

Progress Update – Review of Quality and Sufficiency of Childcare

No	Recommendation	Responsibility	Anticipated Completion Date	Progress Update 18/09/13	18/09/13 Assessment of progress (Categories 1-4)	Q3&4 Progress Update Presented to Committee on 19/06/2014	Q3&4 Assessment of progress (Categories 1-4)
1	The information available to parents when choosing childcare be expanded to provide information about whether providers are engaging with SBC Journey to Outstanding (J2O) as well as information about OFSTED ratings;	Diane McConnell / Jane Wright	Dec 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Journey to Outstanding now aligned with new Early Years Foundation Stage 2012.</li> <li>• Journey to Outstanding on final proof read in preparation to be transposed onto disc.</li> <li>• Information on the method of delivery given to all sector through Early Years Newsletter using Families Information Service (FIS) to circulate.</li> <li>• Discs then to be disseminated across settings, Childminders in Network and all childminders across borough.</li> <li>• Dissemination through Network Meetings, appointments and Early Years Conference on 9th November.</li> <li>• Any support or extra training required to be delivered through Drop in Surgeries promoted through Early Years Newsletter.</li> <li>• FIS to be regularly informed of any who do not wish to engage with the Local Authority and/or</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 – On Track but not yet due for completion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All settings have J2O as a disc aligned with EYFS. All Network Childminders (CM) rec'd.</li> <li>• Majority CM rec'd &amp; newly registered CM introduced to it with their new Early Years Development Officer (EYDO) along with revised Welfare audit now aligned with new Framework.</li> <li>• Newsletter sent termly with this info through Families Information Service (FIS).</li> <li>• Each new setting receives J2O with intro to their EYDO.</li> <li>• Figures prove J2O/Welfare and Learning &amp; Development audits are making a real difference; CM=76% Good or Better Ofsted grades. Settings 90% Good or Better. Overall 78%. Improving month on month. First 2 Outstanding judgements rec'd</li> </ul>	1 – Achieved Fully

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				<p>Journey to Outstanding Quality Improvement Document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FIS team is currently updating the on-line Directory to incorporate a new statement which confirms whether a setting/childminder is engaging with the Journey to Outstanding.</li> <li>The update will also include Ofsted judgements for each setting/childminder.</li> <li>Parents/Carers contacting FIS by telephone currently receive printed information that already includes Ofsted judgements. This document will be updated to include the Journey to Outstanding statement.</li> </ul>		<p>under new Framework.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making impact with new CM's with early introductions, support training, introduction to J2O &amp; audit.</li> <li>Set up Locality Based CM Training Groups now engaging with hard to reach CM's. Focus on Learning &amp; Development predominantly. Responding to local needs. Very successful. Will feed into HUBS.</li> <li>System set up to notify FIS of CM's no longer engaging &amp; recorded @ SCC (Setting/CM Causing Concern) meetings.</li> </ul>	
2	<p>In order to foster closer working between settings, childminders and schools, locality based networks (possibly based around Children's Centres) be considered; the purpose of the networks would be to:</p> <p>a. share good practice</p>	Diane McConnell	March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:07:13 met with G.Charlton – Early Years Operations Manager, Children Centres (EYOM) – to discuss possible parties involved, terms &amp; conditions, purpose of and ethos of proposed 'HUBS', times of meetings and how often and which</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 – On track but not yet due for completion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First meeting 7:5:14 to introduce the concept of HUBS, attendees will undertake 123 Magic (parenting programme) training.</li> <li>5 HUBS to be created at the meeting, based on a Children's Centre (CC) as the nucleus,</li> </ul>	1 – Achieved Fully

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	b. provide peer support c. ease transitions between settings/schools d. embed a single approach to EYFS profiles e. demonstrate partnership working f. foster early intervention g. provide a consultation platform			L.A Children Centres should be used for these across the Borough. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paperwork compiled showing how future locality based Networks – HUBS – would run. They would involve health, schools, settings and childminders, chaired by Early Years Development Officer (EYDO) &amp; Children Centre Manager and overseen by J.Marriott – Early Years Manager (EYM) and G.Charlton – EYOM. They will therefore be more focused, share practice &amp; paperwork, offer early intervention and training and would involve the community of that particular area. They would, therefore, realise points a-g.</li> <li>• Further meetings held looking into the detail of 'Hubs'.</li> <li>• 10:09:13 link up with EYOM to pull information together in preparation for us to consult with Managers at Network Managers Meeting on</li> </ul>		working with partners to discuss local information, share good practice across all partners, ease transitions, embed partnerships (cover all points from a-g). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite letter to be distributed to PVI settings, schools, Health &amp; CC colleagues.</li> <li>• HUBS to be held twice a year with smaller Partnership Meetings facilitated by early year's team to feed into relevant HUB. This will support communication, sharing of paperwork for children &amp; families and safeguard those most vulnerable in SB.</li> <li>• All postcodes are aligned with CC in each HUB for all PVI's &amp; schools.</li> </ul>	

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				26:09:13.			
3	A model of commissioned peer support be considered utilising good quality childminders from within the network in a mentoring role;	Diane McConnell	March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 26:09:13 Childminder Network Meeting to introduce new Network members, now 33 from 17.</li> <li>• Agenda of the evening has been given out to the existing members who have already agreed to take up the 'mentor' role to those who are in need of a little more support.</li> <li>• Allocate the mentors explaining the agenda and disseminate Journey to Outstanding discs to reiterate the value placed by the LA on quality and safeguarding for all the children in their care.</li> <li>• Explain the role of FIS in the promotion of the Network members and their positive engagement</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 – On track but not yet due for completion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30 CM's in Network.</li> <li>• 8 Mentors signed up.</li> <li>• Terms &amp; Conditions now being reviewed in line with new legislation with Network members.</li> <li>• All have J2O and all will receive revised Welfare/L &amp; D audits (which now deliver Learning Walks to question all staff on Safeguarding procedures) to ensure highest quality care and education.</li> <li>• All have allocated EYDO/DA.</li> <li>• 2 nights of Safeguarding seminars delivered by Pam Gartland in May for CM's &amp; Settings.</li> <li>• Welfare Audit has been over-seen by Pam Gartland.</li> <li>• Robust communication with</li> </ul>	1 – Achieved Fully

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				with their LA Officer.		FIS & early years team with regard to members in the Network & any changes particularly with regard to any Ofsted judgement changes.	
4	The Admissions Booklet and other information provided to parents be revised to clarify that attendance at a nursery will not give automatic entitlement to attend a school;	Jane Wright	August 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information for parents/carers has been revised and expanded for inclusion in the new Admissions Booklet – currently awaiting final draft from print section.</li> <li>• The same information has also been made available on a single sheet which has been circulated to settings to hand out to both existing and future parents/carers.</li> <li>• The Admissions Booklet will be in print and available online from early/mid September.</li> <li>• The 'Help with the cost of Free Childcare' page on SBC website will also be updated to include the Information Sheet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 – On track but not yet due for completion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SBC Admissions Policy for September 2015 went out for consultation in November 2013 – proposal that oversubscription criteria relating to attendance at school nursery be removed.</li> <li>• Cabinet approved change at 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014 meeting.</li> <li>• New Admissions booklet updated to reflect change.</li> <li>• Sample scenarios included to better inform parents.</li> <li>• Policy now clearly states that attendance at a school nursery will not give automatic entitlement to a reception place within the same</li> </ul>	1 – Achieved Fully

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						school.	
5	The Officer Project Board continue to oversee work on the introduction of the two year old offer and engage with the network of providers on delivery, subject to detailed analysis of the Government's recent announcement on childcare provision;	Jane Wright	March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed analysis of the recent document – '<i>Early Education and Childcare – Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities – September 2013</i>' has been undertaken to ensure the roll out of the programme for 2 year olds meets all requirements.</li> <li>Sufficient capacity has been established within settings/childminder provision/school nurseries to meet the 571 target for available places.</li> <li>Publicity and promotion has taken place through articles in Stockton News, briefing sessions with professionals, Children's Centres and childcare settings/childminders.</li> <li>Systems are in place to enable parents to apply for a free place for their 2 year old – online, via an application form, through support from a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 – On track but not yet due for completion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Almost 400 children now taking up a 2 year old place.</li> <li>Target for September 2014 is 1153 places (an additional 582).</li> <li>Work underway to identify additional capacity within the market.</li> <li>All systems are in place and running effectively – to be reviewed to reflect new criteria.</li> <li>Close work with Children's Centres has ensured that parents are supported in making an application.</li> <li>New marketing and comms plan under development in order to promote the entitlement, particularly the September 2014 criteria.</li> </ul>	1 – Achieved Fully

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				<p>professional/childcare setting and via Children's Centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systems are also in place to enable applicants to be assessed and receive confirmation of eligibility as appropriate.</li> <li>• Details of local childcare places are provided to eligible parents/carers to enable them to make an informed choice.</li> <li>• Less confident parents/carers are able to contact the FIS for support in making an application and/or choosing a setting.</li> <li>• Further presentations to settings/childminders planned for September and November in order to monitor progress.</li> <li>• Presentation to Head Teachers planned for October.</li> <li>• Estimated target for September 2014 is an additional 729 places.</li> <li>• Systems are in place to monitor take up.</li> <li>• A number of meetings have been held with colleagues from</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sept 2014 criteria includes SEN – working with colleagues to ensure entitlement is included in SEN reform work.</li> <li>• Head Teachers informed of entitlement.</li> <li>• New state of the art facility which is part of a National pilot, opening in Tilery Primary in the summer term.</li> <li>• Seminar planned for childminders to encourage sign up to the programme.</li> <li>• The improvement in the quality of the childcare market due to the work around J2O has ensured that more 2 year olds are accessing quality provision.</li> </ul>	

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				neighbouring authorities from the region and a draft protocol for 'cross boundary' working has been established. The protocol is being considered alongside others from other areas across the country with a view to establishing a national agreement.			
6	Officers continue to work towards finding solutions to meet gaps in provision where they are identified in order to provide sufficient childcare places across the Borough.	Jane Wright	March 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The focus of recent work has been to address the gaps in provision for 2 year olds in order to meet the 571 places target by September 2013 – this has been achieved.</li> <li>Ongoing focus on sufficiency of places for 2 year olds in order to achieve the September 2014 target of an additional 729 places.</li> <li>Further discussions to take place regarding the implications for the production of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment for March 2014 based on the requirements within the 'Early Education and Childcare – Statutory Guidance for Local</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 – On track but not yet due for completion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In response to the document 'Early Education and Childcare – Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities – September 2013' - the Stockton-on-Tees Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2014 (CSA) has been completed and approved at Cabinet – April 24<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>The CSA contains an action plan to be completed over the current financial year.</li> <li>The Action Plan details the key priorities for the Council that need to be addressed in order</li> </ul>	1 – Achieved Fully



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				<p><i>Authorities – September 2013’ document.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposals are being prepared for approval in order to meet the Council’s revised duty in relation to Early Years &amp; Childcare, as stated in the new Statutory Guidance - <i>‘Report annually to elected council members on how they are meeting their duty to secure sufficient childcare, and make this report available and accessible to parents. Local authorities are responsible for determining the appropriate level of detail in their report, geographical division and date of publication.’</i></li> </ul>		<p>to meet its statutory duty in relation to ensuring there are sufficient childcare places across the Borough.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The main focus of work will be to address the gaps in provision for 2 year olds in order to maximise take.</li> </ul>	