

## **Coalition Changes – update report**

### **Announcements on DfE quangos**

1. The list to be scrapped/realigned etc has been released. The list, as it stands, is as follows:
  - Cafcass – to be reviewed as part of the Family Justice Review
  - Children's Workforce Development Council / National College / Training and Development Agency to be announced before end of 2010
  - Negotiating body for school support staff is under review pending conversations with unions and employers
  - Ofqual and Ofsted stay but with "more proportionate inspection"
  - Partnerships for Schools is under review pending capital review
  - Office of Children Commissioner to be announced by end of Nov 2010
  - School Food Trust, Governing Board of Teachers TV and the independent advisory group on teenage pregnancy have all been scrapped
  - Young People's Learning Agency – under consideration – alongside "educational structural reforms"
  - The Youth Justice Board has been scrapped and functions transferred to Ministry of Justice (see below)
  - The Independent Safeguarding Authority is under review pending review of vetting and barring.

### **Central Government Business plans**

2. All government departments have published business plans and key milestones for the next 4 years. These documents are to be published alongside monthly updates on progress in order to improve accountability in Whitehall. More information about the purpose of the business plans can be found on the Cabinet Office website ([www.transparency.number10.gov.uk](http://www.transparency.number10.gov.uk)), along with links to the business plans of each department. Appendix 1 shows the elements in each plan that is particularly relevant to children and young people.

## **Child Protection**

3. At the beginning of October, Professor Eileen Munro set out her [initial analysis](#) on the child protection system in England. She finds that processes and procedures, and the unintentional consequences of previous reforms, are getting in the way of social workers spending time with vulnerable children and families.
4. Professor Munro is due to submit her final report in April 2011.

## **Care planning - regulations and guidance**

5. The Department has published [regulations and guidance](#) to improve the quality and consistency of care planning, placement and case review for looked-after children and to improve the care and support provided to care leavers. The full set of regulations and guidance will come into force on 1 April 2011.

## **DFE announced an external review of testing and accountability for primary schools**

6. Michael Gove announced a review that will how best to ensure that schools are accountable to pupils, parents and the taxpayer. This will include looking at KS2 tests. However, any changes will be after the KS2 2011 tests take place.

## **Academies**

7. Sarum Academy opened in existing buildings in September and its bid for replacement buildings is one of 80 capital schemes that are currently under review by government in terms of future capital funding. The Council has received no indication of the likely level of funding.
8. South Wilts Grammar School for Girls has got DfE approval to become an Academy (start date to be confirmed). A number of other secondary and primary schools are developing plans and consultations to become an academy.

## **2010/11 Play Capital Funding**

9. Funding has been reduced nationally. Wiltshire's allocation of £595k has been reduced to £372k.

## **Comprehensive Spending Review**

10. Increase funding for the schools budget by £3.6 billion in cash terms by the end of the Spending Review period - this is a 0.1% increase in real terms in each year. Along with greater freedoms and flexibility for teachers and schools, this will ensure schools can meet the demographic pressures they face, and deliver the pupil premium. This

will support the educational development of disadvantaged pupils, and provide incentives for good schools to take on pupils from poorer backgrounds.

11. This does not mean that all individual school budgets will be maintained at current levels as money will be allocated through different mechanisms e.g. deprivation.
12. The Government will be maintaining 15 hours of free childcare a week for all 3 and 4 year olds, and extending it to all disadvantaged 2 year olds. Sure Start will be protected in cash terms including investment in Sure Start health visitors.
13. There will be a 60% reduction in real terms in capital spending over the Spending Review period. Following the decision to end the Building Schools for the Future programme there will be enough funding to meet demographic pressures and to address maintenance needs. The independent review of education capital will ensure that the Department for Education's capital budget is allocated in the most cost-effective way and targeted where there is most need. Over the Spending Review period there will be a total of £15.8 billion of capital spending. The average annual capital budget will be higher than the average annual capital budget in the 1997-98 to 2004-05 period.
14. Streamlining funding grants to generate better value for money but ensuring that targeted support remains available to those who need it most. For instance:
  - Ending Education Maintenance Allowances and replacing them with targeted support for those who face genuine financial barriers to participation;
  - As we move towards full participation by 2015 we will secure reduction in individual unit costs;
  - Within the schools budget, procurement and back office savings will allow at least £1.0 billion to be invested directly on frontline teaching while the public sector pay freeze will free up an additional £1.1 billion;
  - Ending and rationalising a range of centrally directed programmes and instead streamlining funding for the most vulnerable children and families in a new Early Intervention Grant to ensure local authorities have greater flexibility. This will be an un-ringfenced grant expected to include money for Surestart, substance misuse, teenage pregnancy, NEET.
  - A number of centrally directed programmes and grants will be mainstreamed into the DSG – this aims to give schools greater flexibility.
  - To ensure funds are rightly prioritised on frontline education and children's services, make a 33% reduction in real terms by 2014-15 from the central DfE's administrative budget.

15. The DFE has a number of next steps to follow in order to set out how the school system and children's services will be reformed and how the education spending settlement will be spent. These include a Schools' White Paper, a Special Educational Needs and Disability Green paper, further announcements about allocating voluntary sector grants, and confirmation of LA allocations for schools and early years provision. Further programmes and further bureaucracy that DFE intend to end will be announced in the next three months.

### **Combining of Grants**

16. Across all government spending there is a reduction from 90 grants to 9. Of those nine grants the relevant ones for Children's Services are Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the new Early Intervention Grant. The Early Intervention Grant will be un-ringfenced and will include funding previously allocated through Sure Start – Sure Start is protected in cash terms nationally but we don't know what share of that will come to Wiltshire if it is allocated by a different methodology.
17. In terms of DSG, there are a number of standards funds that it is anticipated will be "mainstreamed" in to DSG. Most of those are grants are devolved to schools and we will need to work with Schools Forum to develop the best distribution methods for those new grants.
18. There are some grants being rolled in to the general formula grant for local authorities – for Wiltshire these are Care Matters, Child Death Review Processes and the Learning and Skills Council Staff Transfer Special Purposes Grant (to fund the staff who moved across from the LSC this year). There won't be visibility of those grants next year if they are in formula grant.

### **£7 billion 'fairness premium' for disadvantaged children**

19. £7 billion funding for a 'fairness premium', which will give all disadvantaged two-year-olds an entitlement to 15 hours a week of pre-school education and also to deliver a pupil premium for disadvantaged children. Alongside reforms to Higher Education, a form of "student premium" for the least advantaged students.
20. The pupil premium consultation document proposed a premium for Service Children and also for Looked After Children in addition to the premium for disadvantaged pupils. The more recent announcements on the pupil premiums have made no reference to either Service Children or LAC so it is not yet known whether there will be specific allocations for these groups. We have no details about how the Pupil Premium will be distributed, it could be via LAs or direct to schools.

## **Local action**

21. Along with other Departments in the Council, the Department for Children and Education is contributing to the Council's business plan to manage the challenges ahead, including budget reductions and financial pressures. A management review is part of the Council's plan to cut costs. This means that many manager posts are changing as well as a number being removed in the Department. The initial consultative period runs until the 26 November and, at the time of writing this report, it is not possible to be specific about the final structure and the exact number of manager posts that will be removed. Councillors have access to the proposed structure charts on The Wire.

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## **Appendix**

Department for Education Business Plan

## **Background documents**

DfE website

[www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)

Association of Directors of Children's Services, eBulletin Nov 2010

The Munroe review of child protection – Part 1

[www.education.gov.uk/munroreview](http://www.education.gov.uk/munroreview)

Care planning for looked-after children and care leavers

[www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/a0065502/care-planning-regulations-and-guidance](http://www.education.gov.uk/childrenandyoungpeople/families/a0065502/care-planning-regulations-and-guidance)

## Appendix 1

### Departmental Business Plans

#### Department for Education Business Plan

Most items in the Departmental business plan for DfE refer to policies already announced and in progress. However, the plan also indicates more detail about a number of policies, which are listed below.

##### Schools

- The process for identifying underperforming schools to convert to academy status and the process for allowing all schools to convert are scheduled to begin in Dec 2010;
- Proposals for University Technical Colleges will be progressed by March 2011, with the aim of opening the first such technical college in Sept 2011;
- Future revenue funding arrangements for schools will be contained in the Schools White Paper;
- Reading tests at age 6 will be piloted from June 2011;
- Plans to improve apprenticeships will be published by March 2011 to begin by Sept 2011;
- Reform to inspection of schools by Dec 2011;
- Proposals to improve teacher training and CPD will be published by Dec 2010;
- Proposals on teachers' pay and performance management relations will be presented in 2011-12.

##### Social Work

- New standards for the employers of social workers will be developed for May 2011, and for social workers by Sept 2011;
- Reform to inspection of local authorities is expected to be implemented by May 2012;
- Details of the early intervention grant will be included in the local government settlement in December 2010;
- The number of families "going through" evidence based early intervention programmes (to be identified through Allen Review) will be published in Dec 2011;
- Streamlined regs, guidance and min standards for fostering, children's homes and adoption will be published in April 2011;
- There will be support for LAs to roll out evidence based practice for foster care in 20 sites.

##### Youth Work

- DfE takes responsibility for the National Citizenship Service from 2013;
- There will be an independent review on commercialization and sexualisation of childhood from Dec 2010 until May 2011.

### **Early years**

- Pilots for extending the entitlement to free child care to two year olds will begin in April 2011.

### **Department of Business, Innovation and Skills as it relates to CYP**

- Reform of further education – a strategy for which will be published in Dec 2010;
- Reform of apprenticeships including expanding adult apprenticeships and publishing new standards on apprenticeships by April 2011;
- Improved careers service (apparently launched);
- “abolishing or radically scaling back” educational quangos;
- Remove controls from further education funding, auditing and monitoring.

### **Department of Health business plan (as it relates to CYP and local government)**

- The first NHS outcome framework is due to be published in Dec 2010 and implemented by 2012;
- Proposals for pilots of new dentistry contracts with emphasis on children to begin in Dec 2010;
- There will be a cross government strategy on mental health and public mental health published in Dec 2010;
- A stand alone programme to increase access to talking therapies for CYP will be established in Sept 2011;
- The LA’s role in public health will be described in the Public Health White Paper to be published in December. The Health Bill which will give LAs a role in public health is due to be published in Dec 2010;
- Shadow public health arrangements will be in place by April 2012, with budgets and powers being devolved from April 2013;
- Develop full implementation plan for additional health visitors, including details of: (a) numbers of health visitors needed to achieve a net increase of 4,200 above 2010 levels; (b) initiatives and incentives to drive return to practice; (c) plans to increase health visitor training places; (d) appropriate commissioning structure; and (e) a new module for health visitors in practice and those in education to refresh/provide skills in building community capacity by November 2010- to be launched Jan 2011.

### **Department of Communities and Local Government (as it relates to CYP and local government)**

- LA funding review to run from Jan 2011 until July 2011;
- The single list of data requirements from local government to central government will be published in April 2012;
- Localism Bill due in November 2010 will include – a power of general competence for local authorities, social housing reform.

### **Home Office (as it relates to CYP and local government)**

- The deadline for ending the detention of children for immigration purposes is now March 2011.

**Ministry of Justice (as it relates to CYP and local government)**

- A green paper on rehabilitation and sentencing reform will include measures to pay organizations by results for reducing reoffending including for youth justice, to be consulted on until Feb 2011;
- Legislation based on the result of the FJR is expected to be brought forward in May 2012.

**Cabinet Office**

- The Public Service Reform White paper will allow for more co-operatives/ mutuals in public service. The White Paper is expected to be published in Jan 2011.