

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

10 NOVEMBER 2009

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009-11

ITEM 4(b)

**POINTS RAISED BY THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
SELECT COMMITTEE - 16 SEPTEMBER 2009**

Attached are details of the comments made by the Children and Young People's Select Committee on 16 September 2009, together with a commentary of how the comments have been responded to in the preparation of the Children and Young People's Plan 2009-11

Children and Young People Select Committee 16 September 2009

Points Raised	Comments
General Comments	
Reference to 'academic success' should be changed to 'success'	Text changed. (page 6, point 3)
'Localised working' referred to officers being responsible for geographical areas	It appeared that this was a point of clarification
The inclusion strategy should not only focus on 14-19 year olds	Enjoy and achieve (page 33) says 'We will be consulting on and implementing an inclusion strategy which will enhance provision and secure early provision of support for all learners when they need it.'
The core outcome 'There is no gap in attainment between vulnerable children and their peers' should be amended to read 'we will reduce the gap to less than the national average'	The reason it is phrased this way is because national indicators specifically measure the gap in achievement within each local authority for vulnerable children and young people i.e. those with LDD and children in care compared to their peers. This gap is then compared to the national average and our targets have been set with the intention of reducing the gap to the national average or less. We have also used the phrase 'Reduce the difference in achievement between...' (page 51)
The core outcome 'Milton Keynes will be a recognised centre of excellence where the voices of children and young people and their families are paramount in determining their support and improving all aspects of their wellbeing and learning' should be amended to read 'support needs'	Text changed (Page 18)
Introduction	
There was too much data missing and there was an absence of comparative and trend data	The updated draft now includes significantly more national data comparison (except for locally set targets where comparator data is not readily available)
The data needed to be benchmarked	See above
There was a lack of information regarding learning difficulties and disabled children, particularly with respect to quantifiable outcome measures	Further data has now been added to the MK Profile, Enjoy and Achieve and Achieve Economic Wellbeing sections
The changing epidemiology of certain conditions such as the increased prevalence of children with Autism and the longer survival rate of children with Downs Syndrome needed to be recognised in the Plan.	This important point has been referred to Will Spurgeon for consideration within the Inclusion Strategy
Be Healthy	
Maternity services was a key issue which needed to be addressed	Maternity services are identified as a priority area with specific actions in the Be Healthy action plan (page 24)

Points Raised	Comments
There was no comparative data to identify areas of weakness or strength and that this was a general issue throughout the Plan	The updated version now includes significantly more national data comparison (except for locally set targets where comparator data is not readily available)
The wording needed to be changed to say 'ensure that health inequalities do not continue into adult life'	Text corrected
Stay Safe	
There was no mention of undetected bullying or hate bullying and these should be reflected in the Plan	The section on bullying now explicitly refers to hate incidents and some of our achievements in this area have been added (Page 27)
There were no actions aimed at improving neighbourhoods and communities in partnership with other agencies	References to Safer Schools Partnerships (page 29) and Community Mobilisers (page 44)
Enjoy and Achieve	
The importance of parental engagement needed to be reflected in the Plan, including the support and training provided to parents	Be Healthy action plan (page 25) for parents of children with LDD), parenting support and programmes pages 26/27/29, parent support advisers in Enjoy & Achieve action plan (page 37)
There needed to be an effort to improve literacy levels among parents	Achieve Economic Wellbeing (Page 51) 'Ensuring parents have better access to family learning programmes'
Some of the data needed to be checked as there appeared to be discrepancies	This has been undertaken
Achieve Economic Wellbeing	
Careers advice should be accessible to all children and young people	Economic Wellbeing action plan (page 51) 'Ensure young people receive help and support that meets or exceeds the national IAG Quality Standards'
There should be more Connexions Personal Advisors	This point will be addressed through the Connexions contract management process where adequacy and sufficiency can be explored with the provider
The council needs to do more to support apprenticeship schemes	This important point has been passed on to the relevant Assistant Director.
There was a distinct lack of young people in social care roles and that this should be addressed	This important point has been passed on to the relevant Assistant Director.
There was no reference to the economic wellbeing of LDD children and young people	Now covered in Economic Wellbeing action plan (page 52/3), including measures and targets)
The Chamber of Commerce should be involved in helping to identify any skills gaps	This important point has been passed on to the relevant assistant director and suggested the 14-19 partnership consider it.