

Brighton & Hove City Council

For general release

Meeting: Children, Families & Schools Sub-Committee
Overview and Scrutiny Organisation Committee

Date: Monday 8 September 2003
Monday 17th November 2003

Report of: Director Children, Families and Schools

Subject: SSI Spring Delivery & Improvement Statement

Wards affected: All

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to inform the Sub Committee and the Overview and Scrutiny Organisation Committee of the outcomes from the Spring Delivery & Improvement Statement.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the contents of the Delivery & Improvement Statement.

3. Information

- 3.1 As part of the national performance framework for councils with social services responsibilities they must return a Delivery & Improvement Statement to the Social Service Inspectorate in the spring and autumn of each year.
- 3.2 The Delivery & Improvement Statement identifies local progress against national priorities. For Children, Families and Schools most of these targets were previously established via the Quality Protects MAP. In 2002/3 these matters were reported to committee via the Spring and Autumn position statement.
- 3.3 Councils must respond to a specified pro forma, which includes progress against key milestones, progress against specific performance indicators/targets, key achievements, key priorities for the year and efficiency savings. This information is not always as accessible as might be preferred – a short presentation will be made at committee to draw out the key features of the report.

- 3.4 The Delivery & Improvement Statement is divided into 3 sections: Children, Adults and Management/Resources and appended to this document is the section referring to children's services. Each section is then divided into sub sections related to service user groups. A full copy of the whole report is available from the Members' Library. Feedback from the Department of Health with regard to the Delivery & Improvement Statement has not yet been received if it is received this information will be made available at the committee.
- 3.5 It is a requirement that the contents of the Delivery & Improvement Statement are presented to an open committee of the council. Delivery & Improvement Statement provides a comprehensive range of information to assist councillors in their monitoring of performance within the Directorate.
- 3.6 The Spring Delivery & Improvement Statement focuses on the priorities and targets for the coming year, whilst the Delivery & Improvement Statement seeks to establish progress against these priorities and targets.
- 3.7 Where the Delivery & Improvement Statement allows for text this is strictly limited, hence the shorthand nature of some responses.

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Financial implications

The targets within this statement should be implemented from within existing budgets for 2003/4. The Council will received the fifth and final Quality Protects grant for 2003/04. This grant totals £3.038m, made up of £1.828m leaving care grant and £0.988m for Mainstream and Disabled Children’s Services, and £0.167m for new grant areas. There is a capital allocation of £0.055m in respect of IT for Looked After Children. Within the Delivery & Improvement Statement there are details of how this grant will be spent during the year. *Finance Officer consulted: Louise Hoten*

Legal implications

The Department is required to meet statutory obligations under the Children Act 1989, the Adoption Act 1976, the Carers (Recognition Services Act) 1995, the Carers and Disabled Children Act 2000 and associated regulations and the Children (Leaving Care) Act. Human rights implications under the Human Rights Act 1998 arise in connection with the provision of statutory services to children and families in need. Most notably the following Articles are relevant. Article 2 (Right to life); Art. 3 (Prohibition of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment); Art. 5 (Right to liberty and security of person); Art. 6 (Right to a fair hearing); Art. 8 (Respect for private and family life, home or correspondence); and Art.14 (The enjoyment of the rights and freedoms set forth in the convention shall be secured without discrimination). *Lawyer consulted: Natasha Watson*

Corporate/City-wide implications

The DIS will be an element of the performance rating for social services which in turn is an important element of the Council’s overall rating under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA).

Risk assessment

Any risks associated with the proposals have been identified and addressed within the main body of the report.

Sustainability implications

There are no specific sustainability issues.

Equalities implications

The DIS has specific questions in relation to Equalities, see sections 3104,3108,3109, and 3136 to 3145.This is in the MNR section of the report available on The Wave and Council website.

Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder

The Youth Offending Team is responsible for work around crime and disorder for young people. There are specific sections in the DIS relating to crime and disorder see sections 1401, 1402 & 1405,

Background papers

Children's Section of DIS attached as appendix 1 and full DIS available in Member's library

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