expansion.
15. Aside from an initial discussion with Bacon's College options for the establishment of these new places have not been explored. A full options appraisal will need to be conducted and detailed consultation carried out with stakeholders to identify the most appropriate way to deliver these additional places. This will only be possible following confirmation of the funding available.
16. The Council has asked the Department for Education to clarify the funds available and the process whereby a proposal can be agreed and these funds can be drawn down. No formal response had been received as at 31 March 2011.

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Sam Fowler, Project Director Southwark Schools for the Future	
<b>Report Author</b>	Sam Fowler, Project Director Southwark Schools for the Future	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	31 March 2011	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Strategic Director of Communities, Law & Governance	No	No
Finance Director	No	No
List other officers here		
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team</b>	31 March 2011	

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