



# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE

**TUESDAY 27 JUNE 2006  
7.30 PM**

**SUB-COMMITTEE AGENDA (SCRUTINY)**

**COMMITTEE ROOMS 1&2  
HARROW CIVIC CENTRE**

**MEMBERSHIP (Quorum 4)**

**Chairman: Councillor Mark Versallion**

**Councillors:**

Jean Lammiman  
Julia Merison  
John Nickolay  
Dinesh Solanki  
Yogesh Teli  
Tom Weiss

B E Gate  
Mitzi Green  
David Perry

**Representatives of Voluntary Aided Sector: Mrs J Rammelt/Reverend P Reece**

**Representatives of Parent Governors: Mr Humphrey Epie/Mr Russell Sutcliffe**

**Reserve Members:**

1. Vina Mithani  
2. Camilla Bath  
3. Salim Miah  
4. Myra Michael  
5. Narinder Singh Mudhar  
6. –

1. Nana Asante  
2. Dhirajlal Lavingia  
3. Sasi Suresh

**Issued by the Democratic Services Section,  
Legal Services Department**

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**HARROW COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY SUB-COMMITTEE**

**TUESDAY 27 JUNE 2006**

**AGENDA - PART I**

1. **Appointment of Chair:**

To note the appointment of Councillor Versallion at the Special Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting on 5 June as Chair of the Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2006/2007.

2. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.

Reserve Members may attend meetings:-

- (i) to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- (ii) where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting; and
- (iii) the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve;
- (iv) if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

3. **Declarations of Interest:**

To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Committee, Sub Committee, Panel or Forum;
- (b) all other Members present in any part of the room or chamber.

4. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

To consider whether any of the items listed on the agenda should be considered with the press and public excluded on the grounds that it is thought likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of confidential information in breach of an obligation of confidence or of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

5. **Appointment of Vice-Chair:**

To appoint a Vice-Chair of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee for the Municipal Year 2006/2007.

6. **Minutes:**  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 April 2006 of the Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee (being the predecessor body to this Committee), having been circulated, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.
- Enc. 7. **Terms of Reference of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee:** (Pages 1 - 2)  
To note the terms of reference of the Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee.
8. **Public Questions:**  
To receive questions (if any) from local residents/organisations under the provisions of Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 8.
9. **Petitions:**  
To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 9.
10. **Deputations:**  
To receive deputations (if any) under the provisions of Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 10.
11. **References from Council and Other Committees:**  
To receive any references from Council and/or other Committees.
- Enc. 12. **Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee Work Programme 2006/2007:** (Pages 3 - 20)  
Report of the Director of People, Performance and Policy.
- Enc. 13. **Update on Children's Services Issues raised by Scrutiny:** (Pages 21 - 24)  
Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- Enc. (a) **The Children and Young People's Plan:** (Pages 25 - 28)  
Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- Enc. (b) **Special Educational Needs - Summary Report:** (Pages 29 - 32)  
Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- (c) **Healthy Lifestyles:** (Pages 33 - 42)
- (i) **School Nurses:**  
*Elizabeth Robb, Director of Nursing at Northwick Park Hospital, will be in attendance for this meeting.*
- (ii) **Update on Healthy Lifestyles:**  
Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- Enc. (d) **Update on Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate:** (Pages 43 - 50)  
Report of the Director of Children's Services.

14. **Any Other Business:**

Which the Chair has decided is urgent and cannot otherwise be dealt with.

**AGENDA - PART II - NIL**

## **Terms of Reference of the Children and Young People Scrutiny**

### **Sub- Committee**

The Children and Young People Scrutiny sub-committee has the following powers and duties:

- a) to develop a work programme for scrutiny of the children and young people related functions of the Council and partners in consultation with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee;
- b) to have specific responsibility for policy development and scrutiny of the following functions:
  - Every Child Matters outcomes (including health),
  - All the functions of the council as an education authority
  - Youth participation,
  - Youth offending services
  - 0 – 19 learning
- c) to hold the HSP and its management groups to account for the delivery of the Local Area Agreement
- d) to review and make reports and recommendations to the Executive and the Council in respect of the functions within its terms of reference
- e) assist the Council and the Executive in the development of the budget and policy framework by analysis of policy issues
- f) conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options
- g) to consider, report and make recommendations on any matter within the subcommittee's terms of reference affecting the area and/or those who live, work or travel through Harrow
- h) to conclude reviews promptly, normally within 6 months;
- i) to contribute to the annual report of the work of scrutiny.

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Meeting:	Children and Young People scrutiny sub committee
Date:	27 June 2006
Subject:	Scrutiny Work Programme
Responsible Officer:	Paul Najsarek, Director, People Performance and Policy
Contact Officer:	Heather Smith, Scrutiny Officer Nahreen Matlib, Senior Scrutiny Officer
Portfolio Holder:	Business Development
Key Decision:	No
Status:	Part I

### **Section 1: Summary**

#### **Decision Required**

That the sub committee:

- Considers and comments upon the items included in the work programme long list for this sub/committee
- Notes and comments upon the items in the work programmes of the other committees/sub committees
- Calls for a further report to the next meeting of the sub/committee incorporating more detail with regard to scope, prioritisation and methodology for topics

## **Reason for report**

This report outlines how the sub/committee's work programme has been devised for the period 2006 – 2010 and introduces the key topics that have been included in an initial 'long list'. The report also considers new ways in which the work programme might be undertaken.

When agreed the sub committee's work programme will be provided to the Overview and Scrutiny committee for information.

## **Benefits**

The sub/committee has the opportunity to contribute to the improvement of services for local people and the work of the council in a number of ways. By carefully structuring the work programme, the sub committee has the opportunity to:

- Gain maximum benefit out of the value they can add.
- Be strategic in the areas it targets.
- Consider its work levels and any resource implications that may be present.

## **Cost of Proposals**

The work programme will be managed within the scrutiny budget. No additional funding will be sought.

## **Risks**

Failing to consider the work programme in detail may mean opportunities for scrutiny to contribute to the improvement of services for local people and the work of the council may be diminished.

## **Implications if recommendations rejected**

The Overview and Scrutiny committee is required to agree a work programme each year. Each sub committee contributes to this process by determining its own work programme and feeding this into the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Failure to provide this to Overview and Scrutiny would mean this Committee would not be able to meet its constitutional responsibilities.

## **Section 2: Report**

### **2.1 Brief History**

#### **Developing the work programme**

2.1.1 In September 2005, the Overview and Scrutiny committee agreed the 'Principles and Protocols of Scrutiny'. This document outlines the process by which the work programme will be developed. In particular, the document states that items included in the committees' work programme should:



- Be identified as a particular concern to residents (residents surveys/consultation exercises) and not necessarily solely within the remit of the council
- Focus on an area of poor performance (for example as highlighted by Best Value Performance Indicators (BVPs))
- Focus on areas of apparent high cost and poor performance
- Focus on the delivery of improved outcomes for local people not simply the internal structures or functions of local organisations
- Assist the council to achieve its corporate priorities
- Be requested by either senior officers or cabinet as a problematic area where the resources of overview and scrutiny would help identify service solutions
- Focus on the source of a high level of complaints
- Focus on an area in which the council wishes to develop policy
- Focus on an area in which government legislation is being developed and which would benefit from early consideration by overview and scrutiny committee/sub committees
- Be informed by the programme of inspection work to be undertaken by external inspectors in order to support rather than duplicate investigation (if appropriately programmed scrutiny could assist in identifying problematic areas, identifying solutions and thus contributing towards improved inspection score)
- Be informed by services own service improvement programme, adding value to this process by offering support to service investigations rather than duplicating.

2.1.2 The long list of issues attached as Appendix C was identified through:

- Executive directorate service plans
- Meetings with the relevant directors/managers to discuss key issues in their areas
- Issues arising from performance monitoring – services requiring attention (poor performance) (council and partner)
- Joint priorities for the council and partners arising from the Local Area Agreement (LAA)
- Central government policy direction and areas identified by inspectorates.

2.1.3 It also includes:

- Resolutions made by the sub committee in 2005/06 that are outstanding (excluding established standing items)
- Suggestions made by members, officers and colleagues within the council and partner organisations

2.1.4 With the anticipated implementation of legislation over the coming months, there will be an increasing emphasis on the role of scrutiny not only to consider the council's own performance but also that of our partners and how we work with them to deliver improved quality of life for local people. The attached work programme reflects this growing responsibility.

## **Delivering the work programme**

2.2.1 During the conduct of last year's work programme, councillors felt that other methods could also be employed to improve how scrutiny is delivered. In particular this reflected experience that suggested that the amount of items being considered at committee meant that the actual time devoted to each was insufficient to allow effective challenge. During the year, both the Strengthening Communities and Environment and Economy sub committees held special meetings to consider particular items from their work programmes that would otherwise been included as agenda items at committee

2.2.2 The 'Scrutiny Principles and Protocols' paper, adopted by the Overview and Scrutiny committee in September 2005 noted:

*'The majority of the work of scrutiny is currently carried out either via in depth review groups or as items on the quarterly committee meeting. As only a maximum of 2 reviews are practical each year this means that the agendas of committee become overcrowded and thus that a number of issues not meriting detailed consideration via in depth review, are not being given the attention that they nevertheless warrant. It is becoming apparent that alternative methods for scrutinising the council's performance should be investigated. The scrutiny committees and the scrutiny unit would like to experiment with different approaches to the scrutiny function in order to enhance the challenge process and the subsequent benefit to services.'*

2.2.3 Whilst both committee and in-depth review still clearly have a key role to play, there are a number of additional methodologies that might be usefully deployed to deliver the scrutiny work programme and these are outlined below. When considering the work programme, members might also like to consider these different approaches to its completion.

- Light-touch reviews – of time-sensitive issues, or matters where a particular element of policy or performance might need to be considered. They could be commissioned by the (sub) committee at one meeting, to report back to the next one with either some key findings, or if appropriate key findings and recommendations, which could be discussed and approved as appropriate.
- Working parties – where issues are of continued importance (for example, the delivery of a statutory function or a long-term council project). It would eliminate the necessity for officers to continually attend committee to present updates on issues which may not have changed substantially since the last meeting. For example, members might find it useful to have a working party following through the progress of the Decent Homes Programme or the Business Transformation Project, which could report back to the committee on an annual / six monthly basis. A working party would be free, if it wished, to do its own research on a particular issue and discuss policy

development in this context with officers from the particular service involved, lending flexibility to the discussion on ongoing items.

- Challenge sessions – on many occasions – particularly when a policy is being developed – officers appreciate feedback on proposals from members. The committee environment is not suited to this, mainly because of time constraints. Challenge sessions, where a small group of officers and members are able to discuss a particular policy or strategy more informally and in more detail, provide an opportunity for members to provide an alternative, ‘real time’ perspective to council business, and lend additional accountability to the policy development process. This level of detailed challenge would not be possible as a single item on a packed committee agenda. The key findings of the session could then be fed back to the sub-committee for endorsement. Challenge sessions could provide an additional forum for involving Portfolio Holders.
- Evidentiary hearings – an opportunity for internal officers and external partners to meet members to consider national, regional and local policy and performance – although it would be geared towards collecting evidence from external partners. The purpose would be to identify key examples of “best practice”, and to benchmark with neighbouring authorities and other organisations carrying out similar roles. Findings and recommendations, where appropriate, could then be fed through the sub-committee to the officers involved. There could always be the option of expanding a single evidentiary hearing into a small-scale review, with the addition of a desktop review of evidence, site visits and other events if thought necessarily. An evidentiary hearing also formed a key part of the Tourism review undertaken by the last administration.
- Conferences – conferences allow members, officers and partners to engage with local people to identify ways of improving council services. Workshops, exercises and activities will enable members to reflect suggestions and proposals which partners and the public might want the council to adopt on a particular issue. These can be fed back to the sub-committee as a set of key findings (identifying areas where members of the public have expressed concern, or have praised council activities) or incorporated into a larger, ongoing review process. In the case of the former, members could ask officers for a verbal or oral response at the next meeting as to how they propose to respond to the points raised at the conference.
- Public events – this would tend to be more along the lines of a public consultation, survey or focus group, more usually used as part on a larger-scale review. It would enable members to get a “snapshot” of public opinion on a given issue, which would be useful (if carried out at the right time) for officers developing policies. It might also enable members to identify whether certain issues raised sufficient public concern to justify further study in the form of a small-scale or in-depth

review, and provide signposts to officers in the case of potentially shifting priorities.

It is hoped that these suggested methods of delivering the work programme and a more focussed approach to committee agenda setting can make the best use of both members' and officers' time and at the same time deliver the most effective challenge to the council's (and increasingly our partners) policy and performance. It is anticipated that where these or any other alternative ways of undertaking the scrutiny work programme prove to be effective as 'pilots' they will be applied more generally.

### **Considering the long-list**

2.3.1 Attached to this report are appendices incorporating the long-lists of items for inclusion in the work programmes for each committee, derived as per the process outlined above. This is the first time this list has been considered by members and as this is the first meeting of a new administration, it is suggested that members do not make any formal decisions on the content of the work programme but spend time during the ongoing induction period to consider the suggested topics and call for a further report to the next cycle of meetings to determine their programme of work. This report would be more specific regarding:

- prioritisation of topics for consideration
- their programming and
- appropriate methodologies

2.3.2 As a further development of previous practice, it is suggested that members consider developing a 4-year programme. This again reflects a more flexible approach to delivery of the work programme and allows for programmes of work comprising different approaches to be developed during the lifetime of the committees. However, it is suggested that members bear in mind that:

- realistic project planning needs to be undertaken to ensure that each committee has a realistic workload – for example, previously, each committee was not expected to undertake more than 2 in-depth reviews each year. An assessment of the likely resource commitment for the proposed different methodologies will need to be undertaken to inform work programme decisions.
- a degree of flexibility will need to remain in the work programmes of each committee to allow for the inclusion of 'urgent' items for example items referred from cabinet or local regional or national policy developments.

### **Specific issues for the Children and Young People Scrutiny sub committee**

2.4.1 The proposed work programme for the Children and Young People scrutiny sub committee is attached as Appendix C.

2.4.2 This section outlines very briefly the rationale for the topics included:

- **Review of catering services** – officer recommendation arising from recent internal review of catering services. Scrutiny perspectives on

potential areas for cost-efficiencies could be sought, as could particular focuses on social care elements or school meals.

- **Young people's sexual health** – priority area for the PCT and nationally. In particular, Harrow's teenage pregnancy rate is an area of concern as it has risen. Any scrutiny work could relate to the outcomes of the PCT review of sexual health service and seek the views of young people on sexual health services open to them.
- **Obesity** – public health priority area suggested for scrutiny by the PCT. Harrow has a high prevalence rate of diabetes and this has links to obesity. The borough has a Obesity Strategy whose implementation could be explored, as could the use of national funding and specific reference to childhood obesity.
- **Diabetic care** – public health priority area suggested by the PCT. Harrow has a high prevalence rate of diabetes and this poses a high risk to obesity. Joined up care from council and PCT services could be explored, perhaps in reference to the Health Equity Audit.
- **JAR self assessment and Post JAR programme** – performance issue for the authority.
- **Children and Young People's plan** – The CYPP is a major non-statutory plan. The Plan sets out the framework for improving services and outcomes for young people over the next three years. Members may wish to review performance against the plan, and this may include the Annual Performance Assessment (APA) and the Local Area Agreement.
- **Children's health** – children's health is distinct from adult health and so will require consideration. In addition, service delivery is changing as a result of the requirement for a children's trusts and the development of children centres.
- **School nursing** – Concerns have been raised by schools and the Director of Public Health, as well as following up previous scrutiny work on healthy lifestyles in schools. There are particular issues around recruitment and retention, service performance and the interface between the provider (NWLHT) and commissioner (PCT). School nurses are currently assigned to specific clusters but this approach has been inhibited by staff absence. This is a small service and therefore scrutiny would have to consider whether it would add value through any review work.
- **14 – 19 strategy** – area of policy development. The outcome of a bid to the Learning and Skills Council is awaited. Members may wish to consider means through which the bid is realised; alternatively if it is unsuccessful Members may wish to examine ways in which the council can move forward.
- **Future of schools – demography** – service delivery issue – it has been suggested that the changing demography of the borough may have an impact on schools in terms of support that they provide to an increasingly diverse range of pupils.
- **Achievement and attainment** – performance monitoring. Members may wish to consider the format and content of performance information that Members should receive. Work is currently underway to establish when data is available in provisional and finalised forms.

- The **Annual Performance Assessment** and **CYPP/LAA** are also important elements of this.
- **Schools' organisation** – there is scope to contribute to the shift to age 11 transfer and impact of changing demography of borough
- **School exclusions** – performance issue – there is potential for evaluating outcomes arising from a consultant's report on exclusions in 2005 and measures such as the rapid intervention team.
- **Youth engagement** – there is potential for review of effectiveness implementation of strategy for youth participation. Members may wish to explore the impact of the Harrow strategy so far and how this should be developed in future.
- **Early years and childcare** – area of policy development, linked to development of a children's trust and the children's centres model.
- **Community strategy** – strategic issue for the local authority, in which priorities for children and young people will need to be reflected.

## 2.2 Consultation

As noted consultation has taken place with:

- Relevant Executive Directors and Directors;
- The community via Harrow's website;
- All Members of council.

## 2.3 Financial Implications

The scrutiny budget for 2006/07 is £340,400 which is made up of £266,050 for salaries and £74,350 for projects and other expenditure. This programme of work will be delivered within this provision.

## 2.5 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications in this report.

## 2.6 Equalities Impact

Scrutiny reviews make a significant contribution to the improvement of services for Harrow's multicultural community. When considering any item on the work programme across the year, the sub committee specifically takes into consideration how to engage with and meet the diverse needs of residents.

## 2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations

Individual scrutiny reviews may impact on crime and disorder and details are given in the Appendices.

## **Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents**

Appendix A: Suggested topics for the Overview and Scrutiny committee work programme 2006 – 2010

Appendix B: Suggested topics for the Adult Health and Social Care scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010

Appendix C: Suggested topics for the Children and Young People scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010

Appendix D: Suggested topics for the Safer and Stronger Communities scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010

Appendix E: Suggested topics for the Sustainable Development and Enterprise  
scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010

**IDR = in depth review**

**LTR = light-touch review**

**Appendix A: Suggested topics for the Overview and Scrutiny committee work programme 2006 – 2010**

<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>	<b>Year Four</b>
Budget <b>½ day challenge panel</b>	Budget <b>½ day challenge panel</b>	Budget <b>½ day challenge panel</b>	Budget <b>½ day challenge panel</b>
Impact of NHS financial situation <b>Working party</b>	Impact of NHS financial situation <b>Working party</b>		
Procurement programme • Management/ monitoring <b>IDR</b> • Delivering savings <b>IDR</b> • Procurement partnerships <b>IDR</b>	Procurement programme • Management/ monitoring <b>IDR</b> • Delivering savings <b>IDR</b> • Procurement partnerships <b>IDR</b>	Procurement programme • Management/ monitoring <b>IDR</b> • Delivering savings <b>IDR</b> • Procurement partnerships <b>IDR</b>	Procurement • Management/ monitoring <b>IDR</b> • Delivering savings <b>IDR</b> • Procurement partnerships <b>IDR</b>
Community Engagement strategy <b>Report</b>			
Community strategy <b>Report</b>			
Corporate assessment <b>½ day challenge panel</b>			
Power enquiry <b>Report</b>			



<p>HR Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motivating and rewarding staff - <b>IDR</b></li> <li>Harrow council as an employer <b>IDR</b></li> <li>Internal communications <b>LTR</b></li> <li>Recruiting BME staff <b>IDR</b></li> <li>Revised strategy for people – <b>½ day challenge</b></li> <li>Management development post MMR – <b>STR</b></li> </ul>				
Olympics programme	Olympics programme	Olympics programme	Olympics programme	Olympics programme
Audit/Risk	Audit/Risk	Audit/Risk	Audit/Risk	Audit/Risk
<b>½ day challenge panel</b>	<b>½ day challenge panel</b>	<b>½ day challenge panel</b>	<b>½ day challenge panel</b>	<b>½ day challenge panel</b>
MORI outcomes	MORI outcomes	MORI outcomes	MORI outcomes	
<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>	
	Equalities programme	Equalities programme	Equalities programme	Equalities programme
Community calls to action – implications of the white paper(s)				
<b>Report</b>				
Ombudsman's annual report	Ombudsman's annual report	Ombudsman's annual report	Ombudsman's annual report	Ombudsman's annual report
<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Report</b>
	Service and corporate planning	Service and corporate planning	Service and corporate planning	
	<b>LTR</b>	<b>LTR</b>	<b>LTR</b>	
	Embedding performance management	Embedding performance management	Embedding performance management	
	<b>LTR</b>	<b>LTR</b>	<b>LTR</b>	
Culture programme				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cultural strategy <b>½ day challenge panel</b></li> <li>Arts culture Harrow <b>LTR</b></li> </ul>				

**Appendix B: Suggested topics for the Adult Health and Social Care scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010**

Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four
Review of catering services <b>Report</b>			
ACL provision for people with learning disability <b>IDR</b>			
Obesity /Diabetic Care <b>IDR x with Children</b>			
Integrating mental health services <b>Report plus further work</b>			
Eye care for older people <b>Report plus further work</b>			
Northwick Park reconfiguration <b>Joint committee</b>	Northwick Park reconfiguration <b>Joint committee</b>		
Integration of council/PCT provision <b>Programme – link to finance working party</b>	Integration of council/PCT provision <b>Programme</b>	Integration of council/PCT provision <b>Programme</b>	Integration of council/PCT provision <b>Programme</b>
	Adults social care VFM <b>IDR</b>		
	Impact of rationalisation of services on well – being <b>IDR</b> Older peoples chiropody services – case study		
	Implementation of leisure card <b>IDR</b>		
	MORI outcomes <b>Report and possible programme</b>		
	Community strategy - report		

**Appendix C: Suggested topics for the Children and Young People scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010**

Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four
Review of catering services <b>Report</b>			
Young people's sexual health <b>IDR</b>			
Obesity /Diabetic Care <b>IDR x with Adults</b>			
JAR self assessment <b>½ day challenge panel</b>			
Children and Young People's plan ½ day challenge panel or report Children's health specific - ½ <b>day challenge panel</b>			
School nursing <b>LTR</b>			
14 – 19 strategy <b>½ day challenge panel</b>			
Future of schools – demography <b>IDR</b>			
	Schools' organisation <b>IDR – linked to demography review</b>		
Achievement and attainment <b>Report</b>	Achievement and attainment <b>Report</b>	Achievement and attainment <b>Report</b>	Achievement and attainment <b>Report</b>
	Annual Performance Assessment <b>½ day challenge panel</b>	Annual Performance Assessment <b>½ day challenge panel</b>	Annual Performance Assessment <b>½ day challenge panel</b>

	School exclusions LTR		
	Youth engagement IDR Policing and youth – case study		
	Early years and childcare IDR		
	Post Jar programme Community strategy Report		

**Appendix D: Suggested topics for the Safer and Stronger Communities scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010**

<b>Year One</b>	<b>Year Two</b>	<b>Year Three</b>	<b>Year Four</b>
<p>Voluntary Sector Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a strategic relationship with the sector</li> <li>Future role/purpose of grant funding</li> <li>Increasing the voluntary sector's capacity</li> </ul>	<p>Voluntary Sector Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a strategic relationship with the sector</li> <li>Future role/purpose of grant funding</li> <li>Arts culture Harrow</li> <li>Increasing the voluntary sector's capacity</li> </ul>	<p>Voluntary Sector Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing a strategic relationship with the sector</li> <li>Future role/purpose of grant funding</li> <li>Arts culture Harrow</li> <li>Increasing the voluntary sector's capacity</li> </ul>	
<p>Financial inclusion</p> <p><b>IDR</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>Safer communities programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RFOC – <b>report</b></li> <li>People (ASB, social cohesion) – <b>IDR</b></li> <li>Physical (Licensing, enforcement, envirocrime – <b>IDR</b>)</li> <li>Decision making processes (S17 mainstreaming)</li> </ul> <p>- LTR</p>	<p>Safer communities programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fear of crime reassessment – <b>report</b></li> <li>• ASB – <b>IDR</b></li> <li>• Enforcement/ Envirocrime - <b>IDR</b></li> </ul>	<p>Safer communities programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fear of crime reassessment – <b>report</b></li> <li>• ASB – <b>IDR</b></li> <li>• Enforcement/ Envirocrime – <b>IDR</b></li> </ul>
<p>Public Realm infrastructure</p> <p><b>IDR</b></p>	<p>Public Realm infrastructure</p> <p><b>IDR</b></p>		
<p>Strategic Objectives for community cohesion</p> <p><b>Report</b></p>			
<p>CDRP 6 – monthly assessments</p> <p><b>Report/ challenge</b></p>	<p>CDRP 6 – monthly assessments</p> <p><b>Report/ challenge</b></p>	<p>CDRP 6 – monthly assessments</p> <p><b>Report/ challenge</b></p>	<p>CDRP 6 – monthly assessments</p> <p><b>Report/ challenge</b></p>

Faith in Harrow IDR				
Phone booth provision LTR – underway				
	Area working programme	Area working programme	Area working programme	Area working programme
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended schools – LTR</li> <li>Neighbourhood working</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended schools – LTR</li> <li>Neighbourhood working</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended schools – LTR</li> <li>Neighbourhood working</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extended schools – LTR</li> <li>Neighbourhood working</li> </ul>
		Fuel poverty IDR		
	Community strategy Report			

**Appendix E: Suggested topics for the Sustainable Development and Enterprise scrutiny sub committee work programme 2006 – 2010**

Year One	Year Two	Year Three	Year Four
Welcome to Harrow <b>LTR</b>			
Local Development Framework <b>1/2 day challenge panel</b>			
Impact of changes in Harrow's demography <b>IDR and regular reports</b>			
Drought preparations <b>1/2 day challenge panel</b>			
Borough-wide economic development <b>1/2 day challenge panel</b>	Town centre redevelopment <b>IDR/working party</b>		
Tourism Review <b>1/2 day challenge panel</b>	Town centres redevelopment <b>Programme of work</b>	Town centres redevelopment <b>Programme of work</b>	Town centres redevelopment <b>Programme of work</b>
	Energy consumption <b>IDR</b>		
	ACL: Value for money <b>LTR</b>	ACL: Learning disabilities <b>IDR</b>	
	Traffic congestion <b>IDR</b>		
		Housing post decent homes standard <b>Report</b> <b>Challenge later</b>	
	Community strategy <b>Report</b>		

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Meeting:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2006
Subject:	Update on Children's Services Issues raised by Scrutiny
Responsible Officer:	Paul Clark, Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer:	Children & Young People's Plan – Betty Lynch SEN – Roger Rickman Healthy Lifestyles – Gill Roberts Sixth Form Collegiate – Heather Clements
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr. Janet Mote – People First
Key Decision:	No
Status:	Part 1

### **Section 1: Summary**

#### **Decision Required**

For information, to note and comment.

#### **Reason for report**

Update on issues raised in Scrutiny over the past 6 months

## **Benefits**

Policy and practice informed by scrutiny process

## **Cost of Proposals**

Contained within current budget

## **Risks**

n/a

## **Implications if recommendations rejected**

Poor performance and negative inspection results

## **Section 2: Report**

### 2.1 Brief History

Scrutiny has discussed these topics – work is ongoing and these reports update Scrutiny.

### 2.2 Options considered

n/a

### 2.3 Consultation

Extensive on original work plans

### 2.4 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from these updates.

### 2.5 Legal Implications

n/a

### 2.6 Equalities Impact

Considered in original work

### 2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations

n/a

## **Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents**

Background Documents:

Refer to original documents presented to Lifelong Learning Scrutiny Sub-Committee, Tuesday 4 April 2006 7.30 pm.

- **Children and Young People Plan:** Report of the Director of Children's Services and reference from the Joint Meeting of the Lifelong Learning and Health and Social Care Scrutiny Sub- Committees held on 18 January 2006 – Children and Young People's Plan.
- **The distribution of SEN statements in Harrow's mainstream schools:** Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- **Statementing Process for Children with Statements of Special Educational Needs:** Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- **Update on actions and response to recommendations of the Sub-Committee's review of Phase 3 delegated funding for pupils with SEN in mainstream schools:** Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- **Healthy Lifestyles:** Report of the Director of Children's Services.
- **14-19 Reforms:** Report of the Director of Children's Services.

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Meeting:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2006
Subject:	The Children and Young People's Plan
Responsible Officer:	Paul Clark, Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer:	Betty Lynch
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr. Janet Mote – People First
Key Decision:	No
Status:	Part 1

### **Section 1: Summary**

#### **Decision Required**

For information, to note and comment.

#### **Reason for report**

Update on the Harrow Children and Young People's Plan

#### **Benefits**

Policy and practice informed by scrutiny process

#### **Cost of Proposals**

n/a

## Risks

n/a
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## Implications if recommendations rejected

n/a
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## **Section 2: Report**

### 2.1 Brief History

The Children and Young People's plan has been written by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and is a requirement of the Children Act 2004.

It reflects the plans of statutory and voluntary agencies to plan and work together to promote the welfare of children and young people in the Borough.

It describes a shared vision, drawn from a needs assessment that includes analysis of the local demography (drawn from the Vitality Profiles), the views of children and young people and the recommendations of inspection reports and annual assessments, as well as the views of statutory and voluntary agencies.

A summary of priorities is provided. Those priorities are:

- Safeguarding children;
- Children Looked After;
- Children with special needs;
- Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children, and
- Children who are carers.

Priorities are depicted in table form using the following headings:

- Be healthy;
- Staying safe;
- Enjoying and achieving;
- Making a positive contribution, and
- Achieving economic well-being.

Single agency plans are used to inform the Children and Young People's Plan and are referenced throughout the document.

Arrangements for multi-agency co-operation and performance management are described. Five strategic multi-agency monitoring sub-groups have been created by the Children and Young People strategic partnership to monitor the targets and aspirations set out in the plan. This will involve collective evaluation of the impact on outcomes for children and young people.

The Children's Trust Approach, integrated governance arrangements, the Common Assessment Framework, Children's Centres and extended schools are described as the key instruments to bring about improved co-operation at strategic, tactical and operational levels in all agencies to ensure a focus on positive outcomes for children and young people.

An article will be published in Harrow People Magazine to ensure public awareness.

A progress report will be prepared for October 2006.

## 2.2 Options considered

n/a – the Children and Young People's Plan is a statutory requirement.

## 2.3 Consultation

Consultation has been extensive with all stakeholders - including voluntary agencies, community groups partner agencies, children, young people and families. Consultation will continue throughout 06/07 to inform annual updates.

## 2.4 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## 2.5 Legal Implications

Complies with requirements of the Children Act 2004.

## 2.6 Equalities Impact

Considered in original work

## 2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations

n/a

## **Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents**

Background Documents: None.

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Meeting:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2006
Subject:	Special Educational Needs – summary report
Responsible Officer:	Paul Clark, Director of Children’s Services
Contact Officer:	Roger Rickman
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr. Janet Mote – People First
Key Decision:	No
Status:	Part 1

**Section 1: Summary**

**Decision Required**

For information, to note and comment.

**Reason for report**

Update on SEN provision

**Benefits**

Policy and practice informed by scrutiny process

**Cost of Proposals**

n/a

## **Risks**

n/a
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## **Implications if recommendations rejected**

Poor performance and negative inspection results
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## **Section 2: Report**

### **2.1 Brief History**

The Sub-Committee took an active interest in this area throughout the 2002-06 administration, reflecting its importance to schools and the community. Three reviews were carried that helped to highlight issues and improve practice and contribute to policy development. In addition the sub-committee has received an annual report on special educational needs.

The reviews carried out were as follows:

### **The distribution of SEN statements in mainstream schools**

A group made up of members of the Sub-Committee considered this subject as part of the initial programme of reviews in 2002-03, reporting in April 2003. The sub-committee continued to monitor developments in this area, receiving reports in January 2005 and April 2006. The latest report provided a comparison of the position with regard to SEN statements in Harrow's mainstream schools between 2002 and 2006. It was reported that although the distribution of SEN statements across mainstream schools was uneven, the spread was not unreasonable and variations were mainly due to additional resourcing for meeting special needs in particular schools. It was resolved that the Sub-Committee be regularly provided with figures on pupils with SEN statements

### **Statementing process for children with statements of special educational needs**

This was an in-depth review of the special educational needs statementing process that was completed in July 2004. The review made a number of recommendations and a report detailing progress and actions in relation to the recommendations of the review was made in January 2005. The Sub-Committee received a further report at its meeting in April 2006 which updated members on the progress made against agreed actions outlined in the 2005 progress report. It was reported that all recommendations had been addressed and incorporated into the annual plan for the SEN service. In addition, it was noted that the feedback from schools and parents had been favourable.

### **Phase 3 delegated funding for pupils with special educational needs in mainstream schools**

This review was completed in January 2005. The review took place whilst the approach to special educational needs funding was being developed with headteachers in particular and helped to inform the implementation of changes that were made. The Sub-Committee was provided with an initial report in April 2005, covering the actions in connection with the review's recommendations, and another progress report in October 2005. The Sub-Committee received a further report in April 2006 and noted the good progress that has been made in implementing its recommendations.

2.2 Options considered

n/a

2.3 Consultation

n/a

2.4 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from the above report. SEN expenditure described in this report is funded from within the Dedicated Schools Grant.

2.5 Legal Implications

n/a

2.6 Equalities Impact

Considered in original work

2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations

n/a

**Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents**

Background Documents: None

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**SCHOOL NURSING SERVICE - HARROW  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
REVIEW PAPER**

**June 2006**

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**1. Purpose**

This report has been written at the request of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the current provision of School Nursing in Harrow.

**2. Service Description**

School Health Services in Harrow are currently managed and delivered by the North West London Hospitals NHS Trust within the Division of Women and Children's Services. The provision of this type of integrated system of service delivery with both Acute and Community services managed by an Acute Trust is not unique to NWLHT but is not replicated in many other Trust's nationwide.

There are currently (as of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2006) 28,998 pupils enrolled in Harrow Schools. There are 69 schools/tuition centres covered within the Harrow catchment as follows:-

- 19 First Schools
- 19 Middle Schools
- 17 First and Middle Combined Schools
- 10 High Schools
- 4 Special Schools
- 1 Tuition Centre

**3. Service Aims**

**3.1 National Objectives**

Nationally, the government's objective is to have one full time, year round, qualified School Nurse, working with every cluster of Primary Schools and their linked High School by 2010.

The DOH has recognized that School Nurses are well placed to deliver on a range of health issues. (Every Child Matters, 2004). The National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services and Choosing Health have called for a new and relevant role for School Nurses, focusing on the child centered public health role of the School Nurse and how they can contribute towards delivering on the key public service targets.

**3.2 Local Aims**

Locally, there are a number of aims for the service that have been identified. These include providing the following:-

- A service that is planned, prioritized, publicized and evaluated.

- Activities based on local need in consultation with teachers, parents, children and Public Health.
- A Service that focuses on Health Promotion and Education.
- A commitment to team work.
- Education and professional development of School Nurses as an ongoing priority.

#### **4. Current Service Provision**

The present School Nurse establishment is 7.99 WTE with 5.98 WTE in post (vacancies 2.01 WTE). Currently, all schools have an allocated School Nurse with the exception of the Special Schools who have a daily rota in place. (Woodlands and Kingsley Schools).

The School Nurse workload concentrates around several core issues including the following:-

- Child Protection
- Selective school entry health assessments depending on response to health questionnaire, health visiting records and school/parent concerns.
- Immunisations.
- Nurse led Enuresis Clinic (weekly).
- Drop in sessions at High Schools to support and promote positive mental, physical and sexual health in young people.
- Collection of Height and Weight data on all Reception and Year 6 children in Harrow as part of a national project to establish baseline information (DOH).
- Health Promotion including sexual health, accident prevention, diet and healthy eating, sun protection, asthma, smoking.

#### **5. Service Issues**

The current vacancy level, together with a high level of sickness means that the service is struggling to provide full cover to all schools. Special School cover is a matter of debate locally, and the Special Schools themselves have identified the need to have an allocated nurse in place of the daily rota.

Recruitment and retaining staff is a key priority for the service. In order to support this, the profile of school nursing needs to be considered, and with this the future provision of the service by NWLHT. School nursing requires ongoing investment and development, at a time when the Trust is looking at its service strategy by redefining core and non-core service based on an acute model of care.

#### **6. Future Service Provision**

A full service strategy for school nursing needs to be developed to ensure the service meets the needs of the local population for the future. Key to this will be the decision regarding where responsibility for the future service provision will lie.

There are a number of options that the local health and education community need to consider:-

**Option 1 - School Nurses to continue to be provided by NWLHT, fully supported as a full service for the Trust**

The benefit to this is that the service is currently being provided by the Trust. However, the current reconfiguration of services and financial recovery programme may question whether School Nursing should remain in the Trust. A potential disadvantage is that school nursing is an isolated community service provided by an acute hospital.

**Option 2 - School Nurses to be managed and provided by the Primary Care Trust**

This would place school nursing on an equal footing with many other community based health services in terms of management and funding arrangements. It may ensure the service receives greater support and development in the future and allow for the development of the public health role and some integrated working with Health Visitors.

**Option 3 - School Nurses to be managed within the Local Authority in conjunction with the Children's Centres.**

This moves School Nursing away from Health, and under the remit of Education, however local partnerships would support this model – with close integrated working via the Children's Strategic Partnership Board.

There are a number of advantages and disadvantages to each model, which need to be fully worked up.

**7. Recommendations**

North West London Hospitals Trust preferred option, previously shared with Harrow PCT, would be Option 2, that School Nursing provision is moved into the Community to support the ongoing development and provision of this service. This decision needs to be made as early as possible and fed into the overall Strategic Options discussions and consultation.

**8. Conclusion**

This paper has detailed the current School Nursing Service and highlighted service issues which are arising due to difficulties in recruitment, staff sickness and also as a consequence of a community service being run by an Acute Provider. Whilst staff in the service continue to provide a high quality service, action needs to be taken to ensure the service is placed on a firm footing for the future.

**Elizabeth Robb  
Director of Nursing  
June 2006**

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Meeting:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
Date:	27 June 2006
Subject:	Update on Healthy Lifestyles
Responsible Officer:	Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer:	Gill Roberts – PSHCE Consultant
Portfolio Holder:	Janet Mote
Key Decision:	No
Status:	Public 1

### **Section 1: Summary**

#### **Decision Required**

For information.

#### **Reason for report**

To update committee of the work that is being done to promote healthy lifestyles in schools.

## **Benefits**

Information will help councillors understand and support the work that is being done in schools.

## **Cost of Proposals**

N/A

## **Risks**

N/A

## **Implications if recommendations rejected**

N/A

## **Section 2: Report**

### **2.1 Brief History**

#### **UPDATE ON HEALTHY LIFESTYLES IN SCHOOLS**

##### **Background**

The National Healthy Schools Programme was launched by the DH and DfES (then DFEE) in 1999. In 2000 Brent and Harrow developed their own local programme as a partnership between the Brent and Harrow Health Authority and the two LEAs, with 5 pilot schools in Harrow. This programme was accredited to the national standards in 2002. We are currently in phase 3 of the programme and from September 2005 the requirements to gain national healthy schools status were changed as part of the Choosing Health White Paper and the Every Child Matters agenda. Schools have to meet standards in each of the four core themes (Personal, Social and Health Education (including sex and relationships education and drug education), Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Emotional Health and Well Being.

##### **Brent and Harrow Healthy Schools Programme**

In addition to working on the four core themes, schools are expected to demonstrate a whole school approach to their work and involve the school

community including parents and governors. Giving pupils a voice is central to the way in which we expect schools to work towards becoming a healthy school.

- 32 schools have been validated as healthy schools 3 schools have applied for validation before the end of this term.
- 28 are working towards becoming a healthy school (these schools will all be working towards the new standards).
- all of the schools currently validated will be expected to apply for revalidation to the new standards by July 2007 at the latest.

## **Update**

In response to a request from the previous committee this is an update on two outstanding issues.

1. The PCT has, in conjunction with Harrow LA, written to all schools to inform of the national strategy for weighing and measuring all pupils in reception and year 6 (letter attached Appendix 1) to encourage them to administer the programme themselves as it was felt that young children would be happier with staff they know carrying out the process and it would minimise disruption. The PCT report that they have had had an excellent response from schools.
2. Drinking water in schools – no further news on this. The audit for water provision will not now be completed before the end of the Summer Term as part of the School Meal Improvement Strategy and having access to water, at lunchtimes in the first instance, is one of the new food standards that has to be implemented from September. Contact has been made with Eden Falls the council's preferred water supplier and arrangements are being made for them to visit schools to identify their needs. Several High Schools are now actively promoting drinking water including Hatch End, Park, Rooks Heath and Harrow High.
3. A school based dietician has been appointed and started on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Her role is to support schools in meeting the new food and nutritional standards and to help schools meet the healthy eating standards in the Healthy Schools Programme.

## **2.2 Options considered**

N/A

**2.3 Consultation**

N/A

**2.4 Financial Implications**

The dietician post is provided by Northwick Park and is funded from the standards fund grant “transforming school meals”. The post holder is on a fixed term contract for the life of the grant.

**2.5 Legal Implications**

N/A

**2.6 Equalities Impact**

N/A

**2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations**

N/A

**Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents**

Appendix A - Letter from The PCT re weighing and measuring children in reception and year 6.

## Appendix A

Dear Colleagues

### **Measuring height and weight of children in Reception and year 6**

In a shared programme between the department for education and skills and the department of health, we are planning to weigh and measure the height of children from year 6 this year, changing to include two year groups as of next year, reception year and year 6.

Every PCT will be writing to all schools in their area along similar lines, and this work will also build on the work already being carried out as part of school entry health checks.

We are keen to ensure that this will involve the minimum disruption for your school, and therefore ideally would like to train some of your staff members in collecting the data to ensure this. The training would be a one off session of no more than 2 hours, and will cover all aspects surrounding the collection of height and weight data in children. It will also include the correct use of equipment, issues around confidentiality and how to prevent stigmatisation and bullying of vulnerable children, as well as dealing with parents and children's questions and with possible anxieties which may arise.

Please find on the following page the training registration slip, which can be completed and returned to us to register your staff for this valuable training.

The PCT will be able to provide the equipment necessary for the weighing and measuring. This equipment conforms to EU regulations and is a substantial purchase for the PCT (£300) but if your school is able to collect the data for us then we would be able to leave this equipment at your school for you to use at other times of the year as you wish, perhaps in lessons.

The data collection will be a simple process, which should take no more than 4 to 5 minutes for each child. We would expect to collect measurements at some point between May and July, on days which best suit the business of the school.

We are hoping to work closely with schools, involving them as much as possible, or as little, as they wish. However, we shall need some help from you on:

- ❑ Informing parents about what is happening; a letter will be forwarded to you which can be sent to parents and which clearly explains the process, including a tear off declaration form for parents to complete and return if they don't wish their child to take part.
- ❑ Providing measuring staff with a list of the children in year 6, excluding those whose parents have asked that their child should not be included, showing the pupils' names and dates of birth.
- ❑ Identifying a room in which measurements can be collected.
- ❑ Facilitating the bringing of children to and from the measurement room.

We would expect that all children, excepting those covered by a parental opt out, or who are absent on the day(s) of weighing and measuring, should be weighed and measured. We recognise the importance of handling this process with sensitivity to avoid the potential for stigmatisation and bullying.

All information gathered will be treated with confidentiality.

Individual children's height and weight will not be routinely fed back to parents, children or staff, and schools will not hold the collected data.

Yours sincerely

*Heather Clements*

Heather Clements  
Group Manager – Schools and Children's Services

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## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN CARRYING OUT THE WEIGHING IN SCHOOL

We **would/would not** be interested in working with the PCT to collect the data in return for retaining the equipment in school.

### TRAINING REQUEST

We are interested in sending  members of our staff to training on

Thursday the 25<sup>th</sup> May 4.30 – 6.00

Wednesday the 31<sup>st</sup> May 4.00 – 6.00

(please select date by placing a cross next to the preferred option).

If the above dates are not convenient but you are interested in sending staff to training then please indicate in the box below with a cross and we will contact schools directly with further training dates.

Interested in training.

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

A confirmation letter will be sent directly to the school with full details of the training.

Please return to: Louise Morse, Harrow PCT, Grace House, Harrovian Business Village, Bessborough Road, Harrow, Middlesex, HA1 3EX.

Or fax to : 020 8423 2357

Alternatively if you require any more information please contact us on 0208 966 1113.



<b>Meeting:</b>	Children and Young People Scrutiny Sub-Committee
<b>Date:</b>	27 June 2006
<b>Subject:</b>	Update on Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Director of Lifelong Learning
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Heather Clements
<b>Portfolio Holder:</b>	Cllr. Janet Mote – People First
<b>Key Decision:</b>	No
<b>Status:</b>	Public 1

**Section 1: Summary**

**Decision Required**

For information to note and comment.

**Reason for Report**

To update the Sub Committee about the bid to the Learning and Skills Council 16-19 Capital Fund to establish the borough wide Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate.

## Benefits

The Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate will:

- Meet parental preferences, and increase choice for parents and students
- Increase provision and quality, and achieve coherence of provision across 14-19
- Meet the Government's policy for 14-19
- Increase attainment and achievement
- Increase participation, particularly level 1 and 2 and within specific groups for example those Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET)
- Will reduce the flow of students out of Harrow at the end of Year 11 and also Year 6

## Cost of Proposals

The Learning and Skills Council is responsible for the capital and revenue funding of post 16 provision. The Local Authority is responsible for the funding of 14-16.

Capital cost of post-16 developments in high schools will be met from a successful bid to the 16-19 Capital Fund. The bid is for £17.1m. Included in this bid is the cost of securing planning consents. In addition, Schools will contribute to the capital investment on their sites.

Schools will need to be able to contain capital and revenue costs within the funding provided by the Learning & Skills Council.

## Risks

If the Capital Bid is unsuccessful then the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate will not be established, as there are no other capital resources available to secure Borough wide investment.

The project has already been subject to delay because of the prolonged timescale for the LSC decision-making process. An enabling report will be considered by 29 June Cabinet to ensure that, following a favourable decision by the LSC, the programme can be commenced without further delay that will impact on the potential of the Collegiate to deliver a full range of curriculum provision.



## **Implications if recommendations rejected**

Not Applicable

## **Section 2: Report**

### **2.1 Brief History**

At the end of January an initial bid was submitted to the London West Learning and Skills Council (LWLSC) in response to their invitation and their outline specification issued in November 2005. The key points to address in the outline specification were: to establish 1000 new learner places in Harrow; to increase choice and opportunities for learners in Harrow, in particular for the NEET group of learners, thereby contributing to the aspiration of 100% post-16 learners staying on by 2010; and to increase vocation courses at entry, level 1, 2 and 3.

The 10 high schools, two special schools and three colleges worked in partnership, and a representative Core Group worked up the bid to address all the LWLSC outline specification. There were two parts to the bid an Educational Case and a capital bid. The capital bid was to secure capital investment on all high school sites for post-16 provision.

One of the requirements from the LWLSC was to publish Statutory Notices to change the age range of schools from 11-16 to 11-18 for the VA schools and 12-16 to 12-18 for the community schools. The Notices were published in February. They will be determined when the capital has been secured to implement the proposals.

The LWLSC assessed the Education Case using a local Stakeholder Panel. Comments and issues were raised and these were addressed within a revised and strengthened bid that was submitted in final in early March. The final bid was reassessed by the Stakeholder Panel. Part of this re-assessment included a presentation from Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate representatives of Heads, Principal and LEA Officers. The Stakeholder Panel, were satisfied that their original issues had been addressed sufficiently and expressed their support to the LWLSC for the Harrow Bid. The LWLSC considered the bid at their council meeting on 24 April. They agreed to support the educational case for the London Borough of Harrow Collegiate and recommend the proposal to the National Capital Committee for capital funding approval to a maximum sum of £17.1 million. The recommendations and the capital bids were referred to the National Capital Committee for consideration and hopefully final approval. The National Capital Committee met on 2 May, and referred the bid to the recently formed London Regional Board. The London Regional Board met on 12 May, and

referred the bid back to the LWLSC to consider the bid in respect of the London Capital Strategy in general, value for money, and London priorities.

The LWLSC Council met on 16 May to consider the bid in the light of the National Capital Committee and London Regional Board actions. The LWLSC have effectively concluded that the bid will fail if presented as it stands, and are asking Harrow to consider possible ways forward. Concerns have been raised about the Management of the Collegiate and, in their view, the need for the management and commitment to the Collegiate to be established within a legally binding framework to reassure about the potential for the schools to break from the Collegiate without such an agreement. Also more work would be needed on the proposals for those Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET). Some LWLSC Council members also had some concerns about the impact on neighbouring boroughs.

### Current position

Following the LWLSC Council meeting on 16 May, LWLSC officers are considering with us how to progress the bid in respect of the National Capital Committee as well as possible alternative routes for Harrow to pursue to secure funding. A positive message is that the case for something to be done in Harrow appears to have been made. LWLSC are under pressure to hold a competition round for LSC funding that Harrow could enter, but it is unlikely to be successful given our successful schools and staying on rates. It should be noted that the LSC are being re-organized and there are a number of new appointments.

A meeting of High School Heads, Principals and LEA officers on 17 May heard this feedback, and agreed that a meeting would be arranged with Harrow's two MPs and Lord Andrew Adonis to galvanize political support for the Harrow Collegiate proposals. In addition the LWLSC concerns i.e. NEET provision and Governance/Management would be addressed and strengthened in the bid.

A meeting was held in Westminster on 25 May, which was attended by Geoff Wingrove, Director of Strategic Services, with representative headteachers and college principals. The representative group met with Lord Andrew Adonis, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Schools, Gareth Thomas, Harrow West MP, David Hughes, Regional Director of London Region LSC, and the 14-19 lead officer from the Department for Education and Skills. Tony McNulty, Harrow East MP, was unfortunately unable to attend because of commitments arising from his change of ministerial portfolio.

The meeting was extremely positive. Excellent representations were made by all attenders. It was agreed that Harrow's bid will be considered by the LSC National Capital Committee at its meeting on 13 July. Harrow is to resubmit the bid, having further addressed the issues raised about governance and NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) provision. Harrow is to work with

London West and London Region LSC officers on its resubmission. Lord Adonis made it clear that he wants to be personally involved, and he wants the revised bid to be sent to him.

There is important work that needs to be progressed in order to resubmit our bid by the end of June. Geoff Wingrove will lead on the governance issues. Contact is being made with LSC officers to clarify what would be considered by them to be an acceptable legal approach to governance, and Harrow Council legal advisers will assist with this work. Heather Clements is leading on the NEET and new/displaced learners issues.

We have achieved a very positive outcome from our representations, which reflects well on our collaborative working and the continued commitment and hard work of all. The Schools and Colleges remain fully committed to the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate and planning is underway to establish the Collegiate across the Borough in September 2007. The Central Consortium will begin their franchise arrangements with Harrow College in September 2006. Without capital investment the accommodation will not be available on all school sites to offer the courses and develop the 14-19 curriculum in line with Government Policy. If the funding is agreed the timescale for completing the capital work will have to be reviewed as several months have now been lost.

## **2.2 Options considered**

The options considered have been outlined in previous Cabinet reports, and led to Cabinet approving the establishment of a Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate and to the submission of the bid to the LSC 16-19 Capital Fund.

## **2.3 Consultation**

The 14-19 Strategy was developed with the full involvement of all the key partners, and included a stakeholder survey.

Statutory consultation and notices about the Harrow Sixth Form Collegiate and the change in age range of the schools occurred from January until April 2006. This consultation included all stakeholders in Harrow including students, parents, staff, work based providers as well as neighbouring Boroughs and Schools in accordance with DfES Guidance. The proposals will be considered by the School Organisation Committee when the outcome of the bid to the LSC 16-19 Capital Fund is known.

## **2.4 Financial Implications**

There should be no financial implications to the Council of providing post-16 provision as the revenue funding for post-16 is provided by the Learning and Skills Council.

A capital bid for £17.1m has been submitted. The Council is required to obtain planning consents to secure the LSC funding. June Cabinet will consider an enabling report to ensure that the implications of the delays are minimised. When the LSC funding is released, the cost of obtaining the planning consents will be reimbursed to the Council. No expenditure will be committed until a favourable LSC decision is received.

Schools have agreed to contribute to the capital investment on their sites.

## **2.5 Legal Implications**

The School Organisation Committee will be required to determine the Statutory Notices only if objections are received. The SOC will meet in 19<sup>th</sup> June 2006 to consider the proposals, the objections and the responses to them. It will be unable to determine the Notices if the financial situation remains uncertain. SOC will be able to make a decision if the financial provision is made 'in principle' if only subject to the SOC decision.

Further legal advice maybe required once definite proposals for the governance arrangements have been identified.

## **2.6 Equalities Impact**

The Harrow 14-19 Strategy, together with the 16-19 Capital Fund bid, will enable comprehensive and inclusive provision in Harrow. This includes provision for levels 1 and 2, and provision for those Not in Education Employment or Training.

## **2.7 Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Considerations**

A high quality comprehensive and inclusive 14-19 phase will make positive contributions to the reduction of crime and disorder amongst young people.

## **Section 3: Supporting Information/Background Documents**

Cabinet Report 12 January 2006

Cabinet Report 16 February 2006

Consultation Guidance for 16-19 Competitions (published 15 December 2005)

16-19 Capital Fund Guidance: 2006-07 Onwards (published 15 December 2005)

LWLSC Outline Specification for Expanding Post-16 Provision in the London Borough of Harrow dated 15 November 2005, and the cover letter from Peter Pledger, Executive Director LWLSC.

Any person wishing to inspect the background papers should telephone 020 8420 9270.

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