

AGENDA

Meeting: Cabinet
Place: Council Chamber - Council Offices, Bradley Road, Trowbridge
Date: Tuesday 26 July 2011
Time: 10.30 am

Membership:

Cllr John Brady	Cabinet Member for Finance Performance and Risk
Cllr Lionel Grundy OBE	Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Cllr Keith Humphries	Cabinet Member for Public Health and Protection Services
Cllr John Noeken	Cabinet Member for Resources
Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philippe	Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Strategic Planning
Cllr Jane Scott OBE	Leader of the Council
Cllr Toby Sturgis	Cabinet Member for Waste, Property and Development Control Services
Cllr John Thomson	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing
Cllr Dick Tonge	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport
Cllr Stuart Wheeler	Cabinet Member for Campus Development and Culture (including Leisure, Sport and Libraries)


Please direct any enquiries on this Agenda to Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, County Hall, Trowbridge, direct line 01225 718024 or email yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk

Press enquiries to Communications on direct lines (01225)713114/713115.

All public reports referred to on this agenda are available on the Council's website at www.wiltshire.gov.uk

Part I

Items to be considered while the meeting is open to the public

Key Decisions Matters defined as 'Key' Decisions and included in the Council's Forward Work Plan are shown as 

1. **Apologies**

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** (*Pages 1 - 6*)

To confirm and sign the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 14 June 2011, previously circulated.

3. **Leader's announcements**

4. **Declarations of Interest**

To receive any declarations of personal or prejudicial interests or dispensations granted by the Standards Committee.


5. **Public participation**

The Council welcomes contributions from members of the public. This meeting is open to the public, who may ask a question or make a statement. Written notice of questions or statements should be given to Yamina Rhouati of Democratic Services by 12.00 noon on Friday 22 July 2011. Anyone wishing to ask a question or make a statement should contact the officer named above.

6. **Reducing Child Poverty Strategy** (*Pages 7 - 86*)

Report of the Corporate Director, Children and Education and the Corporate Director, Public Health and Wellbeing is circulated.

7. **Nursing Home Provision for Older People including those with Mental Health Problems and People with Physical Impairments.** (*Pages 87 - 94*)

 Report of the Corporate Director, Department of Community Services is circulated

8. **Car Parking Redemption Scheme**

Report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning to follow

9. **Budget Monitoring**

Report of the Interim Chief Finance Officer to follow

10. **Annual Report on Treasury Management 2010-11 (Pages 95 - 108)**

Report of the Interim Chief Finance Officer is circulated

11. **Street Lighting Contract (Pages 109 - 116)**

Report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning is circulated

12. **Urgent Items**

Any other items of business, which the Chairman agrees to consider as a matter of urgency

13. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To consider passing the following resolution:

To agree that in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the public from the meeting for the business specified in Item Numbers 14, 15, 16 and 17 because it is likely that if members of the public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information, as indicated in each case, of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information to the public.

Part II

Items during whose consideration it is recommended that the public should be excluded because of the likelihood that exempt information would be disclosed


Part II

14. **Street Lighting Contract (Pages 117 - 120)**

Confidential report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning is circulated

Exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

15. **Helping People to Live at Home in Wiltshire** (*Pages 121 - 132*)

 Confidential report of the Corporate Director, Department of Community Services is circulated

Exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

16. **Extra Care Housing - Joint Procurement** (*Pages 133 - 140*)

Confidential report of the Corporate Director, Department of Community Services is circulated

Exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

17. **Transformation of the Passenger Assistant Service** (*Pages 141 - 176*)

Confidential report of the Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning is circulated

Exempt by virtue of paragraphs 3 and 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

The items on this agenda reflect the key goals of Wiltshire Council, namely 'Work together to support Wiltshire's Communities', 'Deliver high quality, low cost, customer focused services and 'Ensure local, open, honest decision making'

CABINET

MINUTES of a MEETING held in COUNCIL CHAMBER - COUNCIL OFFICES,
MONKTON PARK, CHIPPENHAM on Tuesday, 14 June 2011.

Cllr John Brady	Cabinet Member for Finance Performance and Risk
Cllr Lionel Grundy OBE	Cabinet Member for Children's Services
Cllr John Noeken	Cabinet Member for Resources
Cllr Fleur de Rhe-Philippe	Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Strategic Planning
Cllr Jane Scott OBE	Leader of the Council
Cllr Toby Sturgis	Cabinet Member for Waste, Property and Development Control Services
Cllr John Thomson	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Adult Care, Communities and Housing
Cllr Dick Tonge	Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

Also in Attendance:	Cllr Liz Bryant
	Cllr Allison Bucknell
	Cllr Richard Gamble
	Cllr Jon Hubbard
	Cllr David Jenkins
	Cllr Alan Macrae
	Cllr Howard Marshall
	Cllr Bill Moss
	Cllr Jeff Osborn
	Cllr Anthony Trotman

79. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Keith Humphries, Cabinet member for Public Health and Protection Services and Stuart Wheeler Cabinet member for Campus Development and Culture

80. Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of the two meetings held on 24 May 2011 were presented.

Resolved:

To approve as correct records and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 24 May 2011

81. Leader's announcements

The Leader said that she was very pleased to see that the figures for long term unemployment had fallen in Wiltshire and that this was through the Council's work on Action for Wiltshire.

82. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

83. Public participation

Father Jean-Patrice Coulon, representing the Catholic community of Devizes as Parish Priest addressed Cabinet on the issue of home-to school transport for pupils at denominational schools which would be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 26 July 2011. Father Coulon expressed concern over the timing of the meeting being the first week of the school Summer holidays and asked that consideration be given to holding a pre-meeting briefing with interested parties.

Cllr Tonge, Cabinet member for Highways and Transport responded.

Mr Michael Sprules, Chairman of Residents Against Development Affecting Recreational Land (RADAR) addressed the committee on the issue of the planning process and in particular the consultation element.

84. Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations DPD: Results of Further Assessments and Draft DPD in May 2011

Public participation

Questions

A question had been received from Ms Ginny Scrope and the Leader gave her the opportunity to address Cabinet.

Cllr Fleur de Rhe Philipe, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Strategic Planning presented the report which informed Cabinet of the findings of detailed assessments undertaken on the remaining 22 site options for sand and gravel extraction and sought approval for a revised local forecast rate of 1.2 million tonnes per annum, to be used as the basis upon which to prepare the proposed submission draft Minerals Sites DPD. She added that there were now just eight remaining sites stressing that these had been assessed objectively.

Resolved:

That Cabinet:

- a. **Agrees a local forecast rate of 1.2 million tonnes per annum is used as the basis for making provision in the emerging Aggregate Minerals Sites Allocations DPD.**
- b. **Agrees that the sites identified in Option 2 of Appendix 2 of the report are carried forward into the proposed submission draft Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations DPD.**
- c. **Agrees that all remaining site options not included in Option 2 of Appendix 2 of the report are dropped from further consideration.**
- d. **Notes that a proposed submission draft Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations DPD will be presented to Cabinet in September 2011 for approval to commence formal consultation for a period of six weeks.**

Reason for the decision

To ensure that an appropriate level of provision for sand and gravel extraction is established for Wiltshire and Swindon, in accordance with national and local policy and sufficient sites are identified to meet this requirement. Once adopted, the Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations DPD will form part of the Council's policy framework

85. Update on Performance

Cllr John Brady, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Risk presented a report which focused on the Council's performance against the Corporate Plan. It also provided top line summary information on the Council's work with our partners in the Local Agreement for Wiltshire. He added that this was the last time that the report would be presented in this format and in future it would be based on the Business Plan.

Resolved:

To note progress for the year 2010/11.

Reason for the decision

To keep Cabinet informed about progress and to provide an update on the PRG Scheme for Area Boards.

86. Revenue Outturn 2010/11

Cllr John Brady, Cabinet Member for Finance, Performance and Risk presented a report which advised Cabinet of the revenue outturn position for financial year 2010/2011. He added that he was pleased with the position and that there was now an underspend of £0.733 million which was a £1.693 million decrease in the forecast position at month 10.

The Leader thanked all departments for helping to achieve this position.

Resolved:

That Cabinet notes the report showing an outturn underspend of £0.733 million and agrees that this will be put into the reserves for future use.

87. Complaint - Wiltshire Involvement Network

Public Participation

Questions

A question had been received from Mr Phil Matthews and the Leader gave him an opportunity to address the Cabinet.

The Chief Executive presented a report which advised Cabinet of the outcome of a review commissioned into the process followed in connection with the investigation of a complaint arising from a meeting of Wiltshire Involvement Network (WIN) on 10 August 2010.

Resolved:

- a. To agree that the Investigation Report dated 31 August 2010 is withdrawn.**
- b. To agree that a full review is undertaken of the structure/governance/decision making process of the LINK arrangement to establish whether there is clear and appropriate governance processes in place including the following: -**
 - i. dealing with Equality and Diversity issues and, in particular, complaints concerning the same.**
 - ii. dealing with governance/decision making if for any reason an appointed host organisation or third party is no longer in place.**
- c. To agree to a review of Wiltshire Council's policies and procedures when dealing with complaints made to the Council about third party bodies with which the Council is involved to**

ensure that there are clear guidelines for officers when dealing with these issues.

- d. The reviews set out in 2 and 3 above to provide the basis for a staged review of other third party arrangements within the Council.**
- e. To agree to a reminder/training to all staff to obtain legal advice at an early stage when dealing with situations which involve complexity, political sensitivity and/or governance arrangements with third parties.**

Reason for the decision

To improve the arrangements for dealing with complaints of this nature involving third parties and to enable the Council to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant legislation more effectively.

88. Urgent Items

The Leader approved consideration of the following item at minute no. 89 – Proposed Closure of Grafton Primary School as urgent business in order to determine the matter prior to the next scheduled meeting

89. Proposed closure of Grafton Primary School

Public participation

Statement

The Leader drew attention to a statement which had been received from Tamara Reay and Sue England, Co-Chair Governors, Grafton Church of England Primary School

Councillor Lionel Grundy Cabinet member for Children's Services presented a report which set out the background to, and results of, the statutory consultation proposing the closure of Grafton Primary School undertaken between 21 April and 2 June 2011.

Resolved:

- a. To note the objection to the proposal to close (discontinue) Grafton Primary School.**
- b. To note the commentary on the objection.**

- c. To agree that in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act the closure (discontinuation) of Grafton Primary School will take effect from 31 August 2011.**

Reason for the decision

Cabinet is required to consider the objection that has been received, the commentary on this objection and decide whether to proceed with the closure.

(Duration of meeting: 10.30 - 11.45 am)

These decisions were published on the 17 June 2011 and will come into force on 27 June 2011

The Officer who has produced these minutes is Yamina Rhouati, of Democratic Services, direct line 01225 718024 or e-mail yamina.rhouati@wiltshire.gov.uk
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Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

26 July 2011

Subject: Reducing Child Poverty Strategy

**Cabinet member: Councillor Lionel Grundy - Children's Services
Councillor Keith Humphries - Public Health & Public
Protection Services**

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary

1. The purpose of this report is for Cabinet to approve the Wiltshire Reducing Child Poverty Strategy.
2. Reducing child poverty has been a central government target for many years. The Child Poverty Act, which commits the current and future governments, to eradicating child poverty by 2020 received Royal Assent in March 2010. The Act requires central government to produce a national strategy and reduce child poverty. It also requires local areas to address child poverty through cooperation between partners, the production of a needs assessment and implementation of a child poverty strategy.
3. There are a number of ways that child poverty can be measured. The one most often used by central government denotes that children are living in poverty if their household income is less than 60% of the median national income. Using this measure, nationally there are approximately 2.8 million children (22%) living in poverty and approximately 11,000 (11%) living in Wiltshire. These figures mask huge variability when considering small areas and there are areas of Wiltshire where over 30% of children are living in poverty.
4. The Wiltshire needs assessment and strategy was prepared by a multi-agency task group, and was informed through consultation with a wide audience including early years' settings, schools, thematic partnerships, Wiltshire Assembly, parents and young people. The key strategic objectives of the strategy are:
 - Providing support to the 0-5 year olds in the most disadvantaged families
 - Narrowing the Educational Attainment Gap
 - An inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all
 - Consolidated, geographic approaches to child poverty
 - Keeping child poverty in the spotlight.

Proposal

4. To approve the Reducing Child Poverty Strategy and draft delivery plan.

Reason for Proposal

5. To meet the statutory duty under the Child Poverty Act 2010 for the Local Authority to produce a needs assessment and local strategy.

Carolyn Godfrey

Corporate Director, Children and Education

Maggie Rae

Corporate Director, Public Health and Wellbeing

26 July 2011

Subject: Reducing Child Poverty Strategy

**Cabinet member: Councillor Lionel Grundy - Children and Education
Councillor Keith Humphries - Public Health & Public
Protection Services**

Key Decision: No

Purpose of Report

5. For Cabinet to approve the Wiltshire Reducing Child Poverty Strategy.

Background

2. Reducing child poverty has been a central government target for many years. The Child Poverty Act, which commits the current and future governments, to eradicating child poverty by 2020 received Royal Assent in March 2010. The Act requires central government to produce a national strategy and reduce child poverty. It also requires local areas to address child poverty through cooperation between partners, the production of a needs assessment and implementation of a child poverty strategy.
3. It is important to remember that the local authority and its partners are required to work towards reducing child poverty and mitigating its effects. However, national policy and the state of the economy have significant impact. The new central government child poverty strategy identifies a number of key policy changes which it intends to make in order to reduce poverty. Social mobility is a key factor in its plans.
4. The Coalition produced its child poverty strategy in April 2011 "A New Approach to Child Poverty: Tackling the Causes of Disadvantage and Transforming Families Lives". Whilst recognising the importance of income, its aims are also relates to "strengthening families, encouraging responsibility, promoting work, guaranteeing fairness and proving support to the most vulnerable". It points to a large number of policy changes which it expects to impact on poverty including the introduction of the Universal Credit, roll out of the Work Programme, Pupil premiums added to schools budgets and extending the role of the Independent Reviewer on social mobility to include child poverty.
5. There are a number of ways that child poverty can be measured. The one most often used by central government denotes that children are living in

poverty if their household income is less than 60% of the median national income. Using this measure, nationally there are approximately 2.8 million children (22%) living in poverty and approximately 11,000 (11%) living in Wiltshire. These figures mask huge variability when considering small areas and there are areas of Wiltshire where over 30% of children are living in poverty.

6. The Wiltshire draft needs assessment and strategy was prepared by a multi-agency task group including representatives from Wiltshire Council (Children and Education, Economic Development, Housing, Research and Intelligence), NHS Wiltshire, Police and Job Centre Plus. The Strategy suggested 5 key strategic objectives:
 - Keeping child poverty in the spotlight
 - Local partners to sign up to a reducing child poverty charter.
 - Providing support to the 0-5 year olds in the most disadvantaged families
 - Further develop the role of the children's centres.
 - Deliver the Healthy Child Programme within available resources.
 - Narrowing the educational attainment gap
 - Support and encourage the take-up of free childcare places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
 - Schools and other agencies to continue to address the attainment gap.
 - Creating an inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all
 - The Wiltshire Work and Skills Plan identifies five priority themes and includes detailed action plans for addressing worklessness.
 - Considering a consolidated, geographic approach to areas of concentrated child poverty
7. The needs assessment and strategy were sent out for wide consultation from 19 January – 4 April 2011. Contributions to the consultation were invited from a wide audience including early years' settings, schools, thematic partnerships, Wiltshire Assembly, parents and young people. A stakeholder event was held in March which attracted a wide variety of attendees and useful contributions.

Main Considerations for the Council

8. The summary of the results of the consultation are included as appendix 1.
9. In general, the feedback was supportive of the proposed strategic objectives but recognised the tensions with the current economic climate. There was

also suggestion that the objectives were re-worded and re-ordered so they are now:

- Provide support to the 0-5 year olds in the most disadvantaged families
- Narrowing the Educational Attainment Gap
- An inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all
- Consolidated, geographic approaches to child poverty
- Keep child poverty in the spotlight.

10. Much of the feedback included discussion and suggestions of what currently happens “on the ground” and what needs to be improved. There was an emphasis on the need for strong, coordinated multiagency working across sectors. The need for accessible, good information, support and guidance to families was highlighted as key, alongside different agencies being aware of the network of support that was available so that they could signpost families to additional support services correctly. The feedback also pointed to a greater emphasis in the strategy on the groups most vulnerable to poverty. This section has been brought into the strategy from the needs assessment to highlight those at risk.
11. The revised needs assessment and strategy are included with this report as appendices 2 and 3. It is evident that national and local strategies need to work together to impact on poverty and its effects.
12. A draft high level delivery plan has been written and is included at appendix 4. The full set of consultation responses will be circulated to those involved in the implementation of the delivery plan to influence their actions.
13. It is important to note that some work plans already exist to deliver parts of this strategy and that the intention is not to create an extra layer of monitoring or bureaucracy but to capitalise on existing work that will help mitigate against child poverty and to focus additional energy into strategic objectives 4 and 5 which will need more planning and effort. Likewise, there are strategies that also help reduce child poverty and mitigate the effects, for example the Family and Parenting Support Commissioning Strategy and the draft Housing Strategy, the impact of which can be considered as part of the geographical approach that is outlined in objective 4.
14. The Children and Young People’s Commissioning Executive has been overseeing the development of the needs assessment, strategy and delivery plan and has agreed the continuation of a small multiagency task group, meeting twice a year, to monitor the implementation and impact of this strategy. The Public Services Board will receive an annual update.
15. The strategy will continue to be led by the Children and Young People’s Commissioning Executive, supported by the Corporate Directors for Children and Education and Public Health and Wellbeing however moves are being considered to locate leadership of this strategy closer to Economic Development.

Environmental and climate change considerations

16. The national 2020 Reducing Child Poverty Strategy highlights a number of building blocks that need to be put in place to generate positive change. As the Energy, Change and Opportunity (ECO) team is currently working on reducing fuel poverty and improving the energy efficiency of properties in Wiltshire, there are a number of common synergies between these work streams related to health, financial support and housing aspects.
17. Highlighting one example from the work of the ECO Team, the Warmer Wiltshire insulation scheme has recently been expanded to provide grants for a selection of families with young children. This will assist them to save money on energy bills and provide a healthier living environment. Whilst reducing fuel poverty does not necessarily result in children moving out of poverty, it is an integral component.
18. Greater engagement with the ECO Team during the term of this strategy would assist in highlighting some cross cutting projects that could be used to achieve collective goals.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

19. The strategy supports greater inclusion and sets objectives to improve outcomes for people in many vulnerable groups (see the “Children at Greatest Risk of Poverty section in the needs assessment) who are more likely to be at risk of living in poverty. The implementation of the strategy will result in reducing the inequality gaps and promoting cohesive communities.

Risk Assessment

20. There are risks related to achieving a reduction in child poverty in Wiltshire during the three years lifetime of this strategy, many of which are difficult to mitigate locally. For example, the current economic downturn heightens the risk of more families living in poverty; the introduction of the universal credit and Work Programme should be positive and help people to optimise their benefits and find appropriate paid employment however there may be unforeseen consequences to the changes.
21. The introduction of the Universal Benefit also means that the measurement of families in poverty could shift slightly making monitoring difficult. The current measures combine information from child tax credits, income support and job seekers allowance.
22. The key strategic objectives in this strategy fit well with the national strategy and so help to support the central government approach. They support early intervention, educational achievement, promoting work, financial inclusion and localised approaches.

Financial Implications

23. There is no new money directly tied to this strategy. Objectives 1 – 3 of the strategy include programmes of work that are already funded by the Council, NHS Wiltshire and their partners. Many other services are provided throughout the voluntary and community sectors, some of which are funded by the local public sector agencies but others that attract funding from elsewhere.
24. The greater funding implication is to the nation from the direct and indirect costs of supporting families in poverty who historically have a range of poorer outcomes.

Legal Implications

25. Under the Child Poverty Act 2010, the Local Authority is required to work towards reducing child poverty through cooperation with its partners and the production of a needs assessment and local strategy.

Options Considered

26. There are no alternative options to consider as it is a statutory requirement for each area to develop and publish a needs assessment and strategy.

Conclusions

27. The approval and implementation of this strategy will provide a framework for reducing child poverty and mitigating its effects over the next 3 years. It will encourage a focus on child poverty, good multiagency working and improve outcomes for children and young people in Wiltshire.

Proposal

28. To approve the Reducing Child Poverty Strategy and draft delivery plan.

Carolyn Godfrey
Corporate Director, Children and Education
Maggie Rae
Corporate Director, Public Health and Wellbeing

Report Author:

Lynda Cox, Head of Performance and Information Management, Department of Children and Education

Alison Bell, Consultant in Public Health, NHS Wiltshire

June 2011

Background Papers

Feedback from consultation

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Summary of consultation feedback

Appendix 2 – Needs Assessment

Appendix 3 – Reducing Child Poverty Strategy

Appendix 4 – Draft high-level Delivery Plan

Reducing Child Poverty Strategy Summary of Consultation Responses

1. Introduction

4 separate reports have been produced on different aspects of the consultation which took place on the draft reducing child poverty strategy. Reports are available on:

- Feedback on young people's focus group
- Feedback from discussions with parents
- Notes from the stakeholder workshop
- Summary of written consultation responses

This paper summarises the key messages highlighted in the 4 reports on factors which impact on child poverty and strategic objectives and actions for reducing or alleviating the impact of child poverty. It does not cover all the issues raised but focuses on key issues and themes.

Responses to the consultation were generally supportive and positive, recognising the need to address child poverty in Wiltshire and its effects on children's lives, and agreeing with the direction of the draft strategy.

2. Factors which impact on child poverty

Key issues raised on factors which impact on child poverty were:

- Does the draft reducing child poverty strategy sufficiently address the impact of the following:
 - Poor housing and housing issues.
 - Poor health and disability of both parents and children
 - Mental health problems
 - Misuse of drugs and alcohol
 - Fuel poverty
 - Family breakdown
- Does the strategy reflect the key local employment issues eg. Over-reliance on service industries and agriculture mean a culture of low pay in the county. The loss of jobs in major local employers.
- Are transport issues highlighted sufficiently?
- Is there sufficient analysis of impact of changes to Government policy for example impact of changes to Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), housing benefit changes.

- Although it is mentioned, more information could be provided on the military presence and its impact on child poverty in Wiltshire. In particular – is there a relationship ie. does a high military presence increase child poverty?

3. Strategic Objectives and Key Actions

3.1 Strategic Objective 1 Keep child poverty in the spotlight

Some queries and ideas for keeping child poverty in the spotlight

- It is not so much keeping child poverty in the spotlight but rather ensuring the strategy, its aims and delivering the objectives is fully embedded at *every* level of *every* agency.
- How would a charter actually help? Will agencies follow it? We are not convinced that a “charter” or “champions” will ensure the proper embedding of the aims and objectives.
- Any new work should be built on existing groups rather than create new ones
- Build partnership with private sector. Ask what they can contribute? Eg: opportunities, time, resources, location of offices, businessmen “telling their stories” to young people, working with schools
- Need to ensure the Involvement of GPs.

3.2 Strategic Objective 2 Provide support to the 0-5 year olds in the most disadvantaged families

Some queries and ideas on providing support to the 0-5 years olds in the most disadvantaged families

- Although no-one disagreed with the importance of support for 0 to 5 year olds there was also support for focusing on support for families and parents of children over 5.
- The importance of taking a multi agency approach and of the role of Children’s centres was emphasised.
- Parents thought pre-schools could do more to assist with ensuring children are ready for school e.g. sitting down, listening etc. Schools could visit early years settings which would help with building confidence of parents.
- Parents valued advice from other parents and formal parenting courses.
- Parents valued access to family learning and to adult literacy and numeracy courses
- Action should include how the role of adult mental health, drug and alcohol service can support this objective.

3.3 Strategic Objective 3 Narrow the educational attainment gap

Some queries and ideas on narrowing the educational attainment gap

- Does this mean narrowing the gap at all ages?

- All young people taking part in the consultation recognised the need to do well at school, in order to get a good job. Some young people felt that schools failed in teaching practical skills that would better support them to get jobs. Apprenticeships were rated highly, particularly with some of the older males.
- It would be helpful to be more specific about what ‘schools and settings’ need to do/are doing to “continue to address the attainment gap...”
- There is a link between this objective and objective 2 as support and training for parents can assist with narrowing the attainment gap.
- Young people talked about the difficulties that some young people are faced with when getting support from parents with school work. If parents did not do very well at school themselves, they might find it difficult to help their child or give them the support they need.
- Young people felt that there needed to be better communication between their school and home life.
- Parents mentioned support in maths and English – “so much has changed and have to understand this to help them.”
- Parents wanted school to keep parents updated on progress. If there are difficulties parents needed to know as soon as possible and parents needed advice on how to support their child.

3.4 Strategic Objective 4 An inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all

Some queries and ideas on developing an inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all

- Support is needed for creation of jobs in sustainable sections of the economy.
- Jobs growth is important – how will this priority be backed up by local planning policy?
- Parents thought more parents would take up paid work if there were more courses in IT and Business skills to re-educate where skills are out of date.
- Parents thought people who refuse to work need more education to understand why they need to work.
- Volunteering can be useful.
- More opportunities for flexible working eg Term time only jobs
- Need to address causes of inter generational worklessness and “belief systems” held by workless families.

3.5 Strategic Objective 5 Consideration of a consolidated geographic approach to areas of concentrated child poverty.

Some queries and ideas on developing a consolidated geographic approach to areas of concentrated child poverty.

- Young people were positive about their communities. Can we build on this positive aspect? Focus on empowering, enabling and raising aspirations.
- Community area board engagement and ownership is crucial. Needs to be embedded in neighbourhood plans.
- This objective fits well into the national agendas of localism and the Big Society.
- In order to do this every agency must understand the importance of this approach.

3.6 Other issues to address in strategic objectives and/or action plans:

- What are the plans for addressing housing issues which impact on child poverty?
- Multi-agency work – should there be a separate strategic objective or does this link to strategic objective 1?
 - Partnership is key and there needs to be a clear multi-agency approach
 - More reference to and links with plans for developing the Common Assessment Framework
 - Information sharing is important. Need effective data sharing protocols between main agencies such as housing, police, health, education and voluntary sector.
- Should there be a separate objective on work with young people or does this link to objective 3?
 - Need to create aspiration, to demonstrate to children and young people that their life can be different
 - Breaking the cycle. Working with young people 14+ years to raise expectations and offer alternatives

**Wiltshire Child Poverty
Needs Assessment**

2.51 June 2011

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UK definition of child poverty is 'the number of children (under 18 years) who live in households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the contemporary median.' This equates to families in receipt of Child Tax Credits (CTC).

An analysis by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) demonstrated that in 2008 Wiltshire had 11,120 children living in poverty, which represents 11.0% of children, according to their data. This compares well with other local authority areas in the South West of England, but masks the fact that of the 281 lower super output areas, 42 have over 20% and 9 have over 30% of children living in poverty.

Lower Layer Super Output Area's (LSOA)	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children*	Under 16	All Children*
Melksham North - north east	145	160	44.3%	42.7%
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	205	230	43.1%	41.9%
Salisbury St Martin - central	110	125	39.2%	38.0%
Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	135	150	34.4%	33.6%
Trowbridge drynham - Lower Studley	185	200	34.3%	33.5%
Wootton Bassett North - central	115	135	32.9%	32.3%
Salisbury Bemerton - south	135	150	31.3%	31.3%
Salisbury Bemerton - west	145	160	31.4%	30.3%
Chippenham Queens - east	95	105	31.3%	30.1%
Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	115	130	31.2%	29.8%

*Their data includes all children and young people aged 0-19 years

These areas of higher child poverty match the top ten areas of higher deprivation according to Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD 2010) with the exception of Wootton Bassett North – Central and Chippenham Hill Rise, which don't appear in the IMD top ten. These geographical areas of deprivation have remained fairly constant over time and so could be considered the 'hard core' of child poverty in Wiltshire.

Historically worklessness has been a major cause of children living in poverty. However, the underlying causes as to why adults are out of work are complicated. The issues are different for those long term unemployed versus those who have recently lost their job.

The number of people defined as 'long term unemployed' (i.e. over 6 months) is 1555 as of October 2010, and of these 730 had been claiming JSA for 12 months or more (i.e. the 'very long term unemployed'). Job Centre Plus data shows that 70 people have been claiming JSA for 2 years or more. To improve young people's outcomes and outlook on life, it is vital that the cycle of dependency on benefits is broken and young people aspire to a career or work life.

An estimated 2,900 people were let go by Wiltshire's workplaces between December 2007 and December 2009. The hardest hit workplace economies in terms of the

volumes of losses are Salisbury, Chippenham and Trowbridge (each losing around 1,000 jobs, 600 jobs and 400 jobs respectively).

A recent national study by the Institute for Public Policy Research found that as a result of the recession 'in work' poverty has increased as a result of reduction in hours and wage freezes. Nationally the proportion of poor children living in working households increased to 61% in 2008/9 from 50% in 2005/6. In numbers terms this translates to 1.7 million poor children in working households compared to 1.1 million in workless households.

Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to leave school without qualifications. Local authorities measure the attainment gap in a standardised way, which enable comparison with other areas. The first measure is at Foundation Stage Profile which measures achievements of children aged five against 13 assessment scales. The gap between the average score of all children average score of the lowest achieving 20% of children is calculated and Wiltshire has been successful in reducing this gap (2007 – 35.5% to 2010 29.2%, which compares favourably against a national average of 32.7%).

There are also measures of attainment at Key Stage 2 and GCSE level in English and Maths, for children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM) compared with children who are not eligible for FSM. The gap in attainment at key Stage 2 is 27% (compared with 21% nationally) and at GCSE the gap in attainment for FSM / non FSM is 36% (compared to 28% nationally.)

Absenteeism rates and exclusion rates in Wiltshire are similar to national rates

Getting to work, getting to school or college and getting to child care is all dependent on transport. Poor public transport can mean that low income families are forced into car ownership; reducing the money they have available to spend on other things. As yet we have no hard data to demonstrate this need, but anecdotal reports support the prioritisation of this thematic area.

There has been recognition during the compilation of the needs assessment that more up to date data, using consistent populations and definitions would inform the development of a child poverty strategy and our response to mitigating these effects.

2. BACKGROUND

The first article of the United Nations Charter on the Rights of the Child states that *“everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights as defined by the convention. From the moment a child is born he or she should receive the full benefits of access to the protection, provision, and participation enshrined in the Convention to ensure a flying start in life”*

Article 27 of the Charter states that;

“Children have a right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and mental needs. The Government should help families who cannot afford to provide this.”

The UK has one of the worst rates of child poverty in the industrialised world. In 1999 the Government made a pledge to eradicate child poverty in the UK. The first milestone of halving children living in poverty by 2010 is upon us and we have failed. The next ambitious target is to eradicate child poverty by 2020. Children and young people growing up in poor households are known to have poorer outcomes, in relation to their physical and mental health, educational attainment and long term economic productivity.

Under the Child Poverty Act, Local Authorities and named partner authorities have a duty to cooperate with a view to reducing the effects of child poverty in their local areas. They must produce a local child poverty needs assessment by April 2011, which in turn will inform the development of a local child poverty reduction strategy.

This needs assessment was produced in draft and consulted on for three months before being finalised

3. SETTING THE SCENE

Wiltshire is a large, predominantly rural and generally prosperous county with a population of 456,100 (ONS Mid Year Estimate 2009). Almost half of the population resides in towns and villages with less than 5,000 people and a quarter live in villages of fewer than 1,000 people.

Approximately 90% of the county is classified as rural. The relationship between the city of Salisbury and the largest towns of Chippenham & Trowbridge and the rest of the county has a significant effect on transport, employment and travel to work issues, housing and economic needs.

We are familiar, through the work of our Joint Strategic Assessment¹, with our areas of poverty and deprivation. There are challenges in rural areas with measures of deprivation, as deprivation is less obvious and can be ‘hidden’ and harder to address because of a lack of economies of scale and the distances involved.

Deprivation data is usually reported against defined geographical areas known as Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). There are 281LSOA in Wiltshire. These are

¹ Joint Strategic Assessment <http://www.intelligencenetwork.org.uk/health/jsna/>

defined nationally for the release of statistical information at a small geographical area

For planning purposes the County is split into 20 community areas, broadly around each of the larger market towns.

4. CHILD POVERTY IN WILTSHIRE

The UK definition of child poverty is ‘the number of children (under 18 years) who live in households whose equivalised income is below 60% of the contemporary median.’ This equates to families in receipt of Child Tax Credits

Families in receipt of income support or Jobseekers Allowance are considered to be proxy measures for children living in families in poverty.

Table 1 Child population of Wiltshire

Age(Mid year 2010)	Number	Age(Mid year 2010)	Number
0	5170	10	6020
1	5300	11	6240
2	5500	12	6200
3	5390	13	6620
4	5420	14	5830
5	5430	15	6160
6	5570	16	5910
7	5570	17	5720
8	5410	18	5080
9	5740		
Total		108, 280	

Source: Wiltshire Council Base Population Projection Migration Led - prepared 12/10/2010 using POPGROUP software.

4.1. Children Living in Poverty

Poor Children & Young Peoples’ life chances are dependent on a complex combination of low household income, a lack of equal opportunities and social exclusion. Some children who grow up in such an environment will go on to achieve their full potential but many others will not. If we embrace the principle that ‘Every Child Matters’ we must ensure that **all children have an equal chance to fulfil their potential** and therefore vital that we identify those children and young people and assess their needs.

An analysis by HMRC demonstrated that in 2008 Wiltshire had 11,120 children (0-19yrs) living in poverty, which represents 11.0% of children. This compares well with other local authority areas in the South West of England, but masks the fact that of the 281 lower super output areas, 42 have over 20% and 9 have over 30% of children living in poverty.

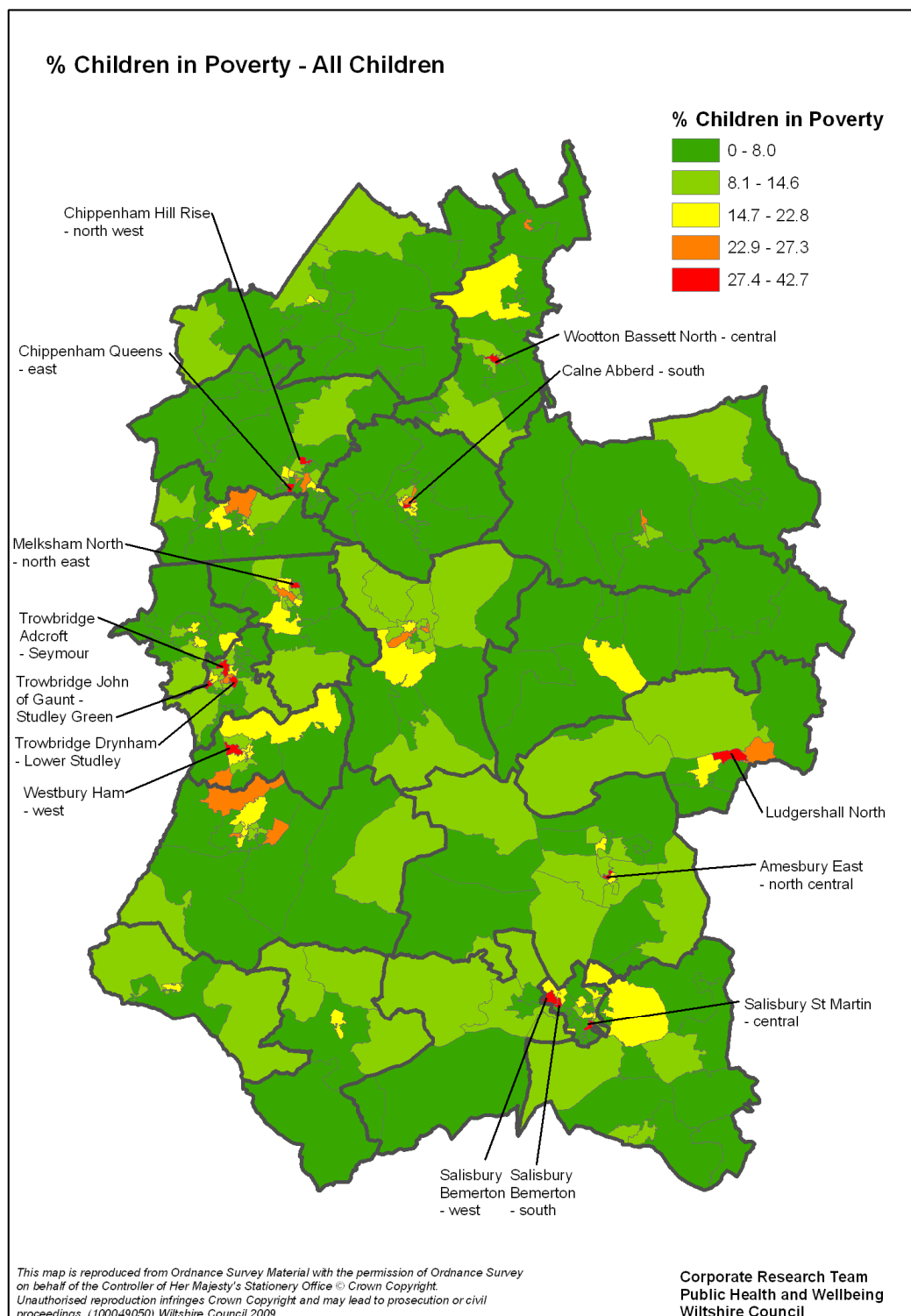
See Annex 1: Percentage of children living in poverty By LSOA/Community area, number of children in families in receipt of CTC or IS/JSA, aged under 16 yrs and under 20yrs

Table 2 LSOAs with highest percentage of children in poverty-2008 (HMRC)

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children*	Under 16	All Children*
Melksham North - north east	145	160	44.3%	42.7%
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	205	230	43.1%	41.9%
Salisbury St Martin - central	110	125	39.2%	38.0%
Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	135	150	34.4%	33.6%
Trowbridge drynham - Lower Studley	185	200	34.3%	33.5%
Wootton Bassett North - central	115	135	32.9%	32.3%
Salisbury Bemerton - south	135	150	31.3%	31.3%
Salisbury Bemerton - west	145	160	31.4%	30.3%
Chippenham Queens - east	95	105	31.3%	30.1%
Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	115	130	31.2%	29.8%
Calne Abberd - south	65	70	30.0%	29.0%
Ludgershall north	75	85	28.3%	28.1%
Westbury Ham - west	110	130	28.2%	28.0%
Amesbury East - north central	70	75	29.6%	27.4%
Melksham North - south west	70	85	26.2%	27.3%
Cricklade central	85	95	27.5%	26.0%
Chippenham Audley - south	75	85	25.9%	25.9%
Chippenham Avon - east	55	60	27.7%	25.9%
Dilton Marsh & Upton Scudamore	75	80	27.1%	25.8%
Trowbridge drynham - central	125	140	25.7%	25.1%
Devizes East - central	90	95	26.6%	24.9%
Warminster East - Boreham	75	80	27.1%	24.8%
Devizes South - west	65	80	23.9%	24.7%
Ludgershall east & Faberstown	80	80	27.3%	24.6%
Warminster West - south central	60	65	24.2%	23.4%
Marlborough East - north	70	80	24.7%	23.2%
Calne Abberd - north	90	100	23.7%	23.2%
Corsham (Pickwick) north	100	120	23.1%	22.9%
Staverton & Hilperton (part)	130	145	22.7%	22.7%
Bradford on Avon South - east	65	70	22.7%	22.4%

*HMRC data has included all children and young people aged 0-19 years in this

Figure 1 Map of percentage of children living in poverty by LSOA (2008)



Of the ten areas with over 30% of all children living in 'poverty' eight of the areas are located in one of three towns (Trowbridge, Salisbury and Chippenham) and the remaining two are in the towns of Melksham and Wotton Bassett.

4.2. Index of Multiple Deprivation

Deprivation is an important determinant of health and well-being for individuals and communities. Higher levels of deprivation are consistently associated with poorer health outcomes across a range of measures representing a major cause of inequalities in health and well being.

Of the 326 district and unitary authorities in England, Wiltshire is ranked as the 245th most deprived in the 2010 Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). However, pockets of deprivation exist in Wiltshire, which cannot be highlighted by this indices.

Overall Wiltshire is **relatively more deprived** (compared to the rest of England) than it was in 2007. This is shown by the average IMD ranking falling from 23,814 to 22,229.

The twenty areas of greatest deprivation in the county are identified in the table below. Wiltshire now has 14 wards in the 30% most deprived in England, compared with 10 in 2007. The first five are in the 20% most deprived in the country. Maps of relative deprivation are included in annex 2

Table 3 Twenty Wards Ranking of Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2010) in Wiltshire

LSOA	SOA name	RANK OF IMD 2010	Change in Overall ranking since 2007	Wilts rank 2010	Change in Wiltshire ranking since 2007
E01032023	Salisbury St Martin - central	2732	-2381	1	1
E01032086	Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	3837	-2048	2	1
E01032096	Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	3886	-1147	3	-2
E01031981	Salisbury Bemerton - west	4450	-3239	4	1
E01031983	Salisbury Bemerton - south	5046	-2360	5	-1
E01031896	Calne Abberd - south	6881	-2844	6	3
E01032064	Melksham North - north east	6903	-2927	7	3
E01031928	Chippenham Queens - east	7144	-2006	8	-2
E01032093	Trowbridge Drynham - Lower Studley	7337	-2244	9	-1
E01032118	Westbury Ham - west	7616	-1604	10	-3
E01032062	Melksham North - south west	7859	-2082	11	0
E01032014	Salisbury St Edmund - south	9087	-3349	12	4
E01031911	Chippenham Audley - south	9180	-3922	13	7
E01031963	Wootton Bassett North - central	9723	-1665	14	0
E01031854	Devizes North - east	9924	-1840	15	0
E01031912	Chippenham Avon - east	9942	-2894	16	3
E01031914	Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	10092	-2560	17	0
E01031917	Chippenham London Road - west	10356	-2835	18	3
E01031975	Amesbury East - north central	10412	-614	19	-6
E01032019	Salisbury St Mark - west	10449	-2823	20	2

These levels of deprivation might not seem significant when compared with other parts of England. However, the variations within Wiltshire are major, with some of the most affluent areas in the county being located right next to the very deprived (in the bottom 20% of national score).

Evidence shows that the level of **relative difference in affluence is more important than the level of absolute deprivation** itself for the inequalities and it's consequences in society. In addition, rural deprivation is difficult to quantify as small pockets of rural deprivation will exist that are not highlighted by the IMD

Eight of the top ten areas overlap between the areas classified as being the most deprived and those with the highest percentage of children living in poverty.

Wiltshire rates particularly poorly under the IMD (2010) domains 'Barriers to housing and services' and 'education, skills and training' The ranking in these domains have both declined since 2007. These domains are both likely to have implications for seeking work, accessing further skills and training or support for re-entry to the workforce.

4.3. Child Wellbeing Index

The Child Well-being Index (CWI) is produced at Lower Super Output Area level (LSOAs) and is made up of seven domains; similar to IMD but using data specifically on children. The data presented is based on 2007 data. Child well-being is generally represented by how children are doing in a number of different domains of their life

Table 4 : Child Wellbeing index score – least favourable 5% in Wiltshire

LSOA Code	Wiltshire Name	Child well-being index – Overall well-being score
E01032023	Salisbury St Martin - central	265.25
E01032096	Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	235.84
E01032064	Melksham North - north east	221.78
E01031981	Salisbury Bemerton - west	214.92
E01031975	Amesbury East - north central	201.59
E01031983	Salisbury Bemerton - south	201.01
E01032086	Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	191.76
E01032094	Trowbridge Drynham - central	187.30
E01032078	Staverton & Hilperton (part)	185.07
E01032093	Trowbridge Drynham - Lower Studley	181.22
E01031859	Ludgershall north	170.57
E01032010	Knoyle & Hindon	160.03
E01031982	Salisbury Bemerton - east	156.96
E01031980	Salisbury Bemerton - north	156.54

4.4. Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index

The Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) has been produced from the IMD 2007, using the material well being domain and is used to identify the percentage of children 0-15 years in each LSOA that live in families that are income deprived.

Income deprivation is defined as either households in receipt of Income support / Income based jobseekers allowance / Pension Credit or those not in receipt of these benefits but in receipt of Working Tax Credit / Child tax credit. IDACI is the proportion of children 0-15 years living in such households as a proportion of all children 0-15 years.

Table 5 : IDACI 2007 – LSOA scoring most poorly

SOA name	IDACI score	Rank of IDACI
Salisbury St Martin - central	0.50	2873
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	0.46	3586
Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	0.36	6378
Salisbury Bemerton - south	0.35	6777
Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	0.34	7035
Wootton Bassett North - central	0.34	7096
Westbury Ham – west	0.34	7145
Devizes South – west	0.33	7249
Chippenham Queens - east	0.33	7425
Staverton & Hilperton (part)	0.32	7664

Worklessness and low paid work are the key factors in child poverty. Worklessness is a less familiar term than unemployment, to describe those without work. It is used to describe all those who are out of work but who would like a job. It has become more popular because common definitions of unemployment do not include important groups of people who are not working, but who would like to. It includes:

- Those that are economically active but unemployed i.e. those claiming Jobseekers Allowance; and
- Those that are economically inactive but who would want to work. There is evidence to suggest that a significant proportion of the economically inactive population would like to work if they had the right opportunity, incentive or path back to employment. This could include lone parents and/or people claiming incapacity or other health/income related benefits.

The causes of worklessness are wide ranging and tackling them requires a full understanding of both the people and the spatial areas affected. A range of groups can be disadvantaged and can have a higher risk of both worklessness and living in a deprived area, e.g. lone parents, minority ethnic groups, people with disabilities, carers, older workers, workers in the informal economy, offenders and ex-offenders. Interestingly it is often those who are considered most vulnerable who can access most support and therefore may find it easier to return to work than someone who receives no additional support. An example of this would be those people who have been made redundant having worked for many years. Welfare Reforms will see ESA customers who fail the Work Capability Assessment moving across to JSA and Lone Parents whose youngest child is aged seven years or over (from October 2010) also moving across to JSA. Both of these customer groups will be expected to play an active role within the labour market so employers will start to see different people applying for their jobs.

A 2009 ‘Literature Review on Worklessness’² undertaken by the West Midlands Observatory identified two main factors influencing flows in and out of the labour market:

- Length of time out of work – the longer the time span, the less likely for the individual to return to the labour market, thus making quick interventions important; and

² Reference West Midlands Observatory (2009) Literature Review on Worklessness

- Financial reasons (incentives and disincentives) –played an important part in people’s decisions about leaving/entering employment. For people claiming benefits, the management of the transition period between benefits and work was important.

The study found that there were three main barriers to employment:

- Individual/personal - disability/poor health, low qualifications and skills/language, numeracy and literacy problems, lack of work experience/relevant work experience, poor work history, employer attitudes/discrimination, low confidence, caring responsibilities and financial considerations – loss of benefits, low pay;
- Neighbourhood/environment - poor public transport/lack of personal transport, influence of social networks and postcode discrimination; and
- Structural - structure of benefits system, age, labour demand, structural changes in the economy and lack of childcare.

The main cause of poverty is inadequate income, arising from worklessness, low wages and the low level of benefits. Worklessness has been identified as one of five pathways to poverty with employment cited as offering the best and most sustainable route out of poverty. Reducing worklessness is one of two main areas of focus by Government for maintaining the goal of ending child poverty in the UK by 2020.

4.5. Free School Meals

Children and young people ‘eligible for free school meals’ is often used as a proxy measure for deprivation and child poverty, Figure 2 demonstrates this correlation locally. Wiltshire has a lower proportion of children and young people who are eligible for free school meals when compared to national and comparable areas averages (see Table 6.) However, there has been an increase over time, in both primary and secondary schools, it is not yet clear if this is a national trend and a result of the recession. Table 7 illustrates the gap between eligibility and uptake

Figure 2: Correlation of % children on school roll entitled to FSM (2010 data) to NI116 % all children in poverty (2008 data)

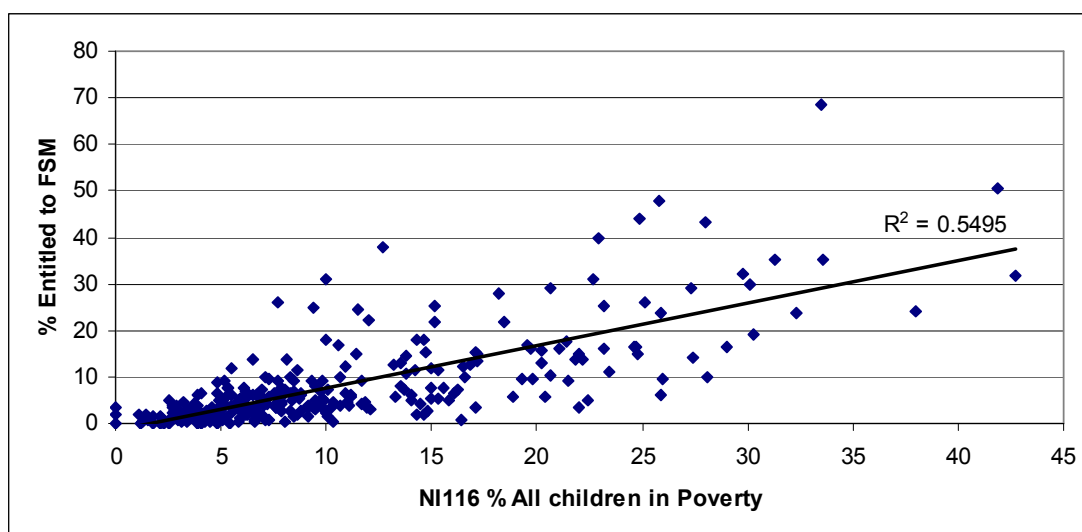


Table 6: Percentage of Children and Young People eligible for Free School Meals

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Wiltshire: Primary Schools	6.9%	6.7%	6.6%	7.6%	8.9%
Secondary Schools	5.1%	4.8%	4.8%	4.7%	5.6%
Comparator Areas average: Primary Schools	8.4%	8.5%	8.5%	8.9%	10.7%
Secondary Schools	7.2%	6.9%	6.9%	7.0%	8.0 %

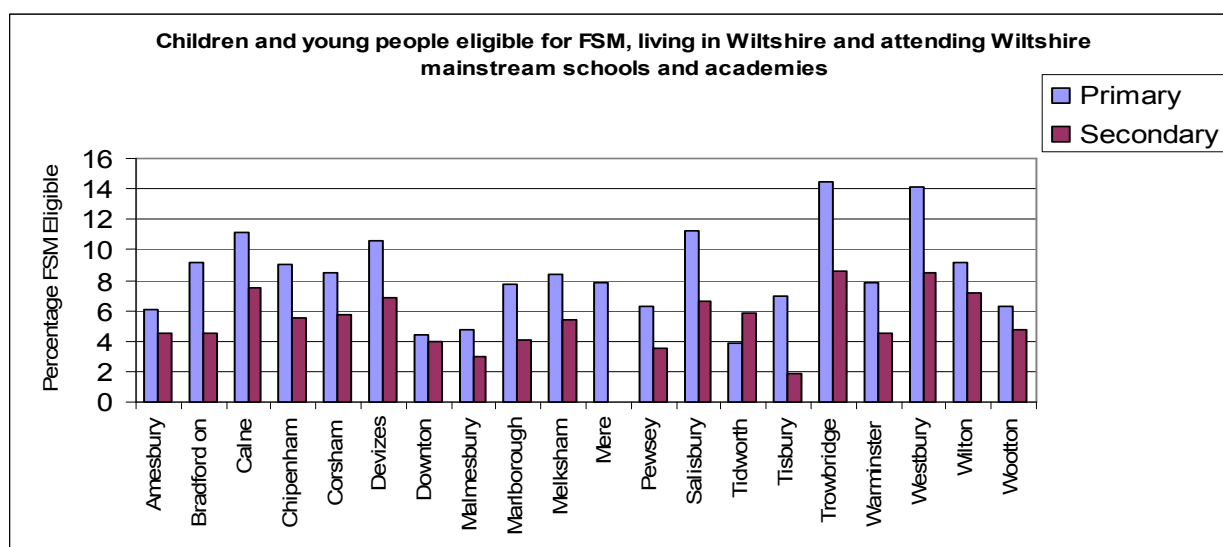
Source: Wiltshire Council Annual School Census /DCSF LAIT

Table 7: Eligibility and uptake of free school meals.

	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	% eligibl e	% take n	% eligibl e	% take n	% eligibl e	% take n	% eligibl e	% take n	% eligibl e	% take n
Primary	6.9	5.8	6.7	5.7	6.6	5.6	7.6	6.3	8.9	7.4
Seconda ry			4.8	3.6	4.8	3.4	4.7	3.6	5.6	4.4

Source: Wiltshire Council

Figure 3: Free School Meals by Community Area- January 2010



Source: Research and Statistics: Jan 2010 School Census and Community Area partnership data.

4.6. The Association and Impact of Disability on Child Poverty

Over a million children living in poverty are affected by disability in the UK. Having either an adult or a child with a disability in the family increases the chances of being in poverty. Within families with a disabled child and a disabled adult, there is a 42 per cent risk of being in poverty, compared to 28 per cent where no one in the family has a disability³

The cost of living is considerably more for a family with disabled children. It has been calculated that it costs on average three times as much to bring up a disabled child than a non-disabled child. Benefit increases have not met these extra costs.

Wiltshire is currently in the process of collecting data that will enable mapping of families of children under 5 years who are disabled or chronically sick.

The Institute for Public Policy Research 'Child Poverty Causes Disability and Disability Causes Child Poverty'⁴ (2007) shows that persistent poverty during childhood significantly limits people's life chances and shows that there are more households in poverty with disabled children than without. The report says the Disability Living Allowance needs to be available to all disabled children and taken up by more families that experience the extra costs of raising a child with a disability

The most recently available national data shows that 29 per cent of households with one or more disabled children lived in poverty, compared with 21 per cent of households with no disabled children.

³ Department for Work and Pensions. 2010. Households Below Average Income 2008/2009. Figures are after housing costs

⁴ <http://www.ippr.org.uk/pressreleases/?id=2615>

There are around 9.8 million disabled adults and an estimated 700,000 disabled children in the UK. If the same rate of increase that occurred between 1975 and 2002 were to occur between 2002 and 2029, there would be over 1.25 million children reporting a disability by 2029.

4.7. Impact of the recession

The Institute for Public Policy Research 2010 report on 'in work' poverty in the recession highlighted the fact that although unemployment had not increased nationally as much as was expected as a result of the recessions, they concluded that the explanation was employers, staff and unions had worked together to avoid lay offs, by agreeing pay freezes and reduction in working hours. The downside of this being that earnings have lowered and this could push people into 'in work' poverty

This is demonstrated nationally by the proportion of poor children living in working households increased to 61% in 2008/9 from 50% in 2005/6. In numbers terms this translates to 1.7 million poor children in working households compared to 1.1 million in workless households.

The Economic Model which first informed the Action for Wiltshire programme has been re-run to provide an up to date assessment of the actual impact of the recession on Wiltshire's resident and workplace economies. Key findings are as follows:

An estimated 2,900 people were let go by Wiltshire's workplaces between December 2007 and December 2009. As you might expect, the hardest hit workplace economies in terms of the volumes of losses are Salisbury, Chippenham and Trowbridge (each losing around 1,000 jobs, 600 jobs and 400 jobs respectively). The large and predominantly rural economies, which lie outside the key towns have also been affected, particularly those in the former districts of North and West Wiltshire. Of the workplace job losses across Wiltshire as a result of the Downturn, 34% have been in Blue Collar Industries and 66% have been in Public Services.

It is estimated that Wiltshire's workplace GVA output has declined by around £250 million in the two years from December 2007 to December 2009, a 4% fall. Volume losses are led by Salisbury (£49 million of lost GVA) followed by Chippenham and Trowbridge (losing £37 million and £32 million respectively). As with job losses, the large rural areas outside the key towns have also experienced considerable output losses.

Claimant Unemployment in Wiltshire has risen by 4,500 and Wiltshire's growth in unemployment has been higher than nationally and regionally. In fact, Wiltshire unemployment rate has tripled as a result of the Recession, whilst those of the region and country as a whole doubled (roughly). The recession has had a noticeably greater impact in Wiltshire than regionally or nationally and, whilst unemployment in Wiltshire is still lower than nationally and regionally, the Recession has certainly acted to close the historical gap between Wiltshire's unemployment and national and regional unemployment. The recession does not appear to have a huge impact on the distribution of claimants across age bands. The key feature is that young people aged 20 to 24 were over-represented among the unemployed in Wiltshire in December 2008 and they remain disproportionately affected now.

The largest volumes of newly unemployed Claimants as a result of the Downturn /Recession are concentrated in Wiltshire's more urban residential areas, particularly Trowbridge, Salisbury and Chippenham. However, Wiltshire's large rural areas also show significant unemployment volume increases. In terms of relative impact, i.e. the impact which considers their starting position before the Downturn, this has been felt most in Wiltshire's more rural and remote commuter communities, but also in North Wiltshire's key urban areas of Chippenham and Wootton Bassett. The nature of job losses across Wiltshire has been in line with trends seen nationally and regionally; around one third of losses are skilled jobs and around two thirds are unskilled jobs. However, Wiltshire's percentage of skilled job losses is actually slightly higher than nationally.

4.8. Children at greatest risk of poverty⁵

- **Lone parents** - children of lone parents are at greater risk of living in poverty than children in couple families. (see Annex 3) Before housing costs over a third, 35%, (50% after housing costs) of children living in lone parent families are poor, compared with less than a fifth, 18%, of children in couple families.
- **Large families** - children in large families are at far greater risk of poverty than children from small families: 40%, of children in families with four or more children are poor, compared with under a fifth, 19%, of children in one-child families.
- **Children with disabilities** - disabled children are more likely than their non-disabled peers to live in poverty as a result of lower incomes (because parents need to look after disabled children and so cannot work) and the impact of disability-related additional costs (an impact which is not captured by official figures).
- **Children with disabled parents** - children with disabled parents face a significantly higher risk of living in poverty than those of non-disabled parents. The main reason for this is that disabled parents are much less likely to be in paid work, and also suffer the impact of additional disability-related costs which sap family budgets.
- **Children who are carers** - for some children, it is not just a lack of income which affects their life chances, it is a chaotic family life, lack of stability, upheaval or the focus on someone else's needs. Children in care, young carers, children living with a disabled parent and children living in households with drug or alcohol misuse or domestic violence all have experiences or responsibilities that will blight their childhood and make it more difficult for them to focus on their education and achieve good outcomes.
- **Children who have teenage parents** – National data shows that children of teenage mothers have a 63% increased risk of being born into poverty compared to babies born to mothers in their twenties.
- **Children growing up in social housing** - children living in households living in social housing (either local authority or housing associations) face a high risk of being poor. 49% of children in local authority accommodation are poor before housing costs (rising to 58% after housing costs). Poor children in social housing are also a large proportion of all poor children. Though the numbers in private rented accommodation are smaller, these children also face a high risk of poverty.

⁵ Children at Greatest Risk of Poverty available at <http://www.childpovertytoolkit.org.uk/At-Greatest-Risk-of-Child-Poverty>

- **Black and minority ethnic children** - children living in households headed by someone from an ethnic minority are more likely to be living in a poor household. This is particularly the case for those households headed by someone of Pakistani or Bangladeshi origin, where well over half the children are living in poverty.
- **Asylum seekers** - there is no robust quantitative data on asylum seekers. However the parents in this group are prohibited from working and are only entitled to safety net support at a lower level than the usual income support/ Jobseekers Allowance safety (which itself is paid below the poverty line).
- **Traveller and gypsy children** - there is a severe lack of robust quantitative data on Gypsy and Traveller families, including poverty. However, both practice knowledge and other studies show that some have few financial resources.
- **Children with a parent in prison** – it is recognised that these children are more likely to be living in poverty.
- **Children leaving care** - young people leaving care are likely to face multiple disadvantages including poverty. Those entering care are also much more likely to have experienced poverty. This is a consequence of their pre-care, in-care, leaving care and after-care ‘life course’ experiences.

5. THE IMPACT OF POVERTY

5.1. Attainment Gap

Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to leave school without qualifications. Local authorities measure the attainment gap in a standardised way, which enable comparison with other areas.

The first measure is at Foundation Stage Profile which measures achievements of children aged five against 13 assessment scales. The gap between the average score of all children average score of the lowest achieving 20% of children is calculated and Wiltshire has been successful in reducing this gap (2007 – 35.5% to 2010 29.2%, which compares favourably against a national average of 32.7%).

There are also measures of attainment at Key Stage 2 and GCSE level in English and Maths for children who have free school meals (FSM) compared with children who are not eligible for FSM. This is measured as a percentage difference or “gap”. The aim is for the gap to reduce, but as the tables illustrate below this gap in Wiltshire is persisting and is higher than the gap nationally.

Table 8 NI 102A Attainment Gap FSM/non FSM Key Stage 2 inc English and Maths

	2007 %	2008 %	2009 %	2010 %
Wiltshire	24	31	31	27
Stats Neighbours	29	27	27	26
England	24	22	22	21

Source: Research and Statistics SFR32/2010

Table 9: NI 102B Attainment Gap FSM/non FSM Key GCSE inc English and Maths

	2007 %	2008 %	2009 %	2010 %
Wiltshire	32	38	28	36
Stats Neighbours	32	33	32	33
England	28	28	27	28

Source: Research and Statistics SFR34/2010

5.2. Persistent Absence

Wiltshire rates of absenteeism are lower than national rates, but the table below illustrates the difference in rates between those who are eligible for free school meals (16.9% persistent absence) and those ineligible for free schools meals (4.26%). Rates of persistent absence were similar for girls and boys and for those from a Black or Minority Ethnic background (BME) against not known to be BME children in secondary school.

Table 10 : Secondary School Persistent Absence 2009

Group	Total Pupil Count	Sum of Termly Sessions Possible	Sum of Total Absent Sessions	64+ Sessions Absence	Percentage Persistent Absence
All	25,292	7,600,030	545,758	1,280	5.06%
Male	12,672	3,801,878	263,805	614	4.85%
Female	12,620	3,798,152	281,953	666	5.28%
FSM	1,609	477,310	59,536	272	16.90%
non FSM	23,683	7,122,720	486,222	1,008	4.26%
BME	1,578	466,963	33,531	74	4.69%
Not known to be BME	23,714	7,133,067	512,227	1,206	5.09%

5.3. Exclusions

Nationally FSM pupils are seven times more likely to be permanently excluded from primary school and three and a half times more likely to be permanently excluded from secondary schools. The proportion of permanent and fixed exclusions in relation to the number of pupils in schools is broadly in line with national averages but is not quite as good as the average of those in comparable area

Table 11: Primary pupils with one or more fixed periods of exclusion from school as a % of the school population

(Most of the data refers to cases of exclusion rather than numbers of pupils excluded, as some pupils were excluded more than once during the year)				
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09*

Wiltshire	n/a	1.10	1.22	1.29
Statistical Neighbours	n/a	0.89	0.87	
England	n/a	1.11	1.06	

Table 12: Secondary pupils with one or more fixed periods of exclusion from school as a % of the school population

(Most of the data refers to cases of exclusion rather than numbers of pupils excluded, as some pupils were excluded more than once during the year)				
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09*
Wiltshire	10.79	10.83	9.09	9.52
Statistical Neighbours	9.45	9.85	9.26	
England	10.4	10.83	9.78	

Table 11& 12 Source: DCSF LAIT / * locally calculated provisional data

5.4. Health indicators

Frank Field the government's 'Poverty Tzar' demonstrates the impact of poverty on child health⁶

- Poverty shortens lives. A boy in Manchester (an area with higher levels of child poverty) can expect to live seven years less than a boy in Barnet (an area of lesser child poverty). A girl in Manchester can expect to live six years less than a girl in Kensington Chelsea and Westminster.
- Poor children are born too small; birth weight is on average 130 grams lower in children from social classes IV and V. Low birth weight is closely associated with infant death and chronic diseases in later life.
- Children aged up to 14 from unskilled families are 5 times more likely to die in an accident than children from professional families, and 15 times more likely to die in a fire at home.

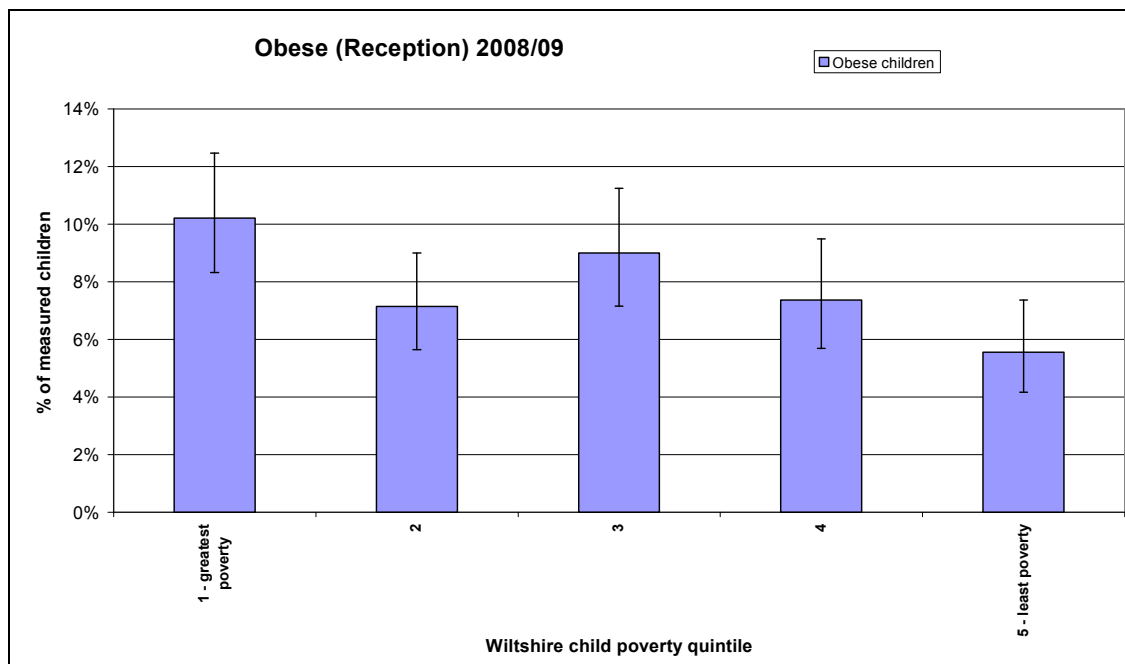
The Child Accident Prevention Trust (2008) noted that 'accidental injury is one of the single biggest causes of death in UK for children over the age of 1 year'.

Young people from poorer families are more likely than those from richer families to engage in risky behaviours such as unprotected sex, smoking, drug taking and truancy.

The numbers of children affected by these adverse outcomes are very small and therefore there is limited benefit to mapping these at small geographical areas. However, the graph below illustrates obesity prevalence of children in reception class in Wiltshire schools, by child poverty quintile. 10.2% of children in the areas of greatest poverty are obese compared with only 5.5% of children in the areas of least poverty. This difference is statistically significant.

⁶ F. Field (2010) The Foundation Years: The report of the independent review on poverty and life chances. HM Government London

Figure 4: Prevalence of obesity among reception children attending Wiltshire schools by child poverty



Rates of teenage pregnancy are higher in Wiltshire's areas of deprivation and national data suggests that children of teenage mothers have a 63% increased risk of being born into poverty, compared to babies born to mothers in their twenties⁷

⁷ Ermisch J (2003) *Does a 'teen birth' have longer term impacts on the mother? Suggestive evidence from the British Household Panel Study* ISER Working Papers No. 2003-32; Institute for Social and Economic Research.

5.5. Children in touch with Youth Offending Team

The table below illustrates the areas with the highest numbers of children and young people in contact with the Youth Offending Team (YOT) in 2008/9. This excludes those who received only a minor policy warning or reprimand, who the YOT never had full engagement with.

Table 13: Top 10 areas at three times the Wiltshire average or more

Community Area Partnership	LSOA Name	Number of Young People who came to the attention of the Youth Offending Team
Trowbridge	Trowbridge Drynham - Lower Studley	22
Trowbridge	Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	18
Amesbury	Amesbury East - north central	15
Chippenham	Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	15
Part BoA; Part Trowbridge	Staverton & Hilperton (part)	12
Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	Wootton Bassett North - central	12
Melksham	Melksham North - north east	11
Salisbury	Salisbury Bemerton - south	11
Warminster	Warminster East - Boreham	11
Westbury	Westbury Ham - west	11

Table 13:

6. WHAT ARE WE DOING TO HELP?

6.1. Early Years Education / Child Care

There is a great deal of activity focused towards improving accessing to child care and early years education in Wiltshire. A large part of this is through the assessment of child care sufficiency, which helps to target interventions to areas of greatest need. Additionally this Council department arranges targeted free provision to early years education, over and above the universal offer, to help parents back into work and give children the benefit of early years education. These interventions are targeted towards those families who are most disadvantaged.

This department also commissions an information service to help inform decision making and provides greater support to child care providers in rural areas. Where otherwise they may not be economically viable.

6.2. Encouraging economic development, including training skills and opportunities for parents and young people:

The 'Action for Wiltshire' programme, established early in 2009 has achieved much in dealing with the impact on business and communities moving into recession.

The impact of the downturn has created a number of particular issues for businesses, employees and job seekers that are both compounded by the reduction in public sector funding and more difficult to address without the availability of the normal business support tools. The current context for economic recovery and the role of economic development partners is changing. The Government is implementing a programme of work which will radically alter the policy context within which the public sector and its partners operate – one in which addressing the budget deficit will take precedence.

There is a clear rationale for a second phase of the Action for Wiltshire programme in order to deal with these challenges. Given the context of reduced public sector resource, it is important that the next phase of the programme targets a portfolio of actions which collectively support the Wiltshire economy through to recovery. An outline scope of the future programme has been developed which starts with a 'help and advice' core offer to assist individuals with tackling the difficulties caused for them by the recession and the impacts of the public sector cuts based. From there, are three programme pathways:

- An 'Employment Support Programme' aimed at addressing the hardening of unemployment, re-skilling a new workforce for Wiltshire and maximising opportunities for self employment and establishing a new business support model.
- A 'New Business Development Programme' aimed at maximising opportunities for self employment and establishing a new business support model, stimulating the appropriate development of social enterprises, co-operatives and employee-led businesses and maximising business to business opportunities.
- A 'Business Location of Choice Programme' aimed at securing business investment in Wiltshire and tackling barriers to growth.

Under the Action for Wiltshire programme there has been a benefits take up campaign. In March 2010, 300 clients have been interviewed and as a result of bureau intervention a total of £529K (target figure for the year £500K) of additional benefits are now being claimed by residents of Wiltshire. Below is a summary of the main areas covered by the benefits take up team:

Disability Living Allowance Care	15%
Disability Living Allowance Mobility	15%
Employment & support Allowance	14%
Council Tax Benefit	12%
Housing Benefit	10%
Tax Credits	8%
Income Support	4%
Pension Credit	4%
Job Seekers Allowance	3%
Attendance Allowance	3%
Others	12%

The telephone line continues to be a main source for referrals and as a result we are able to recognise the needs of vulnerable clients who require help in claiming benefits and those that have come about as a result of loss of work.

The benefits take up team who are located throughout Wiltshire and are able to help clients either by telephone, face to face interview and where appropriate a home visit is carried out. Disability Living Allowance (DLA) enquires are the most common and often the most complex cases, this accounts for 30% of the issues raised by clients. Also we have a high level of enquiries from people who need advice on Employment and Support Allowance (ESA). Our advisors have in many cases found it necessary to assist clients with the appeals process and attend tribunals with clients. This is a very time consuming exercise however 80% of the tribunals attended result in a positive outcome for the clients.

The Wiltshire Work & Skills Plan (April 2010) which has been informed by a comprehensive Worklessness Assessment, sets out how Wiltshire Council, working with partners through Wiltshire Works, can help deliver a reduction in worklessness and promote economic inclusion.

Key actions that will impact child poverty are:

- The Wiltshire Potential Future Jobs Fund is providing 495 long term unemployed 18-24 year olds with a break into the labour market and improve their long term employability prospects.
- As part of Phase 2 of the Future Jobs Fund Project and the evaluation of the long term sustainability of the initiative, evidence will be shared with employers with a view to influencing their attitudes/culture and recruitment practices.
- A "one-off" programme by Jobcentre Plus and Wiltshire Council to provide new job opportunities for 40 2 year+ unemployed people is underway.
- Increasing access to higher Education is in development with the establishment of an HE centre at Wiltshire College and links being maximised with neighbouring universities.
- The Jobcentre Plus Adviser Flexibility pilot is running in Wiltshire, Swindon, Dorset and Somerset for two years to offer a more flexible and individualised approach to those that are workless.
- Delivery of a project to improve specifically entry level 3 numeracy skills and Level 1 Literacy in Wiltshire – to be delivered from 2010-early 2012.
- To develop financial literacy skills with a focus on our people and spatial priorities through a pilot project.
- To liaise with Housing Benefit on changes to benefit to ensure that people are adequately supported to remain in work.
- To support a more effective 'internal' transport infrastructure given the high rurality of Wiltshire through (1) influencing the Local Transport Plan (2) ensuring that existing local transport networks are utilised effectively and (3) ensuring effective communication on available transport.
- To support the current 'Wheels to Work' Project during 2010/11 including its evaluation to identify (1) its value (2) How it could be developed and sustained in the long term.
- To influence plans for the Digital Inclusion project to ensure that the needs of workless people are taken into account in the access and take up of technology.

- Communicate the availability of child care in Wiltshire's communities and the benefits of utilising available formal child care to ensure provision is well utilised.
- Given the ageing population, improve understanding of this sector to enable us to plan effectively to ensure dependent care does not act as a barrier to employment.

6.3. Targeted housing support

Housing makes an important contribution to social and environmental objectives such as reducing health inequalities, improving educational attainment and community cohesion. Good housing is linked to health and wellbeing, impacting on both physical and mental health.

Housing would therefore want to reduce the number of children and young people who experience statutory homelessness and prevent them from going into unsuitable temporary accommodation as well as ensuring that families have access to decent and affordable homes.

This will be achieved by:-

- Keeping people in their own homes during the recession, through effective information, advice, support and specialist services specifically geared towards the needs of children, young people and their families.
- Continuing to develop an effective partnership response to the issue of affordable housing, with a particular focus on increasing the supply of family-sized accommodation.
- To retain housing-related support for young 16 – 17 year olds
- To ensure that our social housing stock meets national target of 100% of homes to meet the Decent Homes Standard
- Improving homes with low energy efficiency for households on income based benefits

6.4. Targeted transport support

The Public Transport Strategy, part of the local Transport Plan are informed by a range of national and local research, guidance and consultation feedback. Examples of needs information are:

- Rural Perceptions' (Kennet CAB)
- Wiltshire Council research into 'pockets of deprivation'
- Survey by 16-19 Education Transport Partnership into access to post16 education
- Wiltshire Assembly of Youth involvement in transport issues, including Feb 2010 transport conference
- DfE reports and guidance on access to education
- DfT / DfE transport guidance on 'Supporting Access to Positive Activities'
- 'Rural Transport – long distance learners?' (report by Rural Authorities Group)
- Consultations on Local Transport Plan (2006 and 2010)

The main issue for most vulnerable groups is that in a predominantly rural county, access by public transport is limited due to inability to provide frequent services or services to a range of different destinations. There are also issues around transport

availability affecting choice of school for children under 16 years and for young people, 16-19 years affecting choice of school or college.

Poor public transport can mean that low income families are forced into car ownership, reducing the money they have available to spend on other things. Or they do not buy a car, and find they have more limited opportunities for employment and accessing low cost shopping or other essential services. The high cost of bus fares (which have over the last 20 years increased faster than inflation, and faster than the cost of running a car), or taxi fares, can also put a strain on family finances

Although Wiltshire's post 16 education transport policy guarantees transport to the nearest sixth form or FE college, it will not fund or provide transport to a 'preferred' establishment unless this can be demonstrated to be necessary for the student's chosen career – this could limit the educational opportunities open to children from low income families.

The charge for post 16 transport has increased in recent years due to restrictions on local authority spending, and although a reduced rate pass (around 50% of full cost) is available for students in receipt of full rate Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA), the increases in the charge will still have an impact on low income families especially those with several children.

For under 16 pupils, although the Education & Inspection Act introduced free transport to a 'preferred' school for children from low income families, there has been a very low take up – perhaps reflecting the fact that in many rural areas there may not be a choice of schools within the 6 mile qualifying limit.

The Council spends £6 million on supported bus services and community transport, which doubles the level of public transport that would otherwise be available. 50% of rural households have access to an hourly or better weekday daytime bus service, 90% to a daily or better weekday service. Area Boards are being encouraged to improve transport for young people.

The Council chairs the post 16 Education Transport Partnership, which seeks to coordinate the activities of the transport and education departments, schools and colleges, and Connexions, in respect of access to 16-19 education

6.5. Investment in early intervention

Wiltshire worked hard to ensure implementation of the Sure Start Children' Centre Initiative, which targets support to families of children under 5 years. There are now a total of 30 centres, running. Eight of which are serving the most deprived areas of Wiltshire.

- Longfield Children's Centres, Trowbridge
- Studley Green Children's Centre, Trowbridge
- Bellefield Children's Centre - Adcroft Seymour area of Trowbridge
- City Children's Centre- Friary area of Salisbury
- Little Folly Children's Centre, Bemerton Heath, Salisbury
- White Horse Children's Centre, Eden Vale Road, Westbury Ham
- Redland Children's Centre, Westcroft/Queens Chippenham
- Calne – Priestley Children's Centre, Abberd Way area

The Children Centres, which are run by a variety of providers, undertake many of the following activities which will help address child poverty:

- Through links with Job Centre plus they have a vacancy Information board in each centre, there is a Journeys to Work, advisor attached to each centre, provided by North Wessex Training
- Advice around finding childcare and understanding the free entitlement to 15 hours childcare, which can also be offered as childcare taster sessions in the first instance so that parents can try out different types of childcare before committing themselves. ASK have a programme to work out the benefits v work hours and advise on the best combination of work and benefits
- Training opportunities are publicised in the children's centres and they also run training in 'key skills', run by Family Learning, and simple cooking and household budgeting
- Support is often targeted to specific groups attending children's centres such as: support for teenage parents and links with midwives, debt counselling and money management, access to credit unions, nursery equipment loan or saving schemes

Parent Support Advisers are based in clusters of schools to support parents. The number of hours allocated to each cluster was formula based using the multiple index of deprivation. As a result there are more PSA's in Chippenham, Trowbridge and Salisbury

The key needs that PSAs respond to are:

- Parenting programmes (Triple P), home visits and 1:1 support
- Engaging parents with services e.g. housing, domestic violence support, for example Parents Zone in Salisbury
- Identifying pockets of deprivation and targeting work of PSAs to those areas, e.g. Marlborough, Melksham

A project in Wiltshire called 'Think Family' has been funded to undertake the following:

- Implement Think family Reforms – specifically the Total Place project in Bemerton Heath
- Set up Youth Crime Intervention Project (FIP) to provide intensive support to families in greatest difficulty
- Offer Parenting Early Intervention Programmes (PEIPs) to help improve parenting skills of mothers and fathers of children aged 8 – 13 at risk of poor outcomes – which as of July 2010 has stopped
- Fund Parenting Experts and parenting practitioners, which links with the parenting strategy
- Partially funds the Triple P parenting programme which is a County wide evidence based programme

6.5.1 The Family Intervention Programme (FIP) workers provide intensive support to vulnerable families and those most at need, including those at risk of losing their homes for a variety of reasons including worklessness and poverty. They currently work 7 days per week and are supporting 30 families at present. Additionally the previous PEIP project supports 1 worker to provide expert parenting support to parents of 8-13 yr olds, who due to their own problems are likely to result in poor outcomes for their children.

6.5.2 Parenting Experts – 2 posts funded until the end of March 11 to support parents both in groups and on a one-to-one basis. They specifically target the

parents of children and young people whom local agencies e.g. schools, PSA's Sure Start Children's Centres, housing, health, ASB teams agree are at risk of poor outcomes. This works has been contracted out to ask and the experts deliver the Triple P parenting programme. One covers the North and the other covers the South of the County.

6.6. Increasing benefit uptake

In addition to worklessness, low paid work is a key factor in child poverty; the introduction of the universal credit from 2013 is designed to make work pay and should be instrumental in lifting families in low paid work out of poverty.

The change in the benefit regime for lone parents (from when their youngest child is aged 7, having to claim either Jobseekers Allowance and therefore be actively seeking work, or Employment and Support Allowance if they are unable to work due to health issues.)

7. GAPS IDENTIFIED

Much of the data used to inform this needs assessment is at least two years old, the economic climate has changed dramatically during this time and it would be helpful to have more up to date information. This gap will be met by deliverables identified in the strategy and multiagency action plan

Another gap has been around benefits update data.

Annex 1- 2008 Child Poverty Statistics – 2008 (HMRC)

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Melksham North - north east	145	160	44.3%	42.7%
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	205	230	43.1%	41.9%
Salisbury St Martin - central	110	125	39.2%	38.0%
Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	135	150	34.4%	33.6%
Trowbridge drynham - Lower Studley	185	200	34.3%	33.5%
Wootton Bassett North - central	115	135	32.9%	32.3%
Salisbury Bemerton - south	135	150	31.3%	31.3%
Salisbury Bemerton - west	145	160	31.4%	30.3%
Chippenham Queens - east	95	105	31.3%	30.1%
Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	115	130	31.2%	29.8%
Calne Abberd - south	65	70	30.0%	29.0%
Ludgershall north	75	85	28.3%	28.1%
Westbury Ham - west	110	130	28.2%	28.0%
Amesbury East - north central	70	75	29.6%	27.4%
Melksham North - south west	70	85	26.2%	27.3%
Cricklade central	85	95	27.5%	26.0%
Chippenham Audley - south	75	85	25.9%	25.9%
Chippenham Avon - east	55	60	27.7%	25.9%
Dilton Marsh & Upton Scudamore	75	80	27.1%	25.8%
Trowbridge drynham - central	125	140	25.7%	25.1%
Devizes East - central	90	95	26.6%	24.9%
Warminster East - Boreham	75	80	27.1%	24.8%
Devizes South - west	65	80	23.9%	24.7%
Ludgershall east & Faberstown	80	80	27.3%	24.6%
Warminster West - south central	60	65	24.2%	23.4%
Marlborough East - north	70	80	24.7%	23.2%
Calne Abberd - north	90	100	23.7%	23.2%
Corsham (Pickwick) north	100	120	23.1%	22.9%
Staverton & Hilperton (part)	130	145	22.7%	22.7%
Bradford on Avon South - east	65	70	22.7%	22.4%
Trowbridge Park - central	65	70	23.0%	22.2%
Pewsey south	70	80	21.5%	22.0%
Chippenham Redland - north	60	65	23.5%	22.0%
Potterne	70	80	23.6%	21.8%
Westbury Laverton - central	65	70	22.3%	21.5%
Salisbury St Mark - west	55	60	24.0%	21.4%
Westbury Ham - central	60	65	22.2%	21.1%
Calne Priestley - south west	65	70	21.4%	20.6%
Purton south & Braydon	50	65	20.2%	20.6%
Chippenham London Road - west	50	50	22.7%	20.4%
Chippenham London Road - east	60	70	22.8%	20.2%
Durrington - south	70	75	23.2%	20.2%
Calne Priestley - north east	50	55	20.2%	19.8%
Malmesbury north west	70	80	20.4%	19.7%

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Corsham south	75	80	20.8%	19.5%
Devizes North - east	45	45	22.1%	19.3%
Salisbury St Edmund - south	30	35	18.6%	18.9%
Chippenham Allington - north	65	75	19.6%	18.4%
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Wingfield Road	65	70	21.2%	18.2%
Bradford on Avon North - central	50	55	18.3%	17.2%
Heywood & Bratton - north	55	55	19.0%	17.2%
Salisbury Bishopdown - central	45	55	16.8%	17.1%
Mere (part)	35	45	15.2%	17.1%
Salisbury Bemerton - north	55	70	16.7%	16.8%
Tidworth north east	145	155	17.0%	16.6%
Melksham North - north west	60	70	15.9%	16.5%
Warminster West - Westbury Road	40	45	17.1%	16.4%
Laverstock (part) & Clarendon Park	70	75	17.8%	16.2%
Salisbury Bemerton - east	50	55	16.1%	16.1%
Salisbury St Edmund - east (Milford north)	35	45	14.3%	15.8%
Melksham Spa - east	55	55	17.3%	15.6%
Tisbury	35	45	15.3%	15.3%
Warminster West - south	40	45	15.7%	15.3%
Warminster West - east central	35	40	15.7%	15.1%
Westbury Ham - Eden Vale	90	100	16.1%	15.1%
Rudloe north	70	80	15.5%	15.0%
Salisbury Harnham West - south	40	45	15.8%	15.0%
Berryfield & Bowerhill (part)	40	45	15.6%	15.0%
Amesbury East - south central	60	65	15.7%	14.8%
Calne Lickhill - south	45	50	15.5%	14.7%
Trowbridge Adcroft - Canal Road	50	55	14.6%	14.6%
Warminster West - north central	50	55	16.0%	14.6%
Devizes East - north	40	40	16.1%	14.5%
Tilshead & Orcheston	30	35	14.8%	14.3%
Westbury Ham - north	80	85	15.3%	14.3%
Corsham east	45	45	15.6%	14.2%
Wootton Bassett North - north west	30	35	14.3%	14.0%
Salisbury Bishopdown - south	25	25	16.9%	14.0%
Morgans Vale	40	45	14.0%	13.8%
Southwick & Wingfield	60	65	14.5%	13.8%
Devizes North - west	35	35	14.7%	13.7%
Wootton Bassett South - central	40	45	14.7%	13.5%
Wilton rural & Quidhampton	40	40	15.2%	13.5%
Trowbridge College - Clarendon (Frome Road)	40	45	14.7%	13.3%
Devizes East - south	55	60	13.7%	13.2%
Calne Lickhill - north	110	115	12.9%	12.7%
Marlborough West - south	25	25	12.8%	12.1%
Westbury Laverton - Leigh	85	90	12.9%	12.0%
Amesbury East - north	20	25	13.1%	11.9%

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Salisbury St Paul - south	45	45	12.5%	11.8%
Bromham west & Rowde south west	35	35	13.7%	11.7%
Bradford on Avon North - west	25	30	12.6%	11.7%
Lavingtons south	40	45	13.1%	11.5%
Melksham North - south east	40	40	12.7%	11.4%
Grimsteads	20	25	11.2%	11.2%
Melksham Spa - west	35	35	11.7%	11.2%
South Newton, Great Wishford, Durnford & Woodfords	40	45	12.1%	11.1%
Zeals (part), Maiden Bradley, Kilmington & Stourton	30	35	12.1%	11.0%
Coombe Bissett, Odstock, Britford & Netherhampton	50	55	11.7%	10.9%
Warminster East - central	25	25	11.9%	10.9%
Chippenham Audley - north	30	35	10.6%	10.7%
Knole & Hindon	35	40	11.4%	10.7%
Marlborough East - south	45	45	12.0%	10.6%
Newton Tony, Cholderton & Boscombe	25	25	10.6%	10.3%
Bradford on Avon South - south	30	35	11.4%	10.3%
Shaw & Whitley	20	25	10.1%	10.2%
Netheravon, Enford & Fittleton	30	35	10.2%	10.1%
Fovant, Sutton Mandeville & Swallowcliffe	15	15	11.5%	10.1%
Roundway	100	110	10.3%	10.0%
Crudwell & Oaksey	30	35	9.9%	10.0%
Bulford Village	40	45	10.5%	10.0%
Amesbury West	30	35	10.4%	9.9%
Durrington - north	25	30	9.9%	9.8%
Keevil & Ashtons	45	50	10.4%	9.8%
Trowbridge drynham - Wiltshire drive	25	30	10.6%	9.8%
Collingbournes & Everleigh	30	30	11.2%	9.7%
Melksham Woodrow - south	30	35	10.4%	9.7%
Salisbury St Martin - east (Milford south)	20	20	9.6%	9.5%
Chitterne & Codfords	20	25	9.3%	9.5%
Trowbridge Adcroft - Stallard	25	30	9.8%	9.5%
Amesbury East - Boscombe down	50	50	10.1%	9.4%
Downton south	20	25	7.7%	9.4%
Sutton Benger, Kington Langley & Seagry	45	50	10.2%	9.3%
Chippenham Monkton Park	30	35	9.1%	9.1%
Sherston west, Luckington & Sopworth	25	30	8.8%	9.1%
Warminster East - Cop Heap	20	20	10.0%	9.1%
Bishops Cannings & Etchilhampton	30	35	9.4%	8.8%
Brokenborough	30	40	8.0%	8.8%
Dinton, Barford St Martin, Chilmark & Fonthill Bishop	35	40	9.6%	8.8%
Amesbury East - South	30	35	9.3%	8.7%
Aldbourn	35	35	9.2%	8.6%
Wootton Bassett North - east	20	25	8.5%	8.6%

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Rowde north east & Bromham east	25	30	8.9%	8.5%
Chippenham Allington - south	25	25	9.3%	8.5%
Melksham Spa - central	15	20	8.4%	8.5%
Chippenham Park - west	30	35	8.5%	8.4%
Colerne village	20	25	8.2%	8.3%
Lyneham East, Tockenham & Clyffe Pypard	15	20	7.7%	8.3%
Trowbridge College - central	25	25	8.3%	8.3%
Trowbridge Drynham - Croft	30	35	8.0%	8.1%
Chippenham Hill Rise - south east	25	25	8.8%	8.0%
Corsham (Pickwick) south	45	50	8.6%	8.0%
Urchfont & Easterton	20	25	7.5%	7.9%
Lacock & Gastard east	15	20	7.1%	7.9%
Wylve & Langfords	20	20	8.1%	7.9%
Atworth	20	20	8.4%	7.9%
Hilperton (Marsh)	20	20	8.4%	7.9%
Trowbridge Park - Victoria Road & Paxcroft Mead (part)	55	55	8.8%	7.9%
Ashton Keynes	30	30	8.9%	7.8%
Salisbury Harnham East - south	20	20	9.1%	7.8%
Pewsey north	20	25	8.2%	7.7%
Calne Chilvester	40	45	7.6%	7.7%
Chippenham Redland - south	20	25	7.6%	7.7%
Ludgershall south & Perham down	45	50	7.8%	7.6%
Heytesbury & Mid Wylve south	15	20	8.3%	7.6%
Holt	15	20	7.3%	7.5%
Seend & Poulshot	25	25	8.0%	7.3%
Cricklade east, Latton & Marston Maisey	25	30	7.1%	7.3%
Melksham Spa - south	25	25	8.9%	7.3%
Marlborough West - north	10	15	7.2%	7.2%
Broad Town & Hook	15	20	7.9%	7.1%
Wilton north	15	15	6.7%	7.1%
Salisbury Harnham East - east	20	20	7.2%	7.0%
Salisbury St Martin - west	10	15	6.8%	7.0%
West Overton, Woodborough, Alton & Stanton St Bernard	20	25	7.1%	6.9%
Shalbourne, Grafton & Chute	20	25	6.2%	6.9%
Trowbridge College - Upper Studley	15	15	7.6%	6.9%
Bedwyn	25	30	6.6%	6.8%
Chalke Valley	25	25	7.7%	6.8%
Cheverells, Worton & Marston	25	25	7.5%	6.7%
Hilmarton & Compton Bassett	15	15	7.2%	6.7%
Whiteparish	15	20	5.5%	6.7%
Salisbury Harnham West - north	15	20	5.2%	6.6%
Warminster East - Henfords Marsh (south)	15	15	6.8%	6.6%
Chippenham Pewsham - north west	30	30	6.5%	6.5%
Bradford on Avon South - central	10	15	6.4%	6.5%

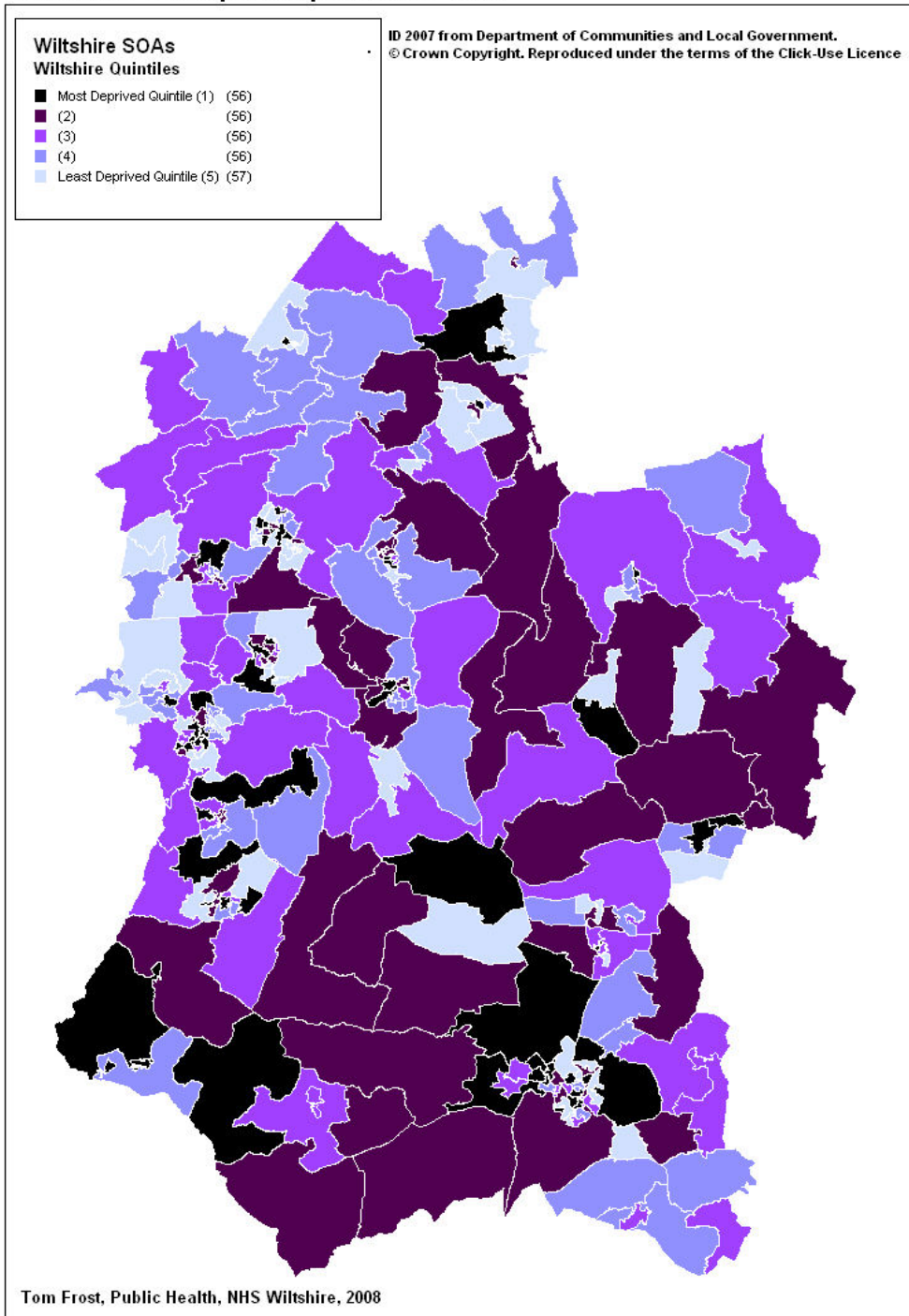
	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Westbury Laverton - east	15	20	6.6%	6.5%
Salisbury Churchfields - west	15	15	6.3%	6.4%
Chippenham Pewsham - east	15	15	7.8%	6.3%
Malmesbury Without	15	15	6.1%	6.3%
Salisbury St Paul - north	20	20	7.8%	6.3%
Bowerhill south	35	35	7.3%	6.3%
Calne Without west & Heddington	30	30	7.1%	6.2%
Bradford on Avon North - north	15	20	5.1%	6.2%
Trowbridge Park - north	15	15	6.7%	6.2%
Neston, Leafield & Gastard west	25	25	7.2%	6.1%
Malmesbury south east	20	20	7.0%	6.1%
Wootton Bassett South - east	15	20	5.6%	6.0%
Bradenstoke	10	10	6.2%	5.9%
Durrington - east	15	20	6.8%	5.9%
Salisbury Bemerton Village	20	20	6.6%	5.9%
Wilton south	10	15	5.6%	5.9%
Middle Winterslow, West dean & Farley	20	25	5.8%	5.9%
Tidworth north west	25	25	6.1%	5.8%
Wootton Bassett South - west	15	20	6.0%	5.8%
Winterbournes	15	20	5.9%	5.8%
Calne Marden	20	20	5.8%	5.6%
Lavingtons north	20	20	6.0%	5.5%
Cricklade west & Chelworth Green	20	20	5.8%	5.5%
North Bradley - north	15	15	5.3%	5.5%
Beanacre & Bowerhill (part)	25	25	5.9%	5.5%
Box west	10	15	5.5%	5.4%
Box Hill & Rudloe south	10	15	4.7%	5.3%
Downton - north & Charlton	15	15	5.2%	5.3%
Trowbridge College - Silver Street	15	15	6.1%	5.3%
Somerfords	15	15	5.4%	5.2%
Stanton St Quintin & Castle Combe	15	15	5.4%	5.2%
Shrewton & Winterbourne Stoke	15	15	5.1%	5.2%
Chippenham Queens - west	15	15	5.6%	5.1%
Salisbury Churchfields - east	10	10	6.0%	5.1%
Mere (part) & Zeals (part)	10	15	5.9%	5.1%
Trowbridge Park - Green Lane	10	15	4.6%	5.1%
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Broadmead	20	20	5.9%	5.0%
Hullavington	20	20	5.1%	4.9%
Chapmanslade & Corsley	10	15	4.7%	4.9%
Monkton Farleigh, South Wraxall & Turleigh	15	20	5.1%	4.9%
Warminster East - Woodcock	10	10	5.1%	4.9%
All Cannings, Chirton, Patney & Marden	20	20	4.9%	4.8%
Ogbournes, Mildenhall & Fyfield	15	20	4.4%	4.8%
Upavon, Manningford, Rushall & Wilsford	20	20	5.2%	4.8%
Minety	5	15	3.0%	4.8%
Bulford Camp (part)	25	25	4.9%	4.7%

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Tisbury rural & Ansty	15	15	5.4%	4.7%
Salisbury Bishopdown - north	20	25	4.9%	4.6%
Warminster West - west	10	10	5.1%	4.6%
Salisbury St Edmund - north	10	10	3.6%	4.5%
Charlton & Hankerton	15	15	4.4%	4.4%
Avebury, Broad Hinton & Winterbournes	15	15	4.9%	4.3%
Purton east	15	15	5.0%	4.2%
Salisbury Stratford	10	15	4.4%	4.2%
Brokerswood	10	10	4.6%	4.2%
Horningsham & deverills south	10	10	4.5%	4.2%
Bremhill, Christian Malford & Langley Burrell	20	20	4.1%	4.1%
Calne Quemerford	20	20	4.4%	4.1%
Semington, Hilperton village (part) & Paxcroft Mead (part)	15	15	4.6%	4.1%
Baydon, Froxfield & Chilton Foliat	10	15	3.5%	4.0%
Chippenham Pewsham - south west	15	15	4.0%	3.9%
Calne Without east & Cherhill	10	15	3.8%	3.9%
Nettleton, Grittleton & North Wraxall	10	10	3.3%	3.9%
Idmiston & Porton	10	15	3.5%	3.9%
Ramsbury	10	10	3.8%	3.8%
Donheads	10	15	3.8%	3.8%
Burbage	15	15	4.1%	3.7%
Salisbury St Mark - south	10	10	3.9%	3.7%
Edington, Coulston & Bratton - south	10	10	4.5%	3.7%
Brinkworth	10	10	3.2%	3.5%
Devizes South - east	10	10	3.4%	3.4%
Chippenham Pewsham - central	15	15	3.9%	3.4%
Yatton Keynell, Kington St Michael & Biddestone	15	15	3.7%	3.4%
Hilperton village (part) & Paxcroft Mead (part)	15	20	3.1%	3.4%
Tidworth south	20	25	3.0%	3.2%
Chippenham Cepen Park - north	20	20	3.8%	3.2%
Redlynch & Woodfalls	10	10	3.8%	3.2%
Alderbury	10	10	3.3%	3.1%
Firsdow, Pitton & West Winterslow	10	15	3.2%	3.1%
Chippenham Park - east	10	10	3.4%	3.0%
Colerne Southwood/Northwood/Pinewood/Thickwood	10	15	2.8%	3.0%
Milton Lilbourne, Easton & Wootton Rivers	5	10	2.5%	2.9%
Lyneham north	10	10	3.1%	2.8%
Chippenham Cepen Park - south	10	10	2.7%	2.7%
Bulford Camp (part), Figheldean & Milston	10	10	3.1%	2.7%
Durrington - Larkhill Camp	25	25	2.7%	2.7%
Winsley & Limpley Stoke	10	10	3.3%	2.6%

	Children in families in receipt of CTC (<60% median income) or IS/JSA		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
Sherston east, Norton & Easton Grey	5	10	2.2%	2.5%
Wootton Bassett South - south east	10	10	3.1%	2.5%
Melksham Woodrow - north	5	5	2.0%	2.3%
Sutton Veny	5	5	2.8%	2.3%
Purton central	5	5	2.6%	2.2%
Broughton Gifford	5	5	2.4%	2.1%
Warminster East - Imber Road	10	15	2.1%	2.1%
Marlborough West - west (Manton)	5	5	1.5%	1.8%
Chippenham Cepen Park - central	5	10	1.8%	1.8%
Lyneham south	5	10	1.1%	1.5%
Landfords	5	5	1.4%	1.4%
Westwood	-	5		1.4%
Corsham central	5	5	1.9%	1.3%
Salisbury St Mark - east	5	5	1.1%	1.2%
Lydiard Millicent	-	5		1.1%
Chippenham Avon - west	-	-		0.0%
Salisbury Harnham East - west	-	-		0.0%
Laverstock (part)	-	-		0.0%

Annex 2:

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Annex 3 _ Lone Parents
Working Age Claimants at February 2010
By Lower Super Output / Data Zone Areas
Source: DWP Information
Directorate

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Aldbourne	Aldbourne	Marlborough	10
All Cannings, Chirton, Patney & Marden	All Cannings	Part Devizes; Part Pewsey	10
Bedwyn	Bedwyn	Pewsey	5
Bishops Cannings & Etchilhampton	Bishops Cannings	Devizes	20
Bromham west & Rowde south west	Bromham and Rowde	Devizes	10
Rowde north east & Bromham east	Bromham and Rowde	Devizes	5
Burbage	Burbage	Pewsey	5
Cheverells, Worton & Marston	Cheverell	Devizes	5
Collingbournes & Everleigh	Collingbourne	Tidworth	0
Devizes East - north	Devizes East	Devizes	15
Devizes East - central	Devizes East	Devizes	20
Devizes East - south	Devizes East	Devizes	15
Devizes North - west	Devizes North	Devizes	10
Devizes North - east	Devizes North	Devizes	15
Devizes South - east	Devizes South	Devizes	0
Devizes South - west	Devizes South	Devizes	25
Lavingtons south	Lavingtons	Devizes	10
Lavingtons north	Lavingtons	Devizes	0
Ludgershall north	Ludgershall	Tidworth	15
Ludgershall east & Faberstown	Ludgershall	Tidworth	15
Marlborough East - south	Marlborough East	Marlborough	10
Marlborough East - north	Marlborough East	Marlborough	25
Marlborough West - north	Marlborough West	Marlborough	0
Marlborough West - west (Manton)	Marlborough West	Marlborough	0
Marlborough West - south	Marlborough West	Marlborough	5
Milton Lilbourne, Easton & Wootton Rivers	Milton Lilbourne	Part Marlborough; Part Pewsey	5
Netheravon, Enford & Fittleton	Netheravon	Tidworth	10
Ogbournes, Mildenhall & Fyfield	Ogbourne	Marlborough	5
Pewsey south	Pewsey	Pewsey	20
Pewsey north	Pewsey	Pewsey	10
West Overton, Woodborough, Alton & Stanton St Bernard	Pewsey Vale	Part Marlborough; Part Pewsey	5
Potterne	Potterne	Devizes	20

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Baydon, Froxfield & Chilton Foliat	Ramsbury	Marlborough	5
Ramsbury	Ramsbury	Marlborough	0
Roundway	Roundway	Devizes	45
Seend & Poulshot	Seend	Melksham	5
Shalbourne, Grafton & Chute	Shalbourne	Part Pewsey; Part Tidworth	0
Ludgershall south & Perham down	Tidworth, Perham Down and Ludgershall South	Tidworth	15
Tidworth north west	Tidworth, Perham Down and Ludgershall South	Tidworth	5
Tidworth south	Tidworth, Perham Down and Ludgershall South	Tidworth	5
Tidworth north east	Tidworth, Perham Down and Ludgershall South	Tidworth	45
Upavon, Manningford, Rushall & Wilsford	Upavon	Part Pewsey; Part Tidworth	5
Urchfont & Easterton	Urchfont	Devizes	5
Avebury, Broad Hinton & Winterbournes	West Selkley	Marlborough	0
Crudwell & Oaksey	Ashton Keynes and Minety	Malmesbury	0
Minety	Ashton Keynes and Minety	Malmesbury	0
Ashton Keynes	Ashton Keynes and Minety	Malmesbury	10
Box west	Box	Corhsam	0
Rudloe north	Box	Corhsam	20
Box Hill & Rudloe south	Box	Corhsam	5
Bremhill, Christian Malford & Langley Burrell	Bremhill	Part Calne; Part Chippenham	5
Somerfords	Brinkworth and The Somerfords	Malmesbury	5
Brinkworth	Brinkworth and The Somerfords	Malmesbury	5
Charlton & Hankerton	Brinkworth and The Somerfords	Malmesbury	5
Calne Abberd - north	Calne Abberd	Calne	20
Calne Abberd - south	Calne Abberd	Calne	20
Calne Chilvester	Calne Chilvester	Calne	15
Calne Lickhill - south	Calne Lickhill	Calne	25
Calne Lickhill - north	Calne Lickhill	Calne	40
Calne Marden	Calne Marden	Calne	5
Calne Priestley - south west	Calne Priestley	Calne	25

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Calne Priestley - north east	Calne Priestley	Calne	15
Calne Quemerford	Calne Quemerford	Calne	5
Calne Without west & Heddington	Calne Without	Calne	5
Chippenham Cepen Park - central	Cepen Park	Chippenham	0
Chippenham Cepen Park - south	Cepen Park	Chippenham	10
Chippenham Cepen Park - north	Cepen Park	Chippenham	5
Chippenham Allington - north	Chippenham Allington	Chippenham	25
Chippenham Allington - south	Chippenham Allington	Chippenham	5
Chippenham Audley - north	Chippenham Audley	Chippenham	10
Chippenham Audley - south	Chippenham Audley	Chippenham	25
Chippenham Avon - east	Chippenham Avon	Chippenham	30
Chippenham Avon - west	Chippenham Avon	Chippenham	0
Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	Chippenham Hill Rise	Chippenham	35
Chippenham Hill Rise - south east	Chippenham Hill Rise	Chippenham	5
Chippenham London Road - east	Chippenham London Road	Chippenham	15
Chippenham London Road - west	Chippenham London Road	Chippenham	25
Chippenham Monkton Park	Chippenham Monkton Park	Chippenham	20
Chippenham Park - west	Chippenham Park	Chippenham	10
Chippenham Park - east	Chippenham Park	Chippenham	5
Chippenham Pewsham - south west	Chippenham Pewsham	Chippenham	5
Chippenham Pewsham - east	Chippenham Pewsham	Chippenham	15
Chippenham Pewsham - central	Chippenham Pewsham	Chippenham	0
Chippenham Pewsham - north west	Chippenham Pewsham	Chippenham	15
Chippenham Redland - north	Chippenham Redland	Chippenham	25
Chippenham Redland - south	Chippenham Redland	Chippenham	10
Chippenham Queens - west	Chippenham Westcroft/Queens	Chippenham	5
Chippenham Queens - east	Chippenham Westcroft/Queens	Chippenham	30
Colerne village	Colerne	Corhsam	0
Colerne Southwood/Northwood/Pinewood/Thickwood	Colerne	Corhsam	5
Corsham east	Corsham	Corhsam	20
Corsham central	Corsham	Corhsam	0

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Corsham south	Corsham	Corhsam	25
Cricklade west & Chelworth Green	Cricklade	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	0
Cricklade east, Latton & Marston Maisey	Cricklade	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Cricklade central	Cricklade	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	20
Hilmarton & Compton Bassett	Hilmarton	Calne	5
Calne Without east & Cherhill	Hilmarton	Calne	5
Sutton Benger, Kington Langley & Seagry	Kington Langley	Chippenham	10
Yatton Keynell, Kington St Michael & Biddestone	Kington St. Michael	Chippenham	5
Neston, Leafield & Gastard west	Lacock with Neston and Gastard	Corhsam	20
Lacock & Gastard east	Lacock with Neston and Gastard	Corhsam	10
Lyneham north	Lyneham	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Lyneham east, Tockenham & Clyffe Pypard	Lyneham	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Bradenstoke	Lyneham	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	0
Lyneham south	Lyneham	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Malmesbury north west	Malmesbury	Malmesbury	15
Brokenborough	Malmesbury	Malmesbury	10
Malmesbury south east	Malmesbury	Malmesbury	5
Nettleton, Grittleton & North Wraxall	Nettleton	Chippenham	0
Stanton St Quintin & Castle Combe	Nettleton	Chippenham	0
Corsham (Pickwick) north	Pickwick	Corhsam	30
Corsham (Pickwick) south	Pickwick	Corhsam	15
Purton east	Purton	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	0
Purton central	Purton	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	0
Purton south & Braydon	Purton	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	20
Sherston west, Luckington & Sopworth	St. Paul Malmesbury Without and	Malmesbury	5

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
	Sherston		
Sherston east, Norton & Easton Grey	St. Paul Malmesbury Without and Sherston	Part Chippenham; Part Malmesbury	5
Malmesbury Without	St. Paul Malmesbury Without and Sherston	Malmesbury	5
Hullavington	St. Paul Malmesbury Without and Sherston	Part Chippenham; Part Malmesbury	10
Broad Town & Hook	The Lydiards and Broad Town	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	0
Lydiard Millicent	The Lydiards and Broad Town	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	0
Wootton Bassett North - central	Wootton Bassett North	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	40
Wootton Bassett North - east	Wootton Bassett North	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Wootton Bassett North - north west	Wootton Bassett North	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Wootton Bassett South - south east	Wootton Bassett South	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Wootton Bassett South - central	Wootton Bassett South	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	15
Wootton Bassett South - west	Wootton Bassett South	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Wootton Bassett South - east	Wootton Bassett South	Wootton Bassett & Cricklade	5
Alderbury	Alderbury and Whiteparish	Southern	0
Grimsteads	Alderbury and Whiteparish	Southern	5
Whiteparish	Alderbury and Whiteparish	Southern	0
Landfords	Alderbury and Whiteparish	Southern	5
Amesbury East - north	Amesbury East	Amesbury	10
Amesbury East - north central	Amesbury East	Amesbury	20
Amesbury East - south	Amesbury East	Amesbury	10
Amesbury East - Boscombe down	Amesbury East	Amesbury	20

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Amesbury East - south central	Amesbury East	Amesbury	20
Amesbury West	Amesbury West	Amesbury	10
Salisbury Bemerton - north	Bemerton	Salisbury	15
Salisbury Bemerton - west	Bemerton	Salisbury	50
Salisbury Bemerton - east	Bemerton	Salisbury	15
Salisbury Bemerton - south	Bemerton	Salisbury	45
Salisbury Bishopdown - north	Bishopdown	Salisbury	0
Salisbury Bishopdown - central	Bishopdown	Salisbury	5
Salisbury Bishopdown - south	Bishopdown	Salisbury	5
Bulford Camp (part), Figheldean & Milston	Bulford	Amesbury	5
Bulford Camp (part)	Bulford	Amesbury	5
Bulford Village	Bulford	Amesbury	15
Chalke Valley	Chalke Valley	Wilton	5
Donheads	Donhead	Part Tisbury; Part Wilton	5
Redlynch & Woodfalls	Downton and Redlynch	Southern	0
Downton south	Downton and Redlynch	Southern	5
Morgans Vale	Downton and Redlynch	Southern	15
Downton - north & Charlton	Downton and Redlynch	Southern	5
Durrington - south	Durrington	Amesbury	25
Durrington - east	Durrington	Amesbury	10
Durrington - Larkhill Camp	Durrington	Amesbury	5
Durrington - north	Durrington	Amesbury	0
Coombe Bissett, Odstock, Britford & Netherhampton	Ebble	Part Southern; Part Wilton	5
Salisbury Bemerton Village	Fisherton and Bemerton Village	Salisbury	5
Salisbury Churchfields - west	Fisherton and Bemerton Village	Salisbury	5
Salisbury Churchfields - east	Fisherton and Bemerton Village	Salisbury	10
Dinton, Barford St Martin, Chilmark & Fonthill Bishop	Fonthill and Nadder	Part Tisbury; Part Wilton	5
Salisbury Harnham East - east	Harnham East	Salisbury	5
Salisbury Harnham East - west	Harnham East	Salisbury	0
Salisbury Harnham East - south	Harnham East	Salisbury	0
Salisbury Harnham West - south	Harnham West	Salisbury	10
Salisbury Harnham West - north	Harnham West	Salisbury	5
Knole & Hindon	Knole	Part Mere:Part Tisbury	5
Laverstock (part) & Clarendon Park	Laverstock	Southern	15
Laverstock (part)	Laverstock	Southern	0
South Newton, Great Wishford, Durnford & Woodfords	Lower Wylde and Woodford Valley	Part Amesbury; Part Wilton	5

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Salisbury St Edmund - south	St Edmund and Milford	Salisbury	10
Salisbury St Edmund - east (Milford north)	St Edmund and Milford	Salisbury	10
Salisbury St Edmund - north	St Edmund and Milford	Salisbury	0
Salisbury St Mark - east	St Mark and Stratford	Salisbury	5
Salisbury Stratford	St Mark and Stratford	Salisbury	0
Salisbury St Mark - west	St Mark and Stratford	Salisbury	20
Salisbury St Mark - south	St Mark and Stratford	Salisbury	0
Salisbury St Martin - east (Milford south)	St Martin and Milford	Salisbury	5
Salisbury St Martin - west	St Martin and Milford	Salisbury	0
Salisbury St Martin - central	St Martin and Milford	Salisbury	40
Salisbury St Paul - south	St Paul	Salisbury	20
Salisbury St Paul - north	St Paul	Salisbury	5
Shrewton & Winterbourne Stoke	Till Valley and Wylde	Amesbury	0
Wylde & Langfords	Till Valley and Wylde	Amesbury	0
Tilshead & Orcheston	Till Valley and Wylde	Amesbury	5
Tisbury rural & Ansty	Tisbury and Fovant	Tisbury	5
Tisbury	Tisbury and Fovant	Tisbury	10
Fovant, Sutton Mandeville & Swallowcliffe	Tisbury and Fovant	Tisbury	0
Idmiston & Porton	Upper Bourne, Idmiston and Winterbourne	Amesbury	5
Newton Tony, Cholderton & Boscombe	Upper Bourne, Idmiston and Winterbourne	Amesbury	0
Winterbournes	Upper Bourne, Idmiston and Winterbourne	Amesbury	10
Mere (part) & Zeals (part)	Western and Mere	Mere	5
Zeals (part), Maiden Bradley, Kilmington & Stourton	Western and Mere	Part Mere; Part Warminster	10
Mere (part)	Western and Mere	Mere	15
Wilton south	Wilton	Wilton	5
Wilton north	Wilton	Wilton	5

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Wilton rural & Quidhampton	Wilton	Wilton	15
Firsdow, Pitton & West Winterslow	Winterslow	Southern	5
Middle Winterslow, West dean & Farley	Winterslow	Southern	5
Atworth	Atworth and Whitley	Melksham	5
Shaw & Whitley	Atworth and Whitley	Melksham	0
Bradford on Avon North - north	Bradford-on-Avon North	BoA	5
Bradford on Avon North - central	Bradford-on-Avon North	BoA	10
Bradford on Avon North - west	Bradford-on-Avon North	BoA	5
Bradford on Avon South - east	Bradford-on-Avon South	BoA	15
Bradford on Avon South - south	Bradford-on-Avon South	BoA	10
Bradford on Avon South - central	Bradford-on-Avon South	BoA	0
Chapmanslade & Corsley	Dilton Marsh	Warminster	0
Brokerswood	Dilton Marsh	Part Trowbridge; Part Westbury	5
North Bradley - north	Dilton Marsh	Trowbridge	5
Dilton Marsh & Upton Scudamore	Dilton Marsh	Part Warminster; Part Westbury	10
Edington, Coulston & Bratton - south	Ethandune	Westbury	0
Heywood & Bratton - north	Ethandune	Westbury	10
Broughton Gifford	Holt	Part BoA; Part Melksham	5
Holt	Holt	BoA	5
Monkton Farleigh, South Wraxall & Turleigh	Manor Vale	BoA	5
Winsley & Limpley Stoke	Manor Vale	BoA	5
Westwood	Manor Vale	BoA	0
Melksham North - south west	Melksham North	Melksham	25
Melksham North - north west	Melksham North	Melksham	30
Melksham North - north east	Melksham North	Melksham	40
Melksham North - south east	Melksham North	Melksham	15
Melksham Spa - east	Melksham Spa	Melksham	20
Melksham Spa - west	Melksham Spa	Melksham	10
Melksham Spa - central	Melksham Spa	Melksham	10
Melksham Spa - south	Melksham Spa	Melksham	10
Berryfield & Bowerhill (part)	Melksham Without	Melksham	15
Beanacre & Bowerhill (part)	Melksham Without	Melksham	5
Bowerhill south	Melksham	Melksham	20

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
	Without		
Melksham Woodrow - south	Melksham Woodrow	Melksham	15
Melksham Woodrow - north	Melksham Woodrow	Melksham	5
Chitterne & Codfords	Mid Wylke Valley	Warminster	5
Heytesbury & Mid Wylke south	Mid Wylke Valley	Warminster	10
Semington, Hilperton village (part) & Paxcroft Mead(part)	Paxcroft	Part Melksham; Part Trowbridge	5
Staverton & Hilperton (part)	Paxcroft	Part BoA; Part Trowbridge	40
Hilperton (Marsh)	Paxcroft	Trowbridge	10
Hilperton village (part) & Paxcroft Mead (part)	Paxcroft	Trowbridge	5
Horningsham & deverills south	Shearwater	Warminster	5
Sutton Veny	Shearwater	Warminster	0
Southwick & Wingfield	Southwick and Wingfield	Part BoA; Part Trowbridge	10
Keevil & Ashtons	Summerham	Part Melksham; Part Trowbridge	15
Trowbridge Adcroft - Stallard	Trowbridge Adcroft	Trowbridge	15
Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	Trowbridge Adcroft	Trowbridge	35
Trowbridge Adcroft - Canal Road	Trowbridge Adcroft	Trowbridge	15
Trowbridge College - Silver Street	Trowbridge College	Trowbridge	5
Trowbridge College - central	Trowbridge College	Trowbridge	10
Trowbridge College - Clarendon (Frome Road)	Trowbridge College	Trowbridge	15
Trowbridge College - Upper Studley	Trowbridge College	Trowbridge	15
Trowbridge drynham - Wiltshire drive	Trowbridge Drynham	Trowbridge	10
Trowbridge drynham - Lower Studley	Trowbridge Drynham	Trowbridge	50
Trowbridge drynham - central	Trowbridge Drynham	Trowbridge	40
Trowbridge drynham - Croft	Trowbridge Drynham	Trowbridge	10
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	Trowbridge John of Gaunt	Trowbridge	70
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Broadmead	Trowbridge John of Gaunt	Trowbridge	10

LSOA Name	Ward Name(s)	Community Area	Lone Parent
Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Wingfield Road	Trowbridge John of Gaunt	Trowbridge	15
Trowbridge Park - Victoria Road & Paxcroft Mead (part)	Trowbridge Park	Trowbridge	25
Trowbridge Park - north	Trowbridge Park	Trowbridge	10
Trowbridge Park - central	Trowbridge Park	Trowbridge	20
Trowbridge Park - Green Lane	Trowbridge Park	Trowbridge	5
Warminster East - central	Warminster East	Warminster	15
Warminster East - Boreham	Warminster East	Warminster	20
Warminster East - Woodcock	Warminster East	Warminster	5
Warminster East - Henfords Marsh (south)	Warminster East	Warminster	0
Warminster East - Imber Road	Warminster East	Warminster	0
Warminster East - Cop Heap	Warminster East	Warminster	10
Warminster West - south	Warminster West	Warminster	20
Warminster West - west	Warminster West	Warminster	5
Warminster West - Westbury Road	Warminster West	Warminster	10
Warminster West - north central	Warminster West	Warminster	10
Warminster West - south central	Warminster West	Warminster	15
Warminster West - east central	Warminster West	Warminster	10
Westbury Ham - central	Westbury Ham	Westbury	25
Westbury Ham - north	Westbury Ham	Westbury	30
Westbury Ham - Eden Vale	Westbury Ham	Westbury	40
Westbury Ham - west	Westbury Ham	Westbury	35
Westbury Laverton - central	Westbury Laverton	Westbury	30
Westbury Laverton - Leigh	Westbury Laverton	Westbury	35
Westbury Laverton - east	Westbury Laverton	Westbury	5

Wiltshire

Reducing and mitigating the effects of Child Poverty

High level delivery plan 2011 - 2014

Objective	Activity	Indicators	Responsible/ Existing Action plan	Timeline
1. Provide support to 0-5 years olds in the most disadvantaged families	1.1 Deliver the Healthy Child Programme to all children aged 0-4 years according to need	1.1 Child development at 2 - 2.5 years - measure to be developed nationally in year	NHS Wiltshire Alison Bell	Launch June 2011
	1.2. Further develop the role of Children's Centres and other early years settings to support 0-5 year olds	1.2 Children's centres performance management against delivery of Core Offer. Other outcome measures yet to be defined by DFE	Wiltshire Council DCE Commissioning & Performance Gill Hanlan Schools and Learning Branch Plan	Ongoing
	1.3. Strengthen the links between health services and children's centres, to ensure a focus on the most vulnerable families and a strong outreach service	1.3 CAF monitoring / Number of families identified as partnership plus by Health Visitors quarterly	Wiltshire Council Annie Hunter NHS Wiltshire Alison Bell	Ongoing
2. Narrowing the educational attainment gap	2.1 Support and encourage the take up of free childcare places in early years settings for 2,3,& 4 yr olds	2.1 Number and Percentage of children aged 2 years old who are eligible for free child care vouchers who take up this offer	Wiltshire Council Stephanie Denovan Schools and Learning Branch Plan	Ongoing
	2.2 Schools and other educational settings continue to address the attainment gap across all ages to ensure that children and young people have the education and skills they need for life	2.2 Schools take up of training of specialist teachers for 'every child programme' Numbers of children receiving 'every child programme' interventions.	Wiltshire Council Stephanie Denovan Early years settings and schools	Ongoing

Objective	Activity	Indicators	Responsible/ Existing Action plan	Timeline
		Key Stage 2 and 4 Free School Meals attainment Gap indicators	Schools and Learning Branch Plan	
	2.3 Parental engagement with their children's educational progress: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinforce parental involvement through Gateway panels (CAF) Promote good practice examples 		Wiltshire Council Early years settings and Schools	Ongoing
	2.4 Use innovative activities to shift young people's aspirations, through the use of bursaries, work experience, school visits from ex students who have gone on to higher education / apprenticeships etc... For 18-24yr olds this will be picked up through activity in 3.1 below.		Wiltshire Council 13/19 commissioning strategy and implementation plans	Ongoing
	2.5 Understand the reasons behind school absenteeism and indentify vulnerable children through this mechanism of engagement	2.5 Number of young people by secondary school with CAF generated as a result of frequent absenteeism Persistent absence rate in secondary schools	Wiltshire Council Stephanie Denovan Schools Schools and Learning Branch Plan	Ongoing
3. An inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all	3.1 Implement Wiltshire Work and Skills Plan	3.1 Number of families with parent(s) reported as long term unemployed – to be developed	Wiltshire Council Haylea Fryer Wiltshire Work & Skills Plan	Ongoing
	3.2 Tackle financial exclusion - including education on financial management and budget prioritisation, debt care pathway for each community area, advice on benefits, affordable credit and training for front line workers	3.2 to be developed	Wiltshire Money Children's centres	Ongoing
	3.3 Develop the sustainability of Wiltshire Advice Line for people needing urgent advice on finance on debt	Advice Line continues to be in place Improve call handling May 2011 – 1100 calls per month, 57% answered and 85% dealt with at first point of contact.		To be reviewed Autumn 2011

Objective	Activity	Indicators	Responsible/ Existing Action plan	Timeline
4.Consolidated, geographic approaches to child poverty	4.1 Explore use of data sharing agreement to ensure better data to enable targeting of geographical approaches	4.1 Improved information sharing	Revs and bens / DWP	Autumn 2011
	4.2 Ensure that Multiagency forums are briefed regarding the child poverty issues in their areas to enable them to raise awareness	4.2 Briefing distributed	Wiltshire Council Locality Commissioner	Autumn 2011
	4.3 Continue to promote integrated working across services in specific areas	Check completed for an area to use to inform good practice and for use as self assessment tool for other areas	Wiltshire Council Locality Commissioner	Sept – Dec 2011
	4.4 Explore possibility of using modified health trainers / family mentors / peer support pre school to improve healthy lifestyles in targeted areas		NHS Wiltshire Alison Bell	By April 2012
5. Keep child poverty in the spotlight	5.1 Local partners, including the private sector, to sign up to a charter to reduce child poverty	Signed Charter in place	Wiltshire Council Lynda Cox	By Dec 2011
	5.2 Improve the collection and analysis of information to better inform this strategy and its delivery plan		NHS Wiltshire Alison Bell Wiltshire Council Lynda Cox	Ongoing
	5.3 Create a multiagency child poverty task group, accountable to the CYP commissioning executive	Group in place meeting twice yearly to monitor progress/adjust this delivery plan	Children & Young People's Trust Commissioning Executive	Sept 2011
	5.4 Explore the possibility of creating a family friendly employer award		Haylea Fryer Wiltshire Council	By April 2012

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Wiltshire

Reducing Child Poverty Strategy

2011 – 2014

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Document History

Issue No	Date	Status	Reviewed by
Version 1.0	19/11/10	Draft	Task group 22/11/10
Version 1.1	17/12/10	Draft	Task group 17/12/10
Version 1.2	17/01/11	Draft	For consultation
Version 2.0	03/06/11	Draft	For CTB Commissioning Executive 15/06/11 and Cabinet 26/07/11

Introduction

1. Reducing child poverty has been a government target for many years. The [Child Poverty Act](#), which commits this and future governments to eradicating child poverty by 2020, received Royal Assent in March 2010 tasked local areas to produce a child poverty needs assessment and strategy. This strategy document fulfils that requirement. However, it is acknowledged that the huge changes resulting from the national cost pressures which are impacting at the time of writing, both on public services and people's lives, are creating some uncertainty and shifting baselines. Future strategies and action plans will need to build on this document in light of these changes.
2. This strategy has been developed through consultation with the public including children and young people, public sector, private, business and voluntary sector organisations. A separate document containing a summary of responses is available.
3. A child poverty needs assessment sits alongside this strategy and a summary of its main findings is included in this strategy.

Links to other strategies

4. Child Poverty features as a priority in key top-level Wiltshire documents. It is in the "People, Places and Promises: Wiltshire Community Plan 2011-2026" which is due for adoption in spring 2011. It is woven through the Wiltshire Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011 "Working together to improve outcomes". Also, the Wiltshire Work & Skills Plan (April 2010) which has been informed by a comprehensive Worklessness Assessment, sets out how Wiltshire Council, working with partners through Wiltshire Works, can help deliver a reduction in worklessness and promote economic inclusion.
5. Central government published its national child poverty strategy in April 2011 – "A New Approach to Child Poverty: Tackling the Causes of Disadvantage and Transforming Families Lives". It covers the period 2011 – 2014. Whilst recognising the importance of income, its aims are also around "strengthening families, encouraging responsibility, promoting work, guaranteeing fairness and proving support to the most vulnerable".

The aim

6. The goal of the Child Poverty Act is to end child poverty by 2020.
7. This strategy supports both the reduction of child poverty in Wiltshire and mitigation of the effects of child poverty. It seeks to provide a view of the causes, barriers and challenges of child poverty, set a shared vision and encourage a co-ordinated approach to address child poverty and its impact.
8. Living in poverty means more than just having a low income. Extensive research and data show that children who grow up in poverty face a greater risk of having poor health, being exposed to crime and failing to reach their full potential. This in turn can limit their potential to earn the money needed to support their own families in later life, and so a cycle of poverty is created. Therefore in order to ensure today's poor children are not tomorrow's poor adults child poverty must be tackled.
9. The Wiltshire Children and Young People's Trust partnership and the Wiltshire Public Services Board have both signed up to this strategy and will continue to drive change at a local level to improve outcomes for children and young people.

What is child poverty?

10. Children are said to be living in relative income poverty if their household's income is less than 60 per cent of the median national income. Essentially, this looks at whether the incomes of the poorest families are keeping pace with the growth of incomes in the economy as a whole.
11. Using this measure, there are currently 2.8 million¹ children living in poverty in this country and 11,120¹, 11% of the 0 – 19 population, in Wiltshire. Wiltshire compares favourably against the South West average of 15.8% and against the average of comparable local authority areas (12.9%).
12. The Child Poverty Act also sets targets for the government to meet by 2020 on four different measures of poverty – including relative income poverty. The Act sets four challenging UK-wide targets to be met by 2020. These targets are based on the proportion of children living in:
 - relative low income (whether the incomes of the poorest families are keeping pace with the growth of incomes in the economy as a whole) - target is less than 10%
 - combined low income and material deprivation (a wider measure of people's living standards) - target is less than 5%
 - absolute low income (whether the poorest families are seeing their income rise in real terms) - target is less than 5%
 - persistent poverty (length of time in poverty) - target is to be set in regulations by 2015.

Data for these 4 measures are currently not available at a local level.

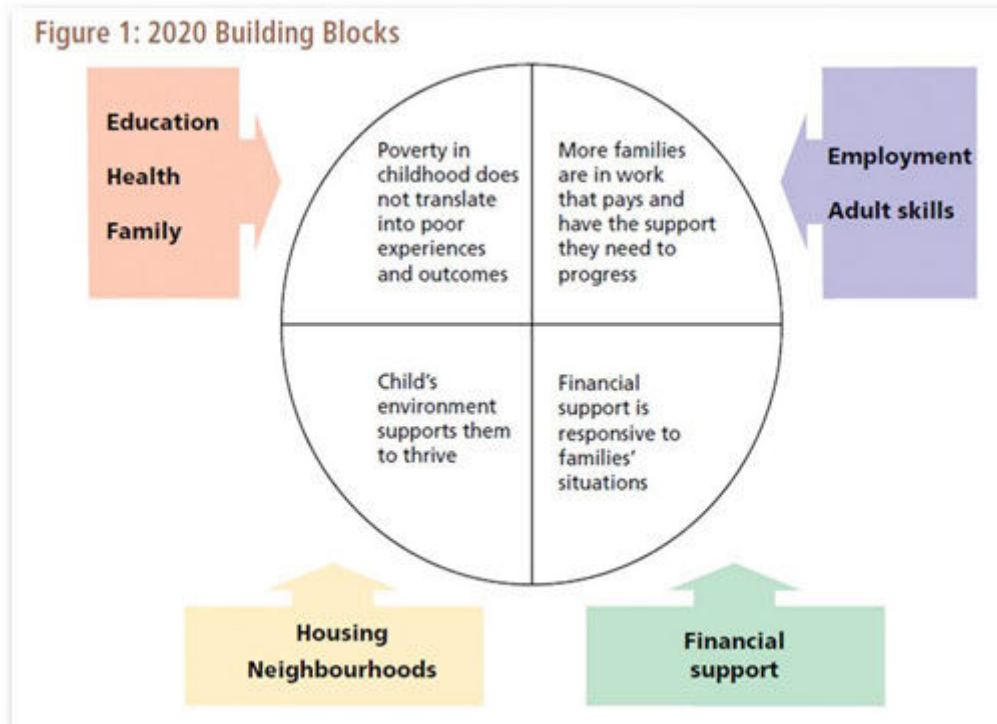
13. The central government Child Poverty Unit has collated an extensive library of [research](#) and [data](#). Particularly relevant to Wiltshire is the research report about cost of living in rural communities. "Country Life: tougher to make ends meet"² says that people living in rural communities need to spend 10-20% more than those in urban areas to reach a minimum acceptable living standard. This is due to things such as the need to run a car, higher energy bills and the location of rural services. This is further exacerbated as pay levels for many rural workers are often lower than those working in urban areas.

¹ These figures are as at 2008

² Country Life: tougher to make ends meet – Nov 2010 Joseph Rowntree Foundation/Commission for Rural Communities

The building blocks to combat child poverty

14. Nationally, it has been suggested that there are 4 key building blocks which work together to prevent, reduce and mitigate the effects of poverty.



Education, health and family

- ensuring access to quality education for all children and young people and narrowing the gap in attainment of different groups
- improving physical and mental health outcomes for all children and parents, reducing health inequalities and improving support for those with disabilities and poorer health
- reducing pressures on families and strengthening their capabilities by providing as much support as possible.

Housing, neighbourhoods and communities

- ensuring all children grow up in decent homes that support their health and education
- taking action on neighbourhoods, play and green spaces, transport and crime to ensure all children can thrive in safe and cohesive communities, with equal access to work, cultural and leisure opportunities.

Adult skills and employment

- building on successes in education to ensure all adults have the skills necessary to enter, stay and progress in work
- ensuring more parents can enter, stay and progress in work (including childcare), to help parents balance work and family life and ensure those in work can escape poverty.

Financial support

- ensuring financial and material support remain an important public service; provided through a modern welfare system that recognises the additional barriers families face, while maintaining incentives to work.

What works?

15. The Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services³ has reviewed a variety of child poverty publications, toolkits and guides to produce the key components of a child poverty strategy:

- effective multi-agency partnerships which draw on the experience, resources and expertise across the whole area
- sufficient and sustained resources
- active participation of children, young people, families and communities
- differentiated approaches to address the needs of different groups or areas in the community
- monitoring and evaluation focused on outcomes rather than outputs.

The Centre for Excellence and Outcomes also concludes priority outcomes are:

- maximising of family income – a mixed economy of provision is required, which can help the jobless into work, help those in work to progress, and financially support those unable to work
- narrowing outcome gaps for children and young people living in poverty, particularly in education and health.

Local Needs Assessment

16. Wiltshire has an estimated total population of 456,100 persons. There are approximately 89,200 children aged 0-15 yrs. The area is predominantly rural, covering 325,500 hectares, population densities across the county do vary markedly. Wiltshire as a whole is characterised by its 'rurality' and is notable for the scale of its military presence, which is one of the largest in any county in the UK. Military personnel constitute around 3.3% of the total population, and the total number of military personnel and their dependants is estimated to be around 30,000 (6.6%). The greatest concentrations of deprivation are in the towns, with three local

³ C4EO Research Summary 1 Child Poverty January 2010

areas in Wiltshire, two in Trowbridge and one in Salisbury, being in the most deprived 20% of such areas nationally. There is scattered deprivation across the whole rural area.

17. This strategy is supported by a comprehensive needs assessment which gives detailed evidence of both national and local child poverty gained through analysis of data and direct input from stakeholders and families. Detailed below are the high level findings.

CHILDREN AT GREATEST RISK OF POVERTY⁴

18. Some groups of children living in particular circumstances are known to be at a greater risk of living in poverty:
- **Lone parents** - children of lone parents are at greater risk of living in poverty than children in couple families. Before housing costs over a third, 35%, (50% after housing costs) of children living in lone parent families are poor, compared with less than a fifth, 18%, of children in couple families.
 - **Large families** - children in large families are at far greater risk of poverty than children from small families: 40%, of children in families with four or more children are poor, compared with under a fifth, 19%, of children in one-child families.
 - **Children with disabilities** - disabled children are more likely than their non-disabled peers to live in poverty as a result of lower incomes (because parents need to look after disabled children and so cannot work) and the impact of disability-related additional costs (an impact which is not captured by official figures).
 - **Children with disabled parents** - children with disabled parents face a significantly higher risk of living in poverty than those of non-disabled parents. The main reason for this is that disabled parents are much less likely to be in paid work, and also suffer the impact of additional disability-related costs which sap family budgets.
 - **Children who are carers** - for some children, it is not just a lack of income which affects their life chances, it is a chaotic family life, lack of stability, upheaval or the focus on someone else's needs. Children in care, young carers, children living with a disabled parent and children living in households with drug or alcohol misuse or domestic violence all have experiences or responsibilities that can blight their childhood and make it more difficult for them to focus on their education and achieve good outcomes.
 - **Children who have teenage parents** – national data shows that children of teenage mothers have a 63% increased risk of being born into poverty compared to babies born to mothers in their twenties.
 - **Children growing up in social housing** - children living in households living in social housing (either local authority or housing associations) face a high risk of being poor. 49% of children in local authority accommodation are poor before housing costs (rising to 58% after housing costs). Poor children in social housing are also a large proportion of all poor children.
 - **Black and minority ethnic children** - children living in households headed by someone from an ethnic minority are more likely to be living in a poor household. This is particularly the case for those households headed by someone of Pakistani or Bangladeshi origin, where well over half the children are living in poverty.
 - **Asylum seekers** - there is no robust quantitative data on asylum seekers. However the parents in this group are prohibited from working and are only entitled to safety net support at a lower level than the usual income support/ Jobseekers Allowance safety (which itself is paid below the poverty line).
 - **Traveller and gypsy children** - there is a severe lack of robust quantitative data on Gypsy and Traveller families, including poverty. However, both practice knowledge and other studies show that some have few financial resources.
 - **Children with a parent in prison** – it is recognised that these children are more likely to be living in poverty.

⁴ Children at Greatest Risk of Poverty available at <http://www.childpovertytoolkit.org.uk/At-Greatest-Risk-of-Child-Poverty>

- **Children leaving care** - young people leaving care are likely to face multiple disadvantages including poverty. Those entering care are also much more likely to have experienced poverty. This is a consequence of their pre-care, in-care, leaving care and after-care 'life course' experiences.

GEOGRAPHICAL ASSESSMENT

19. An analysis by HMRC demonstrated that in 2008 Wiltshire had 11,120 children living in poverty, which represents 11.0% of children. This compares well with other local authority areas in the South West of England, but masks the fact that of the 281 lower super output areas, 42 have over 20% and 9 have over 30% of children living in poverty.

Lower Layer Super Output Area's (LSOA)	Children in families in receipt of Child Tax Credit (<60% median income) or Income Support / Job Seekers Allowance		% of Children in "Poverty"	
	Under 16	All Children	Under 16	All Children
1. Melksham North - north east	145	160	44.3%	42.7%
2. Trowbridge John of Gaunt - Studley Green	205	230	43.1%	41.9%
3. Salisbury St Martin - central	110	125	39.2%	38.0%
4. Chippenham Hill Rise - north west	135	150	34.4%	33.6%
5. Trowbridge drynham - Lower Studley	185	200	34.3%	33.5%
6. Wootton Bassett North - central	115	135	32.9%	32.3%
7. Salisbury Bemerton - south	135	150	31.3%	31.3%
8. Salisbury Bemerton - west	145	160	31.4%	30.3%
9. Chippenham Queens - east	95	105	31.3%	30.1%
10. Trowbridge Adcroft - Seymour	115	130	31.2%	29.8%

20. These areas match the top ten areas according to Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD 2010) with the exception of Wootton Bassett North – Central and Chippenham Hill Rise – north west which don't appear in the IMD top ten and are replaced by Westbury Ham and Calne Abberd - south. These geographical areas of deprivation have remained fairly constant over time.

THEMATIC ASSESSMENT

Jobs

21. Historically worklessness has been a major cause of children living in poverty. However, the underlying causes as to why adults are out of work are complicated and issues differ for those long term unemployed versus those who have recently lost their job.
22. The number of people defined as 'long term unemployed' (i.e. over 6 months) is 1555 as of October 2010, and of these 730 had been claiming JSA for 12 months or more (i.e. the 'very long term unemployed'). Job Centre Plus data shows that 70 people have been claiming JSA for 2 years or more. To improve young people's outcomes and outlook on life, it is vital that the cycle of dependency on benefits is broken and young people aspire to a career or work life.
23. An estimated 2,900 people were let go by Wiltshire's workplaces between December 2007 and December 2009. The hardest hit workplace economies in terms of the volumes of losses are Salisbury, Chippenham and Trowbridge (each losing around 1,000 jobs, 600 jobs and 400 jobs respectively).
24. A recent national study by the Institute for Public Policy Research found that due to the recession 'in work' poverty has increased as a result of reduction in hours and wage freezes.

Nationally the proportion of poor children living in working households increased to 61% in 2008/9 from 50% in 2005/6. In numbers terms this translates to 1.7 million poor children in working households compared to 1.1 million in workless households.

Economic situation

25. Nationally unemployment has doubled which is attributed to the recession. In Wiltshire over the same time period unemployment has trebled, but remains under the national rate, this is before the impact of public sector job losses.
26. National data illustrates that Wiltshire is not so dependent on Public Sector jobs as others areas (Wiltshire 22.3%, Great Britain 21.8% and the South West 22.6%).

Education

27. Children who grow up in poverty are more likely to leave school without qualifications. Local authorities measure the attainment gap in a standardised way, which enable comparison with other areas.
28. The first measure is at Foundation Stage Profile which measures achievements of children aged five against 13 assessment scales. The gap between the average score of all children and the average score of the lowest achieving 20% of children is calculated and Wiltshire has been successful in reducing this gap (2007 – 35.5% to 2010 29.2%, which compares favourably against a national average of 32.7%).
29. There are also measures of attainment at Key Stage 2 and GCSE level in English and Maths for children who are eligible for free school meals (FSM) compared with children who are not eligible for FSM. This is measured as a percentage difference or “gap”. The aim is for the gap to reduce, but as the tables illustrate below this gap in Wiltshire is persisting and is higher than the gap nationally.

	2007 %	2008 %	2009 %	2010 %
NI 102A Attainment Gap FSM/non FSM Key Stage 2 inc English and Maths				
Wiltshire	24	31	31	27
Stats Neighbours	29	27	27	26
England	24	22	22	21
NI 102B Attainment Gap FSM/non FSM GCSE inc English and Maths				
Wiltshire	32	38	28	36
Stats Neighbours	32	33	32	33
England	28	28	27	28

Source: Research and Statistics SFR32/2010 SFR34/2010 and LAIT

30. Absenteeism rates and exclusion rates in Wiltshire are similar to national rates.

Transport

31. Getting to work, getting to school or college and getting to child care is all dependent on transport. Poor public transport can mean that low income families are forced into car ownership; reducing the money they have available to spend on other things. As yet we have no hard data to demonstrate this need in Wiltshire, but anecdotal reports support the prioritisation of this thematic area.

Data

32. There has been recognition during the compilation of the needs assessment that more up to date data would inform the further development of the child poverty strategy.

Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances

33. Frank Field's "The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults"⁵ found that "... children's life chances are most heavily predicated on their development in the first five years of life. It is family background, parental education, good parenting and the opportunities for learning and development in those crucial years that together matter more to children than money, in determining whether their potential is realised in adult life. The things that matter most are a healthy pregnancy; good maternal mental health; secure bonding with the child; love and responsiveness of parents along with clear boundaries, as well as opportunities for a child's cognitive, language and social and emotional development. Good services matter too: health services, Children's Centres and high quality childcare." The report notes that differences in skill levels are impacted by 22 months of age. It acknowledges that later interventions can be effective but stresses that the most effective and cost effective way to help is in the earliest years of a child's life. It also stresses the importance of breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty and raising parental aspiration.

34. The two overarching recommendations of the report are:

- To prevent poor children from becoming poor adults the Review proposes establishing a set of Life Chances Indicators that measure how successful we are as a country in making more equal life's outcomes for all children. These include child, parent and environmental factors.

"Nothing can be achieved without working with parents. All our recommendations are about enabling parents to achieve the aspirations that they have for their children."

- To drive this policy the Review proposes establishing the 'Foundation Years' covering the period from the womb to five. The Foundation Years should become the first pillar of a new tripartite education system: the Foundation Years leading to school years leading to further, higher and continuing education.

35. The report suggests a number of specific recommendations including:–

- Central government should move funding to early years and expand the new Fairness Premiums to begin in pregnancy.
- Sure Start centres should re-focus on the most disadvantaged families.
- Schools should be held to account for reducing the attainment gap.
- Central government should ensure that parenting and life skills are reflected in the school curriculum.
- A new measure of severe poverty should be developed to identify the very poorest children.

⁵ "The Foundation Years: preventing poor children becoming poor adults". Frank Field December 2010. The report of the Independent Review on Poverty and Life Chances.

What's happening to tackle child poverty in Wiltshire?

36. Many things are currently happening in Wiltshire which reduce, prevent and mitigate the effects of child poverty. Services are often allocated in line with social deprivation need. The actions described below give a flavour of the support available, mainly through the public sector. It does not claim to be a comprehensive listing⁶ and it is acknowledged that a huge amount of support is provided through the voluntary sector and within local communities.

Education, Health and Family

- Sufficiency of **child care provision**, eg nurseries, child minders, monitored with an action plan to develop further affordable childcare in areas/communities of need.
- **Three and four year old Free Entitlement (foundation years)** - a universal offer for 15 hours per week for parents to use in a flexible way. The aim is to enable parents to access part time work while their childcare costs remain low. Take-up in Wiltshire is high with over 90% of those eligible taking up their offer. There is an element of additional funding specifically given to deprived children at our settings. This is to help compensate for the effects of poverty and ensure the child has a better start to their education. A second element gives additional money to very small childcare settings in rural areas where closure would prevent children from accessing their Entitlement.
- **Free education and childcare to 2 year olds** from the most vulnerable families. Families to be offered additional support from children centres alongside childcare and these are helping parents with parenting, family learning and to search and get ready for work.
- **Social Inclusion Funding** for parents on low income or benefits prior to the child taking up the universal 4 year old Free Entitlement to early education.
- **Taster Sessions** for parents to try out childcare before they return to work. This is now offered to all low income parents and parents of disabled children to give confidence to return to work.
- **Children's Centres** working in local areas to coordinate work that will raise aspirations of both parents and children early on, and strengthen support to families. Some of the support on offer includes:
 - **Family support and outreach workers**
 - Access to **training opportunities, including key skills**
 - **Advice around finding childcare** and understanding the free entitlement of 15 hours childcare.
 - **Simple cooking and household budgeting**
 - **Job vacancy board** updated regularly and close links with Jobcentre Plus
 - The Trussell Trust situated in the children's centre at Elim, Salisbury runs a food bank to allow **low cost food basics** that they buy in bulk.
 - **Support for teenage parents** and links with midwives
 - **Debt counselling and money management**
 - **Nursery equipment loan** or saving schemes
 - Providing **access to Credit Unions**
 - Support from **Health Visitors**.
- **Family Information Service**, aiming to streamline access to information, advice and guidance to parents. This includes outreach work to advise on choice of childcare as well as assessing for levels of working tax credits including the childcare element of this. An "estimator" is targeted towards parents where their financial circumstances have changed, in

⁶ The information was correct at the time of writing the strategy but it is acknowledged that there is a turnover of schemes and support available at any one time.

particular parents with new babies as it was found that these parents are the ones most likely to need a reassessment of their entitlements to benefits.

- **Additional support programmes in schools** to improving pupil progress including one to one tuition in English and maths, Every Child programmes targeting intensive support in numeracy, reading and writing in the primary schools and special educational needs support.
- **Extended services** provision providing a range of services including breakfast clubs and, in disadvantaged areas, children can have free access to after school activities.
- **Parenting programmes**
- **Family learning events** offered across the county and accreditation of settings as Investors in Families.
- **Parent Support Advisers** linked to schools work in local areas to provide parenting programmes, 1:1 parenting support, advice about children's behaviour and attendance at school and advice about family relationships, aspirations and signposting to support for minority ethnic language support.
- **Assisted places schemes** to give access to residential activity centres in Wiltshire
- **Young Carers service** working with young people who have "significant" caring responsibilities due to parental disability, illness or issues such as substance misuse.
- A range of services for children in need through social care (e.g., **parenting support**).
- Actions to **reduce teenage conceptions**, raise aspirations and **support teenage parents** to engage in education, training and employment.
- **Family intervention projects** which give intensive support to families experiencing significant problems which sometimes include financial issues. Support includes parenting programmes, reducing antisocial behaviour, mental health support and drugs & alcohol support.
- Health services from conception to 19 years are targeted according to the principle of **progressive universalism** in line with the national **The Healthy Child Programme**
- To inform the delivery of targeted support to the most vulnerable families of 0-4 yr olds we have undertaken mapping of the Health Visitors caseloads, to **match resources with needs**. This is typical in many services.
- **"Baby Friendly"** breastfeeding Initiative in Wiltshire.
- Partners in Literacy (PiL) is to support more families to **promote literacy in the home**
- Wiltshire Sustainable Parenting programme which provides practical information on how to **reduce the consumption, waste and costs**.

Employment and adults skills

- Phase 2 of the **Action for Wiltshire** Programme to tackle the effects of the recession and impacts of the public sector cuts in the county.
- The **Wiltshire Potential Future Jobs Fund** is providing 495 long term unemployed 18-24 year olds with a break into the labour market and improving their long term employability prospects.
- A one-off programme "Wiltshire Work Grant" to provide **new job opportunities for 40 2 year+ unemployed people** is currently being developed by Jobcentre Plus and Wiltshire Council.
- The **Jobcentre Plus Adviser Flexibility** pilot is running in Wiltshire, Swindon, Dorset and Somerset for two years to offer a more flexible and individualised approach to those that are workless.
- Delivery of a project to **improve entry level 3 numeracy skills and Level 1 Literacy**.
- A **financial literacy skills** pilot project is being developed.

- **'Wheels to Work'** Project - a moped loan scheme for people aged 16+ living in Wiltshire without access to private transport and in areas of insufficient public transport to access employment & training.
- **Positive engagement activities** for young people at risk of social exclusion and programmes of support for young people **not in education, employment or training**.
- **Increasing access to higher Education** through the establishment of an HE centre at Wiltshire College and links being maximised with neighbouring universities.

Housing and neighbourhoods

- Approaches to **keep people in their own homes** during the recession, through effective information, advice, support and specialist services specifically geared towards the needs of children, young people and their families.
- Effective partnership responses to the issue of affordable housing, with a particular focus on **increasing the supply of family-sized accommodation**.
- Ensure that our social housing stock meets national target of 100% of homes to meet the **Decent Homes Standard**.
- Improving homes with low **energy efficiency for households** on income based benefits
- **Accommodation projects** aimed specifically at homeless young people.
- **Housing Association projects** around worklessness aimed at residents and community engagement.
- Wiltshire Housing Partnership has agreed **local lettings plans** to help create sustainable communities.
- £6 million on **supported bus services and community transport**, which doubles the level of public transport that would otherwise be available. 50% of rural households have access to an hourly or better weekday daytime bus service, 90% to a daily or better weekday service. The spending includes £500,000 on evening and Sunday bus services (virtually none of which would be provided without Council funding).
- **Community transport** is being encouraged and the Area Boards have each been allocated £5,000 for initiatives to improve transport for young people.
- **Post-16 education transport scheme** provides a guarantee of transport, at a flat rate annual charge, to the local sixth form or FE College. Payments can be made in instalments to reduce the burden.

Financial support

- Through Jobcentre Plus, regular **group information support meetings** for low-income lone parents receiving Income Support.
- **Benefit take-up** campaigns.
- **Wiltshire Advice Line**.
- The establishment of a **single credit union** for Wiltshire and a **loan fund**.
- **Family focussed Trust Funds** which give grants to children in need.
- Wiltshire Money supports a number of projects to promote **financial inclusion**.

Key priorities for Wiltshire

37. Child poverty is a complex issue and benefits from an integrated approach. Specific groups of people will be more vulnerable and will gain from a targeted action. The following key priorities are identified, together with the activities above, to improve the delivery of services and the lives of some of the more vulnerable families in Wiltshire.

Strategic Objective 1 – Provide support to the 0-5 year olds in disadvantaged families

38. Evidence suggests that children's lives are significantly shaped during their first 5 years of life so it is vital to support the optimum physical, psychological, emotional, social and educational development of children.

What do we need to do?

39. Further develop the role of the children's centres and other early year settings, and continue to strengthen the links between health services and children's centres. Children's Centres need a continued focus on the most vulnerable families and to provide strong outreach services. They need to provide targeted support to ensure good health, appropriate development and successful early education of young children. This will include working with the Family and Parenting Commissioning Group to develop the family support role, including supporting the benefits of paid employment.

40. Deliver the **Healthy Child Programme**, which focuses on both physical and mental health, to all children 0-19 years within available resources and specifically target families with 0-4 year olds.

Strategic Objective 2 – Narrowing the Educational Attainment Gap

41. A child's education is key to ensuring that they have appropriate knowledge and skills for the future and that they are prepared for working life. A culture for learning is key together with early identification of vulnerable children and targeted support both within school and from other agencies.

What do we need to do?

42. Support and encourage the take-up of free childcare places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds to support early educational development and give children the best start in life.

43. Schools and settings need to continue to address the attainment gap to ensure that children and young people have the education and skills they need for life and the aspirations to succeed. Schools are already working to improve outcomes for children in receipt of free school meals and they will receive additional funding through the new pupil premium from April 2011.

Strategic Objective 3 – An inclusive Wiltshire with an appropriate job for everyone and economic opportunity for all

44. Worklessness is a major cause of children living in poverty. Barriers to employment for parents include:

- not being able to manage family finances
- partnership breakdown
- debt
- fear of leaving the benefit system
- English for speakers of other languages
- housing issues
- not being able to access affordable, trusted childcare
- training and employment services inaccessible for parents
- lack of skills, confidence, motivation and aspiration
- chaotic lives
- health problems which could be the result of any of the above

What do we need to do?

45. The Wiltshire Work and Skills Plan will help to tackle worklessness. It includes specific “people priorities” including young people, women, people with disabilities, low skilled, long-term unemployed, over 50’s and carers. It identifies five priority themes and a detailed action plan for addressing worklessness priorities:

- Encourage appropriate jobs growth
- Tackle cultural and attitudinal barriers to work both for employers and employees
- Improve skills, confidence and self esteem of employees
- Improve in-work sustainability eg transport links, childcare.
- Address institutional issues eg transport, technology, family friendly employers.

46. Tackle financial exclusion through a range of initiatives including education on financial capability, measures to help tackle fuel poverty, responses to rising cost of travel, advice on benefits, affordable credit, and training for front-line workers. Support individuals in crisis and maintain the CAB Wiltshire Advice Line for people needing urgent advice on finance and debt.

Strategic Objective 4 – Consolidated, geographic approaches to child poverty

47. Due to the dispersed nature of child poverty in Wiltshire there is a need for good quality information, advice and guidance across the whole county to support families in poverty. Arrangements will differ from community to community. In areas of high poverty a more targeted, multi-agency approach is beneficial.

48. 9 lower super output areas in Wiltshire have over 30% of children living in poverty. Given this concentration of disadvantaged households there would be merit in a geographical approach.

What do we need to do?

49. Continue to promote integrated working across services, tailored approaches and community responses to issues in specific areas. This could include support to enable parents to work and support to parents to maximise their potential income, including benefits take-up where eligible and support for housing issues. Children’s centres are a key part of this.

Strategic Objective 5 - Keep child poverty in the spotlight
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50. It is important to promote and progress the aims of this strategy and maintain engagement from partner agencies, including the private and voluntary sectors.

What do we need to do?

51. Local partners to sign up to a reducing child poverty charter.

52. Improve the collection and analysis of information to better inform this strategy and its delivery plan.

53. The creation of a multi agency child poverty task group, accountable to the Children and Young People's Trust Commissioning Executive, to develop and oversee a top level action plan.

54. The Children and Young People's Trust Commissioning Executive and the Public Services Board to receive regular updates regarding progress.

Monitoring Arrangements

55. Reducing child poverty is “everyone’s business” and therefore implementing this strategy will involve actions from a number of agencies including the voluntary and private sectors. The complexity of the cause and effects of child poverty mean that it is often difficult to directly attribute specific actions to specific impact.
56. At the time of writing this strategy, National Indicators have been abolished; central government is considering data collection and performance indicators, and the proposed public health outcomes framework has still to be published. However, assuming that data remains available, a number of key indicators could be used in a scorecard to monitor progress, examples are listed below.

Children living in poverty

- *Proportion of children in poverty (NI 116)*
- *Foundation years attainment (NI 72 & 92)*
- *Achievement of pupils in receipt of free school meals (NI 102)*

Parental employment

- *Overall employment rate (NI 151)*
- *Working age people on out of works benefits (NI 152)*
- *Working age people claiming out of work benefits in worst performing neighbourhoods (NI 153)*

Linked to take up of child care

- *Take up of childcare by low income families (NI 118)*

Linked to housing

- *% of Decent Council Homes (NI 158)*
- *Total number of affordable homes delivered (NI 155)*
- *Total number of families living in temporary accommodation (NI 156)*

Health

Link to Public Health outcomes framework – domain 2 tackling wider determinants of health eg:

- *16-18 yr olds not in education, employment or training*
 - *First time entrants to the Youth Justice system*
-

57. Monitoring of actions to achieve the progress related to the Key Priorities and scorecard indicators identified in this strategy will be monitored by the individual lead organisations. However the composite picture needs to be reviewed regularly and this will be achieved by an annual review which will be reported to the Children and Young People’s Trust partnership and the Public Services Board.

Equality and Diversity

58. The whole aim of this strategy is to improve equalities. Any adverse or positive impacts from an equalities perspective have been incorporated within the identified issues in the strategy and delivery plan. For example, it is recognised in the section “Children at greatest risk of poverty” that some groups of people are more likely to be impacted by poverty and therefore there needs to be awareness of the potential risks.
59. The delivery plan will be a live working document and hence there will be an opportunity to review progress from an equalities perspective. This demonstrates best practice as the equalities issues are embedded and addressed within the documents. Lower level action plans will also be reflecting and addressing equalities issues.

Risk Assessment

60. At the time of writing the UK is emerging from recession and the current government is implementing a major spending reform, reducing budgets in many public services and making many changes. It is difficult to know how these changes will impact this strategy. Unemployment of the working-age population has risen in recent years and studies⁷ have also show that the proportion of children living in poverty in working families has also risen due to employers avoiding redundancies through reduction in hours/pay rates.
61. The new Welfare Reform programme will replace the current benefit structure with a universal credit being phased in by 2013. This is intended to make transition between different types of benefits and employment easier. The Government is also making changes to the way Housing Benefit is calculated from April 2011. These changes should have a positive affect on poverty however, there could be adverse impact to large families and it is likely to prove problematic when setting baselines and monitoring progress.
62. Locally, provision of services is being reviewed by all partner agencies in light of budget and policy changes. There is a risk that some of the activities outlined in this strategy will reduce and/or be delivered differently in future. The needs assessment, strategy and delivery plan will need to monitor this change, its impact and any unforeseen consequences that may arise as a result of any changes.
63. As specific risks arise, they will be considered and escalated through the Child Poverty Task Group, Children and Young People’s Trust Board and Public Services Board as appropriate.

END

⁷In-work poverty in the recession, Institute for Public Policy Research September 2010

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet
26 July 2011

Subject: Nursing Home Provision for Older People including those with Mental Health Problems and People with Physical Impairments.

Cabinet member: Councillor John Thomson - Adult Care, Communities and Housing

Key Decision: Yes

Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to seek Cabinet approval to commission 350 beds through block contracts and a further 133 through framework agreements for the provision of nursing home care for people over 65 years and those with physical impairments who are assessed as requiring residential care.

There are 1652 registered nursing beds in Wiltshire (this does not include residential care such as that provided by Orders of St John). Of the 1652, the Council is currently purchasing 483 (29%) 312 new placements are made per annum which is offset by people leaving the service. This activity represents £16m per annum.

It is anticipated that this procurement will achieve efficiencies and procurement benefits to the Council whilst ensuring availability of nursing care in homes that meet the quality standards set by the Council.

This work will be undertaken in partnership with the NHS who will be commissioning a further 256 beds. This will assist with making the offer to providers very attractive and will ensure continuity of care for residents in nursing homes.

Proposals

To procure block contracts and framework agreements with the NHS for the provision of nursing home care for Wiltshire residents.

Reason for Proposal

In taking this approach the Council will benefit from greater security of market supply and achieve efficiencies through economies of scale. This will facilitate the discharge of people from hospital and ensure availability of nursing care throughout the county.

Name of Director: Sue Redmond

Designation: Corporate Director, Department of Community Services

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet
26 July 2011

Subject: **Nursing Home Provision for Older People including those with Mental Health Problems and People with Physical Impairments.**

Cabinet member: **Councillor John Thomson - Adult Care, Communities and Housing**

Key Decision: **Yes**

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval to tender and to subsequently award contracts through delegated authority for up to 350 nursing beds. In view of the value of these contracts, £16.1m, the Constitution requires Cabinet approval.

Background

2. Wiltshire Council's procurement and commissioning programme objective is to achieve savings of £36 million over the next four years commencing in 2011/12. To achieve this, a number of phased procurement activities need to take place. The Department of Community Services (DCS) spend on nursing care for older people, those with mental health problems and for people with physical impairment has been targeted as one of the areas in which the Council expects to make savings.

3. Within Wiltshire, the largest population change is for the 85+ age group. This group is projected to increase by 61.7% between 2007 and 2021. This projected change means that the Council will be expected to purchase more nursing beds in the future.

4. There are 1652 registered nursing beds in Wiltshire (this does not include residential care such as that provided by the Orders of St John Care Trust). The Council currently buys 483 of these beds in Wiltshire with a smaller number purchased in care homes in the surrounding counties. The balance are purchased by the NHS, other local authorities or by people purchasing their own care.

5. On average the Council makes 312 new placements per annum in nursing homes, many of whom are placed from hospital. This is offset by a similar number who leave nursing placements in the same period. A further 35 people resident in nursing homes become the financial responsibility of the Council once their capital has diminished to below £23,500.

6. It is important that people being discharged from hospital, who require nursing care, are placed in nursing homes in a timely manner and to achieve this it is imperative that the Council has access to nursing beds.

7. Unlike many authorities, where there are gaps in service provision this is not the case in Wiltshire where there is a good overall level of supply in relation to the current population. However, as a result of purchasing only 29% of the market the Council is not in the strongest commercial position and could still potentially be in a position of not being able to obtain a placement at an acceptable rate if relying on spot purchasing.

8. To help strengthen the Councils commercial position the Council has put in place a number of block contracts. Of the 483 beds currently purchased, 122 beds are block contracted from 6 providers. These contracts were let in October 2005 following a procurement exercise and end on 31st March 2011. An extension to these contracts to 30th September 2011 has been authorised

9. The current spend for nursing is £16 million (current block spend is £2.7 million). It is anticipated that by offering providers an increased proportion of block contracts with secure income that significant reductions on this budget can be achieved.

10. Prior to recommending this approach previous actions have been to approach the market with a framework contract option (with no guarantee of spend) to gauge the market's interest in the potential fees the Council could be offering. Responses from the market demonstrated that this is not a viable option for providers for whom the lack of guaranteed business made this an unattractive proposition.

Main Considerations for the Council

11. DCS are looking for approval to go out to tender for up to 350 Block beds. The main considerations for Cabinet are:

Block contracts and a framework arrangement:

12. To ensure continued availability of supply, DCS is proposing to award a block contract and a supporting framework agreement. Having already undertaken the market test with an agreed rate framework proposal – and this being rejected – officers have identified that by guaranteeing placements under a block approach, there is a greater likelihood that providers will offer a competitive price to the Council. In view of the current usage of nursing homes outside the boundary of the County it is proposed to extend the offer to a 10 mile radius of the county boundaries.

13. Given that the Council currently buys 483 nursing beds it was decided that there would need to be a supporting framework contract for the remaining 133 the Council currently buys. This gives us both stability of a block contract and the flexibility of a framework contract needed to manage the nursing home market.

The choice agenda

14. Currently choice is restricted by bed availability at rates acceptable to the Council. It is anticipated that block contracts will increase the choice of homes available to the people of Wiltshire.

15. Geographically, Wiltshire has a good spread of Nursing homes and the Council will ensure, through the use of block contracts that there will be nursing home provision available across the county.

Value for money

16. Within the context of the procurement and commissioning savings programme the Council is looking to achieve efficiencies and procurement benefits from this activity. However, the Council will still be looking for best value by ensuring we use high quality nursing homes through the application of rigorous quality checks in the proposed tendering process. Contracts will only be awarded to those homes that have been rated at an acceptable level of compliance with the Care Quality Commission "Essential Standards of Quality and Safety regulations". The Care Quality Commission is responsible for monitoring the quality of service in care homes. Effective contract monitoring will ensure that value for money is maintained throughout the term of the contract.

Void costs

17. A block contract approach does require the consideration of void costs (i.e. payment for an empty bed). To minimise the risk of void payments the Council will monitor usage carefully, and operate two beds rates (standard and higher based on care needs). This will mean that providers can allow for movement between the two rates when placing a customer in their care home. Also by working jointly with health we will minimise the occurrence of voids. The two organisations can work together by ensuring that the other organisation will get a first refusal on a block bed before it can be realised to the self funding market.

18. Within the Contract providers will be entitled to accept referrals from other purchasers, where this impacts on availability of the block beds they will be required to apply for the Council's consent.

Contract

19. The Council is proposing to test the market to ascertain what the most cost effective method for commissioning the required services is, either:

- Fee Uplifts
 - Fixed price for the first few years
 - Annual uplift using a pricing mechanism
- Contract duration
 - Between 3 – 10 years

NHS Involvement

20. The Council will undertake the tender jointly with NHS Wiltshire. This is to ensure that advantage can be taken of the improved economies of scales, which will enable both parties to gain efficiencies.

21. A further benefit of joint working will be that customers will not have to move in the event of their becoming eligible for funding from the NHS and will reduce the scope for providers to generate competition and increased rates between the two organisations.

22. NHS Wiltshire is looking to buy up to 150 block beds.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

23. This tender will ensure a level and choice of nursing provision across Wiltshire. This will reduce the level of travel and associated costs for families and will help to ensure that Wiltshire residents can remain living in Wiltshire.

24. As care homes consume a large amount of energy it is likely that this will be a significant on going running cost for the operator. It is anticipated that the cost of energy will increase sharply in the future at a rate of around 10% per annum. This will need to be taken account of when evaluating the approach to be taken in assessing bids as an uplift mechanism could assist with managing this risk. In preparing tender documentation account will be taken of energy ratings of homes and steps operators are taking to become more energy efficient.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

25. Nursing Homes in Wiltshire are directly involved in providing employment for a significant amount of people from the local population. Currently they are also providing extensive employment opportunities for many who have lost employment as a result of the current economic situation.

26. The specification for the service will state that providers will be expected to demonstrate use of local resources and provision of services which take account of customer's religious and cultural needs.

Risk Assessment

27. Efficiency savings are a high priority for the Council. To be able to achieve the required financial objective these new contracts need to be established in a timely manner. The timescales and formal requirements around the tendering process may present a risk to the savings achieved in this financial year.

28. There has been a new ruling in a case against Pembrokeshire Council (see para. 34) about fee levels and structures for nursing homes placements. The findings of the Court were clear and must be taken into account in Wiltshire's process. Pembrokeshire County Council ("PCC") set prices and obliged nursing homes to take the set price as the contractual price for the provision of places. PCC set these prices by reference to a range of factors important to the care home market. The nursing homes affected challenged the prices set saying they were too low and in setting the price PCC had not taken into account all the important factors that had a bearing on price. The Court agreed with the nursing homes and found that because important factor that should have been taken into account had not been then PCC had set the prices illegally. The judge ruled that it was not acceptable for the Local Authority simply to say they cannot afford the fee levels. DCS are approaching the market through the tendering process to mitigate this risk.
29. Once the Council has committed to buying these block beds they must be utilised effectively to ensure maximum service and financial efficiency is achieved. Cabinet is advised that this may challenge customer expectations of available choice.
30. There is a risk that the market may reject this proposal. Working with the Nursing Home Association and holding an information day for any interested providers should mitigate this risk. As stated previously Wiltshire is heavily influenced by the self-funded market. This means that the Council is not a key buyer within this market. This will provide a significant risk to the Council achieving the savings through this contract because the nursing homes may choose to opt to market their services to the self funding market. However, working with the NHS could reduce this risk but not eliminate it.

Financial Implications

31. As a result of guaranteeing purchasing levels to providers it is expected that providers will be able to offer more competitive rates than currently. Efficiencies have been identified in the corporate procurement plan which are expected to be achieved across this budget area. This target is the subject of an opportunity assessment including market analyses.
32. The implementation of block contracts will mean that the Council will be committed to spend the agreed fee for the number of beds required. While we currently pay 0.01% on voids of our current block contract value. We anticipate that this could rise in financial terms as a result of the increased number of beds being purchased. The reasons for voids are many and are due to situations outside of the Council's control such as temporary absences such as hospital admissions. It is proposed to minimise this through rigorous contract management arrangements.

Legal Implications

33. The very recent court case relating to care home provision in Pembrokeshire is important to the buying in of nursing home places by Local Authorities. The findings of the Court were clear and must be taken into account in Wiltshire's process. Pembrokeshire County Council ("PCC") set prices and obliged nursing homes to take the set price as the contractual price for the provision of places. PCC set these prices by reference to a range of factors important to the care home market. The nursing homes affected challenged the prices set saying they were too low and in setting the price PCC had not taken into account all the important factors that had a bearing on price. The Court agreed with the nursing homes and found that because important factor that should have been taken into account had not been then PCC had set the prices illegally. The Court did not lay down a list of factors that should be taken into account, only saying that in this case the list was inadequate. Without a definitive list any decision to set prices taken by any authority is liable to be challenged for not having taken everything relevant into account. Clearly this sort of challenge is more likely where nursing homes feel the price is low and they want to drive prices higher.
34. In contrast where a tender competition is undertaken and the nursing homes themselves prepare the prices they submit in their tenders they cannot then challenge those prices saying the local authority had set them illegally. A tender exercise removes the risk of the type of challenge encountered by PCC. In addition as the services in question are subject to the Public Procurement Regulations (2006) they are then required to be tendered (even though as a Part B Services they attract the less extensive procurement tendering requirements of those regulations). Tendering also removes the risk of a challenge under those regulations).

Options Considered

35. Framework agreement: The Council has approached the market with a framework (no guarantee of provision) option. This market test came back with a negative response. The providers indicated that the fees were too low and with no guarantee of work this was not an acceptable option.
36. Spot Purchasing: This is the current position and is labour intensive, prevents market development and the development of partnerships with suppliers and has financial implications.
37. Block contracts: The block contracts option has been considered and is recommended for the following reasons:

- 37.1 It will rationalise the existing supplier base and enable partnerships with successful providers to be developed
- 37.2 It will reduce contract management and brokerage requirements that could result in savings to the Council in staff resources.
- 37.3 It will ensure supply of placements at fixed prices giving the Council more accurate budgetary projections.

Conclusions

38. By working closely with providers and involving them in the procurement process we will develop a service specification that promotes quality of care whilst ensuring procurement plan savings are achieved. This will enable the Council to maximise the opportunity for managing nursing demand and spend. By approving the undertaking of this procurement activity Cabinet are helping to shape a better future for nursing homes in Wiltshire.

Proposal

39. Cabinet is requested to resolve to:

Approve a procurement (tendering) process for the provision of nursing care for Older People, Older People with Mental Health problems and Customers with Physical Impairment;

Delegate its authority to execute the contracts resulting from the tendering activity to Sue Redmond, Director of Community Services.

Sue Redmond, Director of Community Services

Report Author:

Vicki Wyper
Commissioning Lead
DCS

Date of report: 15th June 2011

Background Papers

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report:

Wiltshire's Older Peoples' Accommodation Strategy
Market Analysis of residential Care and Nursing Care – PA Consulting

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet
26 July 2011

Subject: Annual Report on Treasury Management 2010-11

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Brady - Finance, Performance and Risk

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary

In accordance with the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities 2003 (The Prudential Code), the Council adopted a Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) for 2009-10, including a set of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (PrIs/TrIs) and an Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) at its meeting on 23 February 2010. This report shows how the Council has performed against this strategy.

Proposals

The Cabinet is asked to consider and note:

- a) the actual cash position at the end of 2010-11 against the original forecast for the year;
- b) PrIs, TrIs and other treasury management strategies set for 2010-11 against actual positions resulting from actions within the year as detailed in Appendix A; and
- c) investments during the year in the context of the Annual Investment Strategy as detailed in Appendix B.

Reasons for Proposals

To give members of the Cabinet an opportunity to consider the performance of the Council against the parameters set out in the last approved Treasury Management Strategy.

This report is required by the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services.

Michael Hudson
Interim Chief Finance Officer

Subject: Annual Report on Treasury Management 2010-11

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Brady - Finance, Performance and Risk

Key Decision: No

Background & Purpose of Report

1. In accordance with the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities 2003 (The Prudential Code), the Council adopted a Treasury Management Strategy (TMS) for 2010-11, including a set of Prudential and Treasury Indicators (PrIs/TrIs) and an Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) at its meeting on 23 February 2010.
2. An interim report was submitted to Cabinet on 25 January 2011 for the period from 1 April to 30 September 2010. This report covers the whole financial year ended 31 March 2011.

Main Considerations for the Cabinet

3. This report reviews:
 - a) the actual cash position at the end of 2010-11 against the original forecast for the year;
 - b) PrIs, TrIs and other treasury management strategies set for 2010-11 against actual positions resulting from actions within the year (see Appendix A); and
 - c) investments during the year in the context of the Annual Investment Strategy (see Appendix B).

Review of cash position

4. In setting strategies and PrIs for 2010-11, a forecast cash position for the year was prepared based on expected inflows and outflows of cash during the year.
5. Expected cash flows are indicative and any surpluses or deficits in the cash position are managed through short term investments and borrowing and do not represent an actual gain or loss to the Council and do not have an impact on the revenue budget. Instead, any surplus or deficit represents, either: surplus cash (at a point in time), held pending allocation to related expenditure, which is invested on a short term basis until required; or additional cash required (at a point in time) to manage the Councils overall liquid resources. Any cash required being funded by a (contra) reduction in short term investments or increase in short term borrowing.

6. The actual cash position at 31 March 2011 is a cash requirement of £16.6 million, compared with the expected cash requirement of £43.7 million. The (favourable) variation of £27.1 million relates to both capital and revenue items, receipts and payments and is represented by an:
 - a) increase in the actual level of investments of £19.2 million, compared to the anticipated decrease of £43.7 million (i.e. a variance of £62.9 million);
 - b) increase in the level of borrowing of £40.0 million; and
 - c) a decrease in the level of cash at bank of £4.2 million, giving
 - d) a total variation of $£(69.2 - 40.0 + 4.2)$ million = £27.1 million.
7. There were no opportunities to restructure PWLB loans in 2010-11, mainly because of the continuing high level of premiums payable for the early repayment of PWLB loans, together with the availability of favourable interest rates at the appropriate maturity levels.
8. PWLB rates are expected to rise steadily over the next three years as the UK economy improves. With this in mind, but also to maintain a positive cash position at the year end, it was decided to borrow an additional £40 million new PWLB loans in March 2011, reducing the gap between CFR and net borrowing and thus lowering the level of internal borrowing, together with 'smoothing' the spread of the loan maturity profile.

Review of Prudential and Treasury Indicators and Treasury Management Strategy for 2010-11

9. The detail of the review is given in Appendix A. The Cabinet is asked to note that:
 - a) all action has been within the approved Prls and Trls;
 - b) the average interest rate for long term debt is 4.20%, compared to 4.30% in 2009-10;
 - c) short term cash deficits and surpluses were managed through temporary loans and deposits with a return on investments of 0.66% (an increase from 0.57% in 2009-10, reflecting longer term investment opportunities at favourable rates of interest – see below), in comparison to a market rate of 0.61%, based on the Average 3 Month LIBID Rate for 2010-11 (London Interbank Bid Rate, i.e. the rate at which banks are prepared to borrow from other banks);
 - d) two mid/longer term investments (one for six months and another for 12 months) were placed during the year with Barclays Bank and Lloyds Banking Group, respectively, taking advantage of 'special' direct deposits at favourable interest rates (whilst maintaining security and liquidity); and
 - e) a further Money Market Fund was opened during the year.

Review of Investment Strategy

10. This review is detailed in Appendix B. The Cabinet is asked to note that:
 - a) the tight monetary conditions following the 2008 financial crisis continued through 2010-11 with little material movement in the shorter term deposit rates.
 - b) Overlaying the relatively poor investment returns was the continued counterparty concerns, most evident in the Euro zone sovereign debt crisis.
 - c) during the financial year the Council was able to take the opportunity presented by the 'pick up' in the six and 12 month investment rates to invest surplus cash balances at optimum rates, whilst maintaining its approved strategy, including security and liquidity and credit rating criteria.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

11. a) to d) None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

12. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Risks Assessment and Financial Implications

13. The primary treasury management risks to which the Council is exposed are adverse movements in interest rates and the credit risk of counterparties.
14. Investment counterparty risk is controlled by assessing and monitoring the credit risk of borrowers as authorised by the Annual Investment Strategy. Appendix B of this report details action taken in 2010-11.
15. At 31 March 2011, the Council's average interest rate in respect of long term debt was 4.20% (a reduction of 0.10% since 31 March 2010), which, according to the latest available information, remains one of the lowest rates amongst UK local authorities.
16. It is also considered important to ensure that there is an even spread of loans to avoid the prospect of a large number (and value) of loans maturing in any one year, which may need to be replaced when interest rates are high. A summary of the present loan maturity profile is shown in Appendix C (i).
17. Returns on short term investments have not moved significantly, mainly as a result of the continuation of the conditions following the 'credit crunch', since October 2008 and are likely to continue at near current levels for a while. The costs of borrowing have remained at similar levels because the loan profile is almost entirely at fixed maturity rates (despite the unexpected change of policy on PWLB lending arrangements in October 2010, when new borrowing rates increased by 0.75% to 0.85%, without an associated increase in early redemption rates). However, the average rate of borrowing is relatively low and the Council retains sufficient flexibility in its strategy with a reasonable balance

between the costs of borrowing and return on investments. The investment rate of return for the year was 0.66%, against the average borrowing rate of 4.20%.

Legal Implications

18. None have been identified as arising directly from this report.

Options Considered

19. The opening of another Money Market Fund means that the Council can take further advantage of an alternative (highly liquid) form of 'instant access account', whilst obtaining a higher return than that gained from placing the cash on fixed short term, or overnight (with HSBC), deposit. Money market funds also spread the credit risk among the "members" of the fund.

20. Mid/longer term investment rates picked up a little during the financial year, leading to an opportunity to invest at special (attractive) deposit rates over six and 12 months. Other cash surpluses that arose were mainly placed in call accounts and money market funds offering competitive rates when compared with market rates, with the advantage of being highly liquid, whilst being within the Councils approved credit worthiness criteria. Where other investments were placed on the money market, in the present economic climate it was decided to continue to keep investments short, pending further certainty in the financial markets.

21. The latest forecast anticipates that Bank Rate will start to rise in quarter four of 2011 and reach 3% by March 2014. However, the forecast that the first increase in the Bank Rate will take place in November 2011 is anticipated with reservations and it could well slip back in time, unless there is some good news on the UK economy before then. PWLB rates are also expected to rise steadily over the next three years as the UK economy improves. With this in mind, but also to maintain a positive cash position at the year end, it was decided to borrow an additional £40 million new PWLB loans in March 2011, reducing the gap between CFR and net borrowing and thus lowering the level of internal borrowing, together with 'smoothing' the spread of the loan maturity profile.

Conclusion

22. Cabinet is asked to note the report.

Michael Hudson
Interim Chief Finance Officer

Report Author:

Keith Stephens, Technical Accountancy – Treasury and VAT, Tel: 01225 713603, email: keith.stephens@wiltshire.gov.uk

Background Papers

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report: NONE

Appendices

Appendix A Review of Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2010-11

Appendix B Investment Strategy for 2010-11

Appendix C Summary of Long Term Loans, Temporary Loans and Deposits

REVIEW OF PRUDENTIAL AND TREASURY INDICATORS FOR 2010-11

1. Where appropriate the figures shown in this report are consistent with future years' estimated PrIs/TrIs, which were reviewed and reported as part of the 2010-11 budget process.

Prudential Indicators**PrI 1 - Capital Expenditure**

2. The table below shows the original and revised estimate of capital expenditure against the actual for the year 2010-11:

	2010-11 Original Estimate £ million	2010-11 Revised Estimate £ million	2010-11 Actual Outturn £ million
Capital Expenditure	137.0	124.3	114.6

3. The Capital Programme has been actively managed throughout the year and the revised capital budget (capital outturn position for 2010-11) is £121.3 million. Details are as reported in the capital outturn report presented to the Cabinet Capital Assets Committee at its meeting on 14 June 2011.

PrI 2 – Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

4. PrI 2 expresses the net costs of financing as a percentage of the funding receivable from the Government and council tax payers. The net cost of financing includes interest and principal repayments for long and short term borrowing, as well as other credit-like arrangements, netted off by interest receivable in respect of cash investments.

	2010-11 Original Estimate	2010-11 Revised Estimate	2010-11 Actual
Financing Costs as a percentage of Revenue Budget	5.6%	5.5%	5.8%

5. The actual is in excess of the revised estimate due to increased borrowing costs.

PrI 3 – Estimate of Incremental Impact of Capital Investment Decisions on the Council Tax

6. This indicator is only relevant during budget setting, as it reflects the impact on the Band D Council Tax caused by any agreed changes in the capital programme.

PrI 4 – Net Borrowing and the Capital Financing Requirement

7. PrI 4 measures the so called “Golden Rule” which ensures that over the medium term net borrowing is only for capital purposes. The table below shows

the original and revised estimate for 2010-11 compared with the actual position at the year end.

	2010-11 Original Estimate £ million	2010-11 Revised Estimate £ million	2010-11 Actual £ million
Capital Financing Requirement	299.0	320.5	320.4
Net Borrowing	157.3	175.2	163.1
Capital Financing Requirement not funded by net borrowing	141.7	145.3	157.3

8. The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) increases whenever capital expenditure is incurred. If resourced immediately (from capital receipts, direct revenue contributions or capital grant/contributions) the CFR will reduce at the same time that the capital expenditure is incurred, with no net increase in CFR.
9. Where capital expenditure is not resourced immediately, there is a net increase in CFR, represented by an underlying need to borrow for capital purposes, whether or not external borrowing actually occurs. The CFR may then reduce over time by future applications of capital receipts, capital grants/contributions or further charges to revenue.
10. This Pr1 is necessary, because under an integrated treasury management strategy (in accordance with best practice under the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services), borrowing is not associated with particular items or types of expenditure, whether revenue or capital
11. Net Borrowing is the Council's total external debt less its short term cash investments.

Pr1 5 – Compliance with CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services ("The Code")

The Council is and will continue to be fully compliant with the CIPFA Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services.

12. This Code of Practice has been complied with during 2010-11.

Treasury Management Indicators within the Prudential Code

Tr1 1 – Authorised Limit for External Debt

Authorised Limit	2010-11 £ million	2011-12 £ million	2012-13 £ million	2013-14 £ million
Borrowing	375.0	453.0	499.7	504.6
Other Long Term Liabilities	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
TOTAL	375.2	453.2	499.9	504.8

13. This Authorised Limit was not exceeded at any time during the year, as maximum borrowing was below the lower Operational Boundary.

Tr 2 – Operational Boundary for External Debt

Operational Boundary	2010-11 £ million	2011-12 £ million	2012-13 £ million	2013-14 £ million
Borrowing	326.1	393.8	434.5	438.8
Other Long Term Liabilities	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
TOTAL	326.3	394.0	434.7	439.0

14. This Trl is for gross borrowing and was set at a limit that would allow the Council to take its entire financing requirement as loans, if this was most cost effective. The limit was set to anticipate expected expenditure and it has not been exceeded during the period covered by this report. The maximum gross borrowing during the year being £245.2 million at 31 March 2011.

Trl 3 – External debt

	31/3/10 Actual £ million	31/3/11 Expected £ million	31/3/11 Actual £ million
Borrowing	205.2	205.2	245.2
Other Long Term Liabilities	£0.2	0.2	£0.2
TOTAL	205.4	205.4	245.4

15. This Trl shows the gross External Debt outstanding at year end. The actual borrowing figure is outstanding long term borrowing as shown in Appendix C (i). The difference between expected and actual borrowing reflects the decision to borrow £40 million for the reasons explained in the main body of the annual report (see paragraph 8 of the report).
16. Details of all long term loans taken during the year are given in Appendix C (i).

Treasury Management Indicators within the Treasury Management Code

Trl 4a and 4b – Upper Limit on Fixed Interest Rate Exposures and Interest Rate Exposures, respectively

The Council's upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure for the period 2010-11 to 2013-14 is 100% of net outstanding principal sums.

The Council's upper limit for variable interest rate exposure is 16% for 2010-11, 20% for 2011-12, 30% for 2012-13 and 35% for 2013-14 of net outstanding principal sums.

17. All loans and investments are at fixed rates of interest.

Trl 5 – Maturity Structure of Borrowing

Limits on the Maturity Structure of Borrowing	Upper Limit	Lower Limit	Actuals 31/3/11
Maturing Period:			
- under 12 months	15%	0%	0.5%
- 12 months and within 24 months	15%	0%	0.0%
- 2 years and within 5 years	45%	0%	9.7%
- 5 years and within 10 years	75%	0%	8.8%
- 10 years and above	90%	0%	81.0%

18. In addition to the main maturity indicators it is considered prudent that no more than 15% of long term loans should fall due for repayment within any one financial year. The actual maximum percentage falling due for repayment in any one year is currently 5.3% (£13 million) in both 2052-53 and 2053-54. The average interest rate on present long-term debt is 4.20%, which, according to the latest available information, continues to be one among the lowest local authority rates.

Trl 6 – Total Principal Sums invested for periods longer than 364 days

19. This Trl is covered by the Annual Investment Strategy, which is detailed in Appendix B.

Other Treasury Management issues

Short Term Cash Deficits and Surpluses

20. It was agreed that temporary loans and deposits would be used to cover short term cash surpluses and deficits that arise during the year. Such borrowing or investments would be made to specific dates at fixed rates, with reference to cash flow requirements. Investments have also been placed in Money Market Funds during the year.
21. Temporary loans and deposits are summarised in Appendix C (ii).

Icelandic Bank Deposits

22. During 2010-11 the Council received three interim dividends from the administrators of Heritable Bank totalling £1,364,936. No repayments have been received from Landsbanki.
23. According to the latest available information, the Council should expect to receive a total repayment from Heritable of between 79 and 85 pence in the pound. Indeed, in terms of Heritable and Landsbanki, the position has not changed materially from the previous financial year end and the guidance regarding the level of expected returns remains the same. Based on guidance from the Local Government Association and Bevan Brittan solicitors, the final total repayment from Landsbanki is expected to be around 95 pence in the pound. However, this (in line with the decision of the Reykjavik District Court on 1 April 2011 and current opinion that this decision will be upheld on appeal to

the Icelandic Supreme Court later in the year) assumes that local authorities retain priority status in terms of their deposits with the bank. In the unlikely event that the Supreme Court were to decide in favour of the appellants, the Council would be classified as a general creditor and receive a reduced total final repayment of around 38 pence in the pound, based on current advice.

24. The deposits outstanding with Icelandic banks are shown in Appendix C (ii) at impaired value, impairment being calculated using CIPFA guidance contained within LAAP Bulletin 82, Update 4, May 2011, less the dividends which have been received from Heritable administrators.

Longer Term Cash Balances

25. The tight monetary conditions following the 2008 financial crisis continued through 2010-11 with little material movement in the shorter term deposit rates. Bank Rate remained at its historical low of 0.5% throughout the year, although growing market expectations of the imminence of the start of monetary tightening saw 6 and 12 month rates picking up.
26. Overlaying the relatively poor investment returns was the continued counterparty concerns, most evident in the Euro zone sovereign debt crisis which resulted in rescue packages for Greece, Ireland and latterly Portugal. Concerns extended to the European banking industry with an initial stress testing of banks failing to calm counterparty fears, resulting in a second round of testing currently in train. This highlighted the ongoing need for caution in treasury investment activity.
27. In the current economic climate it is considered appropriate to keep investments short term and only invest with highly credit rated financial institutions, using Sector's suggested creditworthiness approach. Therefore, when available for investment, longer term cash balances were mainly placed on short term deposits. However, the opportunity arose to take advantage of the pick up, in longer term rates and investments were made with two suitable counterparties during the financial year.
28. Should the situation change in the next financial year, consideration will be given to investing further in the longer term where rates are attractive, whilst maintaining considerations regarding security and liquidity of investments.

INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR 2011-12

1. All investments of surplus cash balances were placed to ensure:
 - a) the security of capital, deposits only being placed with financial institutions which met the **high credit ratings** laid down in the approved Strategy;
 - b) the liquidity of investments, all deposits being placed for fixed periods at fixed rates of interest; and
 - c) all such investments were in sterling and in “Specified Investments”, as prescribed in the DCLG Guidance on Local Government Investments (the “Guidance”).
2. The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy, and the Council had no liquidity difficulties.
3. As summarised in Appendix C (ii), 326 deposit transactions were processed during the year, with a gross value of £1,073.826 million. Of deposits placed, 150 were placed direct with HSBC Bank Treasury on the Council’s overnight deposit account, 74 in call accounts, 76 through money market funds and 26 were placed with other counterparties.
4. Details of the deposits outstanding at the end of the year, totalling £82.067 million, are shown in Appendix C (ii). These deposits represent the Council’s reserves both long term, such as the PFI and Insurance funds, and short term such as creditors or payments in advance and include the deposits that remain outstanding from Icelandic banks at impaired value less repayments.
5. The opportunity was taken to place a proportion of these deposits in mid/longer term investments for six and 12 months, taking advantage of the pick up in interest rates for these maturity periods. These are shown within general deposits in Appendix C (ii).
6. A further Money Market Fund was opened during the year. The balances remaining within the (three) funds at the end of the year are also shown in Appendix C (ii).
7. The Council contracts with a treasury adviser, regularly reviewing credit ratings of potential organisations and their respective country's ratings, together with other 'tools' used to assess the credit quality of institutions such as credit default swaps. The Council uses this information to assess institutions with which it may place deposits or from which it may borrow, including interest rate forecasts for both borrowing and investment, together with setting a 'benchmark' borrowing rate. The Council's investment policy is 'aimed' at the prudent investment of surplus cash balances to optimise returns whilst ensuring the security of capital and liquidity of investments. However, the Council, like any other organisation, can be exposed to financial risk, which is negated as far as possible by the foregoing measures.

SUMMARY OF LONG TERM BORROWING 1 APRIL 2010 - 31 MARCH 2011**LOANS RAISED During the Period**

Date raised	Lender	Amount (£m)	Type	Interest rate (%)	Maturity date	No. of years
March	PWLB	10.000	Maturity	3.050	Mar-15	4.00
March	PWLB	10.000	Maturity	3.420	Mar-16	5.00
March	PWLB	10.000	Maturity	3.740	Mar-17	6.00
March	PWLB	10.000	Maturity	4.020	Mar-18	7.00
Total		40.000				

Average period to maturity (years)

5.50

Average interest rate (%)

3.56**Maturity Profile at 31 March 2011**

Year	Amount (£m)	%age	Average rate (%)
1 to 5 years	24.080	9.8	3.190
6 to 15 years	28.123	11.5	3.971
16 to 25 years	48.500	19.8	4.420
26 to 50 years	128.500	52.4	4.367
Over 50 years	16.000	6.5	4.110
Totals	245.203	100.0	4.200

Average period to maturity (years)

30.01

SUMMARY OF TEMPORARY LOANS AND DEPOSITS 1 April 2010 - 31 March 2011**Deposits Outstanding at 31 March 2011**

Borrower	Amount £m	Terms	Interest rate(%)
HSBC Bank PLC - Treasury	0.400	No fixed maturity date	0.25
Lloyds TSB Bank	5.000	Fixed to 11-Aug	2.05
Barclays Bank	15.000	Fixed to 15-Jun	1.10
Bank Of Scotland	2.910	No fixed maturity date	0.75
Santander UK	0.014	No fixed maturity date	0.80
Clydesdale Bank	14.314	No fixed maturity date	0.80
Svenska Handelsbanken AB	0.021	No fixed maturity date	0.75
Black Rock Money Market Fund	14.535	No fixed maturity date	0.58
JP Morgan Money Market Funds	10.037	No fixed maturity date	0.53
Prime Rate Money Market Fund	14.420	No fixed maturity date	0.77
Heritable Bank	1.002	Est Recoverable Amount	6.00
Heritable Bank	0.667	Est Recoverable Amount	6.00
Heritable Bank	1.002	Est Recoverable Amount	6.00
Heritable Bank	0.336	Est Recoverable Amount	5.42
Landsbanki	2.409	Est Recoverable Amount	6.10
Total	82.067		

Outstanding deposits with Icelandic Banks are shown at the estimated recoverable amount, which takes account of estimated impairments and, in the case of Heritable, any repayments received to date. The interest rates are the original rates at acquisition date.

Transactions During the Period

Type	Balance 1 Apr 10 £m	Raised		Repaid		Balance 31 Mar 11 £m	Interest Variance * High/Low(%)
		Value £m	No.	Value £m	No.		
Temporary loans							
- General	0.000	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	
Total	0.000	0.000	0	0.000	0	0.000	
Temporary deposits							
- General	7.447	143.531	26	125.562	25	25.416	2.05/0.30
- HSBC Overnight	5.200	472.045	150	476.845	151	0.400	0.25/0.20
- Call Accounts	32.883	135.659	74	151.283	41	17.259	0.80/0.75
- Money Market Funds	17.071	322.591	76	300.670	68	38.992	0.85/0.36
Total	62.601	1,073.826	326	1,054.360	285	82.067	

* Interest variance is the highest/lowest interest rate for transactions during the period.

* In terms of general deposits, the high of 2.05% was obtained on a special 12 month deposit.

General deposits include impaired Icelandic investments less any repayments that have been received, to date.

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

26 July 2011

Subject: Street Lighting Contract

Cabinet Member: Councillor Dick Tonge - Highways and Transport

Key Decision: No

Executive Summary

The Council's street lighting is maintained under a contract with Balfour Beatty Workplace. The contract can be extended for 12 months until July 2012 under the terms of contract, subject to the performance of the contractor, which has been good to date.

Proposals

It is recommended that:

- (i) The existing street lighting contract with Balfour Beatty Workplace should be extended for one year until July 2012.
- (ii) Consideration should be given to including the maintenance of the Council's street lighting maintenance in any future Highways Works contract which would be likely to start in June 2013.

Reason for Proposals

There are potential long-term savings to be made by including the maintenance of the county's street lighting in a future larger Highways Works Contract. Extending the existing street lighting contract would represent less risk to the Council and should offer good value for money in the circumstances.

Mark Boden
Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning

Wiltshire Council

Cabinet

26 July 2011

Subject: Street Lighting Contract

Cabinet Member: Councillor Dick Tonge - Highways and Transport

Key Decision: No

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the options in connection with the current street lighting contract, which is held by Balfour Beatty Workplace (BBW) and currently has a value of over £1,000,000 annually.

Background

2. The Council's street lighting and illuminated signs are maintained under the street lighting contract with BBW. The contract involves the maintenance of the Council's stock of street lighting, which comprises over 38,000 street lights and 3,000 illuminated road signs.
3. The contractor responds to damage resulting from collisions, makes programmed replacement of lighting units, and carries out work to replace life expired columns and equipment. The contract also includes the installation of energy saving measures, including part night lighting, and low energy equipment. The supply of energy to the lighting is the subject of a separate contract.
4. Following competitive tendering the County Council awarded the highway lighting contract to Balfour Beatty Infrastructure Services (now Balfour Beatty Workplace) in 2007. The contract was awarded for three years, with two possible extensions of 12 months being available subject to performance.
5. The value of the contract is in the region of £1,000,000 annually, and the rates are adjusted annually in accordance with the industry standard indices. In accordance with the Council's Contract Regulations (Paragraph 11.6.1) any extension of this contract requires Cabinet approval.
6. Some ex-District Council lighting is maintained by Southern Electricity Contracting under former District Council arrangements, but the value of this work at about £40,000 is small compared to the costs associated with the highways lighting.

7. The performance of BBW during the first three years of the current contract was rated as good and an extension of 12 months was awarded until July 2011. A further extension of 12 months can be awarded under the terms of the existing contract, which would extend the contract to July 2012.

Main Considerations for the Council

Existing Contract

8. The initial award of the contract to Balfour Beatty in 2007 achieved overall cost savings compared to the previous contract. The majority of those savings were in the inspections, cleaning, bulk lamp changes and night scouts which form the routine maintenance elements within the contract.
9. The performance of BBW has been good overall, and in normal circumstances BBW would be awarded a further extension of the existing contract. The rates in the contract have been adjusted annually in accordance with the indices as provided for in the contract, and they are still considered to represent good value for money.
10. However, in view of the current financial situation the extension of this contract does need to be reviewed in order to determine whether an extension is appropriate in the circumstances.

Options

11. The Council could extend the existing contract, retender the contract for a short period in order to align the contract end date with the Highways Works Contract expected to end in June 2013, or retender it as a stand alone contract for a longer period.
12. Given the specialist nature of the work it is not considered feasible or desirable to attempt to bring this work in-house. The County Council and District Councils did not carry out street lighting maintenance in-house previously, and it is unlikely that there is the necessary expertise within the Council.

Option 1 – Extend Existing Contract

13. The contract could be extended for one year to 1 July 2012 within the provisions of the existing contract. Discussions with BBW have indicated a wish to continue the existing arrangement, but because BBW consider the contract to be only marginally profitable are unwilling to consider any major reduction in rates. However, some potential cost savings have been identified.
14. Consideration has been given to potential efficiencies, but without compromising the standard of service it has not been possible to identify substantial efficiencies which could be made in this area of service. It should be noted that the safety considerations are particularly important in connection with street lighting, especially in terms of working on the highway, electrical equipment safety, road safety associated with the lighting, and public concerns about fear of crime where lighting is inadequate.

15. The rising costs of fuel and steel, which can be substantial in this type of contract, have to be absorbed by the contractor for the next year under the terms of the contract. At present there can be no certainty regarding the prices of these materials in the immediate future, and this inevitably represents some risk to the current contractor.

Option 2 – Retender Contract for short term

16. It would be possible to retender the contract to run from as soon as possible after July 2011 until June 2013. The street lighting maintenance could then be absorbed within the much larger Highways Works Contract which currently has an annual value of in the region of £25,000,000.
17. The set up costs for a new contractor for a short-term contract could be substantial, especially given the potential difficulty and cost of obtaining suitable premises. The BBW staff would have the right under TUPE legislation to transfer to the new employer, and it is difficult to identify what additional savings another contractor would be likely to bring to such a short-term contract.
18. In view of the uncertainty over future fuel and material costs it is unlikely that a significant cost saving would be made on a short-term contract, especially taking into account the savings already made with the current contract in 2007. The costs associated with retendering the contracts would also have to be taken into account, and these could be in the region of £30,000.

Option 3 – Retender longer term contract

19. Retendering the contract for a longer period, such as for five years, would be probably be more cost effective than a short-term contract because the set up costs would be spread over a longer period.
20. It is difficult to know whether any reductions in rates obtained by retendering the contract would be substantial, especially as the tenderers would still have to price in some risk associated with fuel and material costs for the coming year.
21. The disadvantage with a longer term contract in the present circumstances is that the opportunity would be lost to include the lighting contract in the larger Highway Works Contract, which will be tendered next year, and this could offer the best opportunity to achieve economies of scale in the longer term.

Consideration of Options

22. None of the three options offers any certainty of making substantial savings through procurement in 2011/12, but there is scope for longer term savings by including the street lighting maintenance in a future Highways Works Contract to operate from June 2013.

23. The savings from combining the contracts would arise from of the larger scale of the contract resulting in reduced overheads and the potential for sharing depot space, resources and labour.
24. Extending the existing contract would avoid the costs associated with retendering the contract at this stage, and it would be more efficient to include it as part of the procurement process for a larger contract.
25. The BBW contract could be extended within the existing provisions to include the ex-District Council lighting in the highway. There are over 3,000 former Kennet District Council units, and other councils had a number of lighting units. Savings would be expected to be made by having these units maintained by BBW under the existing contract.
26. The existing contract makes provision for an extension of 12 months, subject to performance of the contractor, which is acknowledged to have been good. There is no specific provision to renegotiate the contract terms at this point, and the possibility of a legal challenge from not extending the contract for reasons other than poor performance would need to be considered.
27. The options for future Highways and Amenities contracts are currently being investigated, and the inclusion of street lighting in a future larger contract should offer operational and cost benefits. The extension of the existing street lighting contract would enable further consideration to be given to this option. The options for the street lighting contract and for the future highways works contracts have been discussed with the procurement team who are involved in the development of the new contracts.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

28. Carbon emissions associated with street lighting account for 12% of the Council's overall footprint. Although there is currently no requirement to purchase allowances under Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) as the supply is passively metered, there is a significant and increasing annual cost incurred relating to electricity consumption. In 2010/11 the cost of electricity to power streetlights was £1.324 million. Street lighting has a key part to play in reducing energy consumption, and a number of part night lighting schemes have already been installed by BBW, with others being prepared for implementation.
29. The reduction in energy usage from the introduction of part night lighting and more efficient lighting units helps the Council meet its carbon reduction targets. This contract is important in delivering these energy saving measures, but is not dependent on a particular service supplier.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

30. No equality and diversity issues have been identified or arise from this report.

Legal Implications

31. There is no legal requirement for the Council to provide street lighting, but where lighting is provided there is a responsibility to keep it in safe condition.
32. The existing contract with BBW makes provision for a further extension of 12 months, subject to performance. There is no specific provision to renegotiate the contract terms at this point, and the possibility of a legal challenge to not extending the contract for reasons other than poor performance will need to be taken into account.
33. The street lighting contract would be subject to TUPE legislation, and any retendering of the contracts would need to take this into account.
34. The existing contract could be extended to July 2012, as provided for in the existing contract. In the circumstances there may be benefits in extending the contract to June 2013 to align it with the start of the new Highways Works Contract, and enable savings to be made with a larger contract, but this is not being requested at present due to further analysis being undertaken on options. Any decision to extend this contract beyond July 2012 will be the subject of a future Cabinet report and would require a robust business case and an exemption under current Contract Regulations.

Risk Assessment

35. There is a risk that retendering the street lighting contract at this stage may not result in significant savings in the short term. The performance of BBW has been good under the existing contract, and there is a risk that with a transfer to a new supplier the quality of the service may deteriorate, with a consequent increase in resources needed to monitor and supervise the contract.

Financial Implications

36. The immediate cost savings and avoided costs from extending the existing contract are not large, but there would be longer term savings from ultimately retendering the street lighting contract as part of the much larger Highways Works Contract in the future. The commercially sensitive information is included in a Part II report at this meeting.

Options Considered

37. The existing contract could be extended under the terms of the current agreement for 12 months until July 2012. It would be possible to retender the contract for a short period, with a view to including the street lighting maintenance in the larger Highways Works contract from June 2013. It is unlikely that a short-term contract would offer any immediate savings because of the potentially high set up costs. Retendering a longer term contract would be possible but would miss the opportunity to combine the contract with the larger Highways Works Contract.

Conclusions

38. There are potential long-term benefits in including street lighting maintenance in a future Highways Works Contract as this is likely to achieve economies of scale, and would have operational benefits. In order to ensure continuation of service it would be best to extend the existing contract until the likely start of the new Works Contract.

Mark Boden

Corporate Director, Neighbourhood and Planning

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None

Appendices:

None

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