

By: Mr L Ridings, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Educational Achievement
Head of Democratic Services and Local Leadership

To: Children, Families and Education Policy Overview Committee
13 November 2008

Subject: Local Children's Services Partnerships (LCSPs) Sub-Committee – Update

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report updates the Committee on the current situation regarding the establishment of a LCSP Sub-Committee and also gives feedback from an informal meeting to discuss the early progress of LCSPs.

Introduction

1. (1) At the meeting on 19 September 2008 the Committee considered a report which proposed the establishment of a Sub-Committee to have an overview of the Local Children's Services Partnerships.

(2) The Committee agreed that subject to approval by County Council at its meeting on 16 October 2008, a time limited Sub-Committee of the Children Families and Education Policy Overview Committee be established to have an overview of the Local Children's Services Partnerships (LCSPs) on the terms set out in the report.

(3) At this meeting Members commented as follows:-

- "Following concerns raised by the Church and Teacher representatives, there was agreement that the Sub-Committee should get under way following the extensive negotiations made to set it up, then the Sub-Committee could decide on additional people to be represented on the Sub-Committee.
- The Committee agreed that the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Spokesman would discuss how this Sub-Committee should report back to the POC allowing time for a proper debate and scrutiny."

It should be noted that as this is being constituted as a Sub-Committee its agendas will be available. The meetings will be open to the public and others to attend and observe.

(4) A report was submitted to the Selection and Member Services Committee on 8 October 2008 as part of the process for establishing a Sub Committee as set out in the constitution. At this meeting a number of items including this one were deferred to be considered at an additional meeting which is due to be held on 26 November 2008. It has therefore not been possible for the Sub-Committee to formally start its work. Subject to approval by the Selection and Members Services

Committee it is anticipated that this will be on the agenda for the meeting of the County Council on 11 December 2008.

Feedback from Informal meeting

2. (1) Although the Sub-Committee has not yet been established, the Members that it is anticipated will form the Sub-Committee have met on an informal basis. They met on 14 October and discussed an overview of the development of Children's Trust Arrangements in Kent, and the experiences of the Local Children's Services Pathfinders; Tunbridge Wells, Shepway 1 and 2, and Maidstone 2. A positive discussion took place regarding the key challenges and successes of the pathfinder period, and an overview of the priorities from the Local Children and Young People's Plans from the three localities. A number of issues were identified to be discussed at future meetings if the Sub-Committee is established, including Integrated Processes, Integrated Commissioning and the funding arrangements for LCSPs. Feedback from attendees demonstrated that the informal meeting had been useful to both Members and LCSPs in understanding the key issues at this developmental stage. It was agreed that a further informal meeting of members would take place on the 12 December 2008 focusing on the Swanley, Dartford West and Dartford East LCSPs.

(2) A programme of proposed meetings for the Sub-Committee is attached for Members information.

Recommendation

3. That the progress made to establish the LCSP Sub-Committee and the informal meeting of Members be noted.

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Background Documents: None

CFE POC Informal Meetings and Sub Committee on LCSPs Meetings
Revised Schedule 24.10.08

Group meeting dates	Subject/Area	Venue	Report lead-in deadline	CFE POC dates
14-10-2008 (Tues 10 am - 1pm incl. lunch)	Informal Members Group: Introduction & meeting on LCSP Pathfinders Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone 2, Shepway Urban & Rural	Medway Room, Sessions House	22-10-2008	13-11-2008
11-12-2008	County Council to be requested to approve the establishment of the LCSP Sub-Committee			
12-12-2008 (Fri 9.30 am - 12.30 pm incl. lunch)	Informal Members Group meeting on: Swanley, Dartford West, Dartford East,	Medway Room, Sessions House	22-12-2008	16-01-2009
20-02-2009 (Fri all day incl. lunch)	STUDY VISIT including Sub-Committee meeting Thanet 1, Thanet 2, Deal & Sandwich, Dover	Localities TBC	06-03-2009	31-03-2009
22-04-2009 (Weds 10 am - 1pm incl. lunch)	Sub-Committee meeting on: Ashford 1, Canterbury City & Country, Ashford Rural,	Pendragon, Invicta House	17-06-2009	10-07-2009
The following dates are subject to confirmation of membership following on from the County Council election in June 2008				
23-07-2009 (Thurs 10 am - 2pm incl. lunch)	Sub-Committee meeting on: Sevenoaks South, Tonbridge, Cranbrook & Paddock Wood	Waterton Lee, Invicta House	26-08-2009	18-09-2009
30-09-2009 (Weds all day incl. lunch)	STUDY VISIT including Sub-Committee meeting on: Swale Rural, Swale Urban, Canterbury Coastal	Localities TBC	20-10-2009	12-11-2009

Membership

Ann Allen (Chair designate of Sub-Committee) - Wilmington (Con)
Michael Northey - Canterbury South East (Con)
Godfrey Horne, MBE - Tonbridge (Con)
Jeffrey Curwood - Maidstone Central (Con)
Ivor Jones - Swanscombe & Greenhithe (Lab)
TBC - (Lab)
Martin Vye - Canterbury City South West (Lib Dem)

Officers

Dr Ian Craig - Director of Operations
Joy Ackroyd - Kent Children's Trust Development Manager
Matthew Redmond - Kent Children's Trust Policy Development Officer