

Annual Performance Assessment – Review of Young People's Plan

Purpose of Report

1. To present the review of the Children and Young People's Plan (see Appendix 2) that has recently been submitted to Ofsted as part of the Annual Performance Assessment.

Introduction and Considerations

2. In line with the Children's Act 2004, Wiltshire published its Children and Young People's Plan in April 2006. The statutory requirement to publish a review of the plan annually was put in place this year.
3. In previous years, authorities have been asked to supply a self assessment to Ofsted for their Annual Performance Assessment (APA). From 2007, the CYPP review will be used instead. Ofsted's deadline for receiving the review was 14 June. This review is particularly important to Wiltshire as it will form one of the key documents used in the Joint Area Review in 2008.
4. Part of the submission on 14 June was self judgement of how well the Council is supporting the Every Child Matters agenda. This took the form of giving grades for each of the 5 outcome areas, children's services as a whole and capacity to improve. Appendix 1 gives details of the grades and descriptors.
5. Ofsted will use the information given in the review alongside data and other evidence, eg thematic inspections, to form a view of strengths and weaknesses which will then be explored during an on-site visit on 27 September. The outcome of the performance assessment will take the form of a letter at the end of October containing a summary of performance and the finalised grades.
6. A tension exists with the process. The requirement is to review the Children and Young People's Plan which includes aspects of a number of agencies' work, where as the performance assessment grades the Councils contribution towards improving the five outcomes and its capacity to improve.

Action Required of the Committee

7. To note the report and to review the outcome of the Annual Performance Assessment at a future meeting.

Carolyn Godfrey

Director, Department for Children and Education

**Report Author: Lynda Cox, Head of Performance Management and Co ordination,
Department for Children and Education - 01225 719934**

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT 2007: SELF-EVALUATION GRADES

Areas for judgement	Being healthy	Staying safe	Enjoying and achieving	Making a positive contribution	Achieving economic well-being
The contribution of the council's services in maintaining and improving this outcome for children and young people.	3	3	3	3	3

The council's children's services	Grade
The contribution of the council's children's services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people.	3

Capacity to improve	Grade
The council's capacity to improve its services for children and young people	3

How judgements are made - All judgements will be made on the following four-point scale:

Grade Descriptor	
Grade 4: A service that delivers well above minimum requirements for users	A service that delivers well above minimum requirements for children and young people, is innovative and cost effective, and fully contributes to raising expectations and the achievement of wider outcomes for the community.
Grade 3: A service that consistently delivers above minimum requirements for users	A service that consistently delivers above minimum requirements for children and young people, has some innovative practice, and is increasingly cost-effective whilst making contributions to wider outcomes for the community.
Grade 2: A service that delivers only minimum requirements for users	A service that delivers only minimum requirements for children and young people, but is not demonstrably cost effective nor contributes significantly to wider outcomes for the community.
Grade 1: A service that does not deliver minimum requirements for users	A service that does not deliver minimum requirements for children and young people, is not cost-effective and makes little or no contribution to wider outcomes for the community.

Grade descriptors for children's services work that outline expectations for each level of performance within the five outcome areas and capacity to improve, will be used to inform judgements and to expand on the above descriptors. The grade descriptors identify key aspects in determining the effectiveness of the contribution made by services to improving outcomes for children and young people. They make inspection judgements more rigorous and transparent, enable judgements to be derived securely from a consideration of outcomes and ensure consistency in gathering evidence and making judgements. In reaching judgements, Ofsted will scrutinise all admissible evidence, and reach judgements using the grade descriptors as a guide.
[Link to grade descriptors on Ofsted website](#)