

CAN POTENTIAL OPTIONS

1	To increase availability of sub-regional provision for “hard to place” children/young people with Complex Needs		Potential Savings of
	<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides continuity of access to local services • Reduced travel and time costs for professionals • Quick and easy access of professionals as a means of de-escalating problems • Quick and easy re-alignment of resources to meet changing needs • Provides greater safeguarding assurances/oversight • Potential for the development of regional expertise/centre of excellence • Overall cost savings • Can be used at an earlier opportunity (possibly in an out reach capacity) as part of a prevention strategy • Secures local specialist health input through a possible joint funded partnership. • Children and Young people placed closer to home • Can be extended to cover post 16 group who are currently funded by the LSC in expensive Independent Specialist Provider provision (e.g. across Tees valley some 25 students are placed in post 16 out of area ASD provision - the funding for such students will soon move to LAs) 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial set up costs will be high • Need to secure robust partnership arrangements which provide continuity of funding and which are not susceptible to LA funding issues (e.g. one LA hosting a joint arrangement recently introduced mid year a management fee) • Levels of expertise may not be readily available in the area • Employment matters such as whether staff are employed by one or more LA or are employed by some third party and attendant risks • Savings unlikely to be made in the short term but are more likely to be felt in 2 or more years. 	<p>We would expect that once the transitional costs of commissioning a new local provision have been met there could be annual savings of up to £200K from DSG (and at a possibly similar level from SBC budget).</p> <p>But these set up costs will be high.</p> <p>How long before any cost benefit is realised? See above</p> <p>What resources will be required to implement the option?</p>
	<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a sub regional Centre of Excellence with attendant benefits for families, young people and professionals. • Partnership opportunity with third/independent sector to minimise financial risks to each LA • Partnership working with other LAs • Close partnership across CESC - such provision would not be an educational resource, it would not be a social care resource it would be a Children's Services Resource closely aligned with the Campus Stockton developments under BSF. • Provides opportunity for developing intensive therapeutic interventions to support troubled and vulnerable young people. • The development of a pooled budget with agreed contributions from key partners. 	<p>Threats/Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Costs associated to facility not running at full occupancy • Can only be realistic if all the partners work together • Facility will not meet every need and some young people will still need out of borough provision • SEN Tribunals can over-rule local decisions • OFSTED inspections of facilities • If placement does not have positive impact what comes next and at what cost? • Spending priorities and pressures to make savings within PCT may see no/reduced resources available to support such provision • Budget pressures on all LAs may prevent the startup funds being available • Pressure to place young people inappropriately within facility - whilst it needs to be flexible it is not a one size fits all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> A building adapted to provide 52 week care and on site educational programmes <input type="checkbox"/> Specialist staffing <input type="checkbox"/> Robust partnership agreement with Tees Valley LAs <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership agreement with CAMHS or other Mental Health providers <input type="checkbox"/> Possible partnership agreement with Third sector provider of specialist provision to minimise some of the risks around developing and maintaining such provision

2	<p>To enhance the local specialist support for children and young people with Complex Needs in order to maintain them within the Borough – this embraces educational provision, mental health/challenging behaviour support and widening the remit of the Complex Needs Social Work team to include groups such as ASD and ADHD, etc. The intention would be to enable a rapid early and maintained response to prevent an escalation of need.</p>	<p>Potential Saving of?</p> <p><i>Difficult to quantify but Out of Borough placement costs run up to £200,000 per young person (plus incidental costs)</i></p>
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Having available a team of professionals with the capacity for a rapid response</i> • <i>Providing highly skilled and highly focused support</i> • <i>Specialist knowledge and expertise available for generic staff, families, schools, etc.</i> • <i>Builds on current best practice model around ASD</i> • <i>Will secure better co-ordinated responses through the Team Around the Family model</i> • <i>A clear interface with the Aiming High agenda in the Borough</i> • <i>Takes the Complex Needs agenda to the next logical step</i> • <i>Potential for a reductions in costly out of Borough placements</i> • <i>To facilitate aspects pf the DCSF 21st Century Schools Agenda</i> 	<p>Weaknesses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>To secure and maintain such provision there will be cost implications at a time when the LA has less overall funds available (it might be possible to re-align resources from elsewhere or to take the line of "invest to save")</i> • <i>Securing a single accommodation to bring all teams together</i> • <i>Being highly specialist recruitment may be an issue and local cover for any vacancies might be difficult</i> • <i>The Aiming High Funds for PCT (unlike for LA) were not ring fenced and hence are dependent on PCT spending priorities and fiscal pressures.</i> • <i>Pressure on PCT budgets is likely to prevent investment in such</i> 	<p>How long before any cost benefit is realised?</p> <p><i>There would be an initial cost in setting up the specialist staff but savings would be likely immediately thereafter</i></p> <p>What resources will be required to implement the option?</p>
<p>Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Will provide increased capacity to field social work teams by removing responsibility to manage issues around these groups of young people</i> • <i>Will support family resilience</i> • <i>Has potential to reduce out of borough placements</i> • <i>Will raise skill levels in schools and across the community enabling youngsters to live/be educated locally</i> • <i>Greater partnership working with third sector</i> 	<p>Threats/Risks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Costs at a time of financial pressure</i> • <i>Recruiting the necessary workforce</i> • <i>Co-location could impact on existing links with other services</i> • <i>Aiming High grants only guaranteed until end of March 2011. Intelligence suggests there may be some continuation but political and fiscal priorities will influence what that looks like.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Amendments to the PCT CAMHS contract to secure focused interventions</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Funding for additional specialist LA staff</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Robust PCT agreements to support development of provision</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Partnership with local special schools</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Training</i>

3	.To implement both Options 1 and 2 above.		Potential Saving of? <i>See above</i> How long before any cost benefit is realised? <i>See above</i> What resources will be required to implement the option? <i>See above</i> <input type="checkbox"/>
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	Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>See above</i> 	Threats/Risks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>See above</i> <i>Inevitably the biggest risk for these proposals either singly or together is the cost of implementation against a time of financial pressure</i>	