

Children Young People & Families

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CYPF1. Voluntary Sector Funding

Current Service		This budget supports a diverse range of preventative, targeted and specialist support services for children, young people and families of all age groups, provided by the voluntary sector.			
Budget	£8.700m	Reduction 13/14	£4.430m	Reduction 14/15	£4.430m
Proposed Changes to Service		The proposed change is that we remove or do not renew funding for a range of services for children, young people and families provided by the voluntary sector, removing service from more than 5,500 children and young people. The services include preventative, targeted and specialist support and include services to families and young people that traditionally are not engaged by mainstream services e.g. young carers and young women at risk.			
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners		<p>More than 5,500 children, young people and families will no longer receive these services.</p> <p>This reduction in capacity will reduce the reach of services to those young people and families that do not ordinarily access mainstream. The reduction in prevention and community based services will need to be taken into account in early help strategies aimed at reducing numbers of children in care.</p> <p>These support services will be reduced to the parents of children with disabilities or special educational needs.</p> <p>These specialist services to families where a child is subject of a child protection plan will be reduced, Before final decisions are made to reduce these services it will be necessary to carry out consultation in line with best practice, complete equalities assessments and to consider how risk can be mitigated for each project and its users.</p> <p>Consultation and equalities assessments will be used to consider how far these reductions may be mitigated</p>			
What further Policy Decisions are required		Executive decisions will need to be made following corporate consultation, directorate consultation and the completion of equalities impact assessments.			
More information		Best Value guidance is clear that: authorities should seek to avoid passing on disproportionate reductions to voluntary and community organisations, must give at least 3 months notice of actual reductions to organisations, the public and service users, should engage people as early as possible before making decisions and allow organisations and the wider community to			

put forward options on how to reshape a service or project assisting this through providing appropriate information. The directorate consultation will ensure that the best value guidance is followed in the decision making process.

For further information, please contact Rachel Egan at Rachel.egan@birmingham.gov.uk

CYPF2. Teenage Pregnancy

Current Service	Young women who have an increased risk of becoming a teenage parent are provided with support and educational activities to reduce the chances of them making decisions that would result in them becoming a teenage parent whilst at the same time supporting them to achieve more at school and in their education.				
Budget	£0.325m	Reduction 13/14	£0.140m	Reduction 14/15	£0.140m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>It is proposed that the Targeted Youth Support Service providing this service is to be integrated with the Integrated Family Support Teams (IFSTs). The majority of the staff are already seconded to the IFSTs and this will be made permanent. The one remaining post will offer a champion role and maintain a small caseload within the priority schools.</p> <p>250 young women in 5 priority schools who have an increased risk of becoming a teenage parent will no longer receive additional support and educational activities from the youth support service. In place of this service the IFST will provide a reduced level of support as part of its revised service specification.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>A reduced level of support will be provided through the Integrated Family Support Teams. An opportunity will be provided to schools to continue to secure an enhanced offer for their pupils.</p> <p>Health colleagues are informed of these changes.</p> <p>Members of the team will be engaged in the process through team meetings and briefings. Further directorate consultation with service users and stakeholders will take place and an equalities impact assessment will be completed prior to a final decision.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	An executive decision will need to be made following consultation with affected stakeholders				
More information	For further information, please contact Chris Glynn at chris.c.glynn@birmingham.gov.uk				

CYPF3. Remodelling and Integration of Preventative and Targeted Services

Current Service	<p>The preventative services offered by the Education Welfare Services, Integrated Family Support Teams, Connexions, elements of the Children’s Social Care and Children’s Centre services each have a separate management structure. This is not sufficiently focussed and integrated enough to provide the level and intensity of support required to support the child to remain at home. This results in children entering public care for a short time at great cost – it is estimated that every 100 children in care costs £4.500m.</p>				
Budget	£26.445m	Reduction 13/14	£3.312m	Reduction 14/15	£7.903m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>This proposal is concerned with remodelling and integrating the services above to provide a more efficient and cost effective service which will help to reduce the number of children who require public care and to increase the number of children able to live safely and securely in their community and family. Where it is beneficial and practical, these services would be co-located on an area basis and brought under a single management structure with nominated city-wide leads to promote specialist knowledge. It is anticipated the services listed above would be configured around the Council-managed Children’s Centres in respect of which other proposals are also being made. Children’s Centres would be managed on an area-based Hub and satellite model.</p> <p>The underpinning principle is to support a child from the point at which additional support is required to receiving the right support from the right service at the right time, offering a single “front door” to access services that ensure better outcomes and greater value for money.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>This proposal comes at a time when nationally, the numbers of children in care are increasing. Locally there has been success in ensuring relatively static numbers of children in care with only marginal recent increases. This proposal has risks related to the admissions of children, which would be mitigated by senior officers making decisions as to whether the interests of</p>				

	<p>children aged twelve and above are best met by public care. There may also be an increased risk of a judicial review due to a breach of legislation, which would be mitigated by the development of 'specialists' in each First Response Team.</p> <p>A project group consisting of Managers would be established to manage the transition and ensure minimal disruption. This would be supported by a communication and consultation plan for staff, partners and service users.</p>
<p>What further Policy Decisions are required</p>	<p>A policy decision would be required in relation to adopting an Early Help strategy that reduces the demand for children requiring Public Care by supporting children within their families and communities, planning care placements robustly and supporting a return to the family where this is in the child's best interest.</p> <p>In addition strategies will need to be in place regarding the provision of adoption and long term care for children looked after by Birmingham City Council (to be read in conjunction with the proposal concerned with Adoption).</p> <p>Further consultation with service users, staff and trade unions will be required.</p>
<p>More information</p>	<p>An Early Help Strategy and consultation form will be made available for consultation via the Council website; the integration of services is to be part of that strategy.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Paul Marshall at Paul.w.marshall@birmingham.gov.uk</p>

CYPF4. Home to School Transport

Current Service

The home to school transport service arranges transport between home and school for pupils including those with special educational needs and/or disability.

The Home to School Transport policy has been reviewed. The new policies which formed the consultation during the last academic year remove support to faith schools, reduce the qualifying distance for support, and introduce charges for sixth form age pupils.

The Council is now consulting on the application of the new policies to all current service users and it may also change some aspects of the policies. It is proposed that this change will apply to all children at school or in post-16 education beginning in academic year commencing September 2013.

Budget	£17.420m	Reduction 13/14	£1.000m	Reduction 14/15	£1.000M
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>The proposed changes are:</p> <p>To amend the terms and conditions of pupil guides.</p> <p>To apply the new policies to students who are currently receiving home to school transport.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>The parents will be required to manage the implications of the changes.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	<p>An executive decision to consider if the new policies on home to school transport should be applied to the current users of the service, and if there should be any additional changes to the policies. This will follow consultation equalities assessment.</p>				
More information	<p>There will be a corporate consultation and the directorate will hold a consultation with people who may be affected. Pupil guides will be engaged in the process through group meetings and briefings. For further information, please contact Chris Glynn at chris.c.glynn@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF5. Children's Residential Care Homes

Current Service	This proposal relates to the remodelling of internal residential care provision and the residential estate. There are currently 12 Homes, following a decision to close 5 Homes in 2012/13.				
Budget	£10.901m	Reduction 13/14	£1.600m	Reduction 14/15	£1.600m
Proposed Changes to Service	The proposal is to review the residential estate and other services for children in care within the changing context of preventative services and statutory options for children.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	There will be a review of the best practice models existing for children's homes locally and nationally to ensure we redevelop our homes to support young people and deliver excellent services to them. A review and project group will be in place to develop the review, a communication plan and consult fully with children, staff and trades unions.				
What further Policy Decisions are required	An executive decision will be required should further closures of children's homes be proposed. A policy decision would be required in relation to the options to explore external contracts and all options for the change to smaller homes, eg 3 bed family size homes.				
More information	<p>An Early Help Strategy will be made available via the Council website; the integration of services is part of that strategy.</p> <p>Consultation will take place with staff and unions in respect of any emerging staffing issues.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Amanda Lamb at Amanda.lamb@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF6. Adoption

Current Service		The Adoption Service recruits and assesses carers for children needing a permanent home through adoption, and also matches children to suitable carers.			
Budget	£7.496m	Reduction 13/14	£0.100m	Reduction 14/15	£0.100m
Proposed Changes to Service		Our proposal is to transform our current practice and bring together the "front door" of fostering and adoption to improve advertising and assessment practice. This would deliver savings through the structure of the service and savings through improved practice in the future. The purpose of these changes is to ensure we achieve improvements to timescales for both children and prospective adopters, to meet the targets in our Adoption Action Plan and improve outcomes for children.			
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners		Bringing together assessment functions across adoption and fostering would lead to reduction of posts and benefits to service users would be through simpler and speedier responses, and quicker placement timescales for children. There are no negative impacts anticipated for users and partners.			
What further Policy Decisions are required		None			
More information		Information about changes in assessment and recruitment for foster carers and adopters will be shared widely with the public. Consultation will take place with staff and unions in respect of any emerging staffing issues. For further information, please contact Amanda Lamb at Amanda.lamb@birmingham.gov.uk			

CYPF7. Disabled Children's Services

Current Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Disabled Children's Occupational Therapy (OT) Team provides specialist assessments and access to aids and equipment. Direct Payments are made to families to fund services to help children to continue living with their families at home. Disabled children are provided with residential care placements. 				
Budget	OT Budget £0.333m Direct Payments £1.4m Placements £3.3m	Saving 13/14	OT £0.076m Direct Payments £0.124m Placements £0.300m Total £0.500m	Saving 14/15	£0.500m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>Redesign of the Children, Young People and Families OT service to reduce agency staff and costs of assessments.</p> <p>Implement eligibility criteria for direct payments to target resources at those with highest levels of need.</p> <p>Use targeted support to prevent family breakdown and reduce numbers of disabled children in care.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>OT savings based on staffing efficiencies, so no direct impact on service users or partners.</p> <p>Direct Payments proposals have already been subject to consultation and final proposals are due to be put forward for executive decision.</p> <p>Improvements in the quality of the social care service should result in improved access to support for children with the highest level of needs to remain at home, such as direct payments and short breaks.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	<p>Executive decision required for the Eligibility Criteria for Disabled Children's Services following consultation and equalities assessment.</p>				
More information	<p>There will be further consultation for those affected by this proposal.</p> <p>For further information on Directorate consultation, please contact Chris Atkinson at Chris.atkinson@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF8. Safeguarding and Development Service

Current Service	Supports the Safeguarding Board, manages the independent child protection and children in care services; provides child protection expertise to area staff, quality assures children, young people and families work and delivers learning and development to CYPF staff, and manages specialist disclosure in child abuse cases.				
Budget	£4.385m	Reduction 13/14	£0.250m	Reduction 14/15	£0.250m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>This proposal includes a review of the safeguarding and development service which could mean a reduction in the quality assurance function and in training and development expenditure.</p> <p>It is proposed that capacity in the Positions of Trust team will reduce or be funded through partnership contributions to the Safeguarding Board.</p> <p>A number of functions in the Position of Trust team are carried out by the safeguarding service for the Safeguarding Board. Funding from the Board would be negotiated or function cease.</p> <p>A reduction in learning and development capacity would be made.</p> <p>A recently created post of Principal Social Worker will not be filled.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	The partnership element impacted would be negotiated. There would be limited if any direct impact on children and families. Indirect impact would be related to reduction in capacity to react or loss of opportunity costs.				
What further Policy Decisions are required	None				
More information	<p>Consultation will take place with staff and unions in respect of any emerging staffing issues.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Jacqui Jensen at Jacqui.jensen@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF9. Professional Support Service (PSS)

<p>Current Service</p>	<p>The Directorate are already involved in the Professional Support Services corporate initiative and will implement the Professional Support Service model on the 3 December 2012.</p> <p>The Professional Support Services brings together business support and administration activities across the Directorate under a single management structure. This will provide a flexible, internal shared service for administration and business support activity.</p>				
<p>Budget</p>	<p>This will be an aggregate of all budgets finally included within the PSS initiative that is yet to be determined. (Target set by Leadership Team)</p>	<p>Reduction 13/14</p>	<p>£1.370m</p>	<p>Reduction 14/15</p>	<p>£1.370m</p>
<p>Proposed Changes to Service</p>	<p>The Professional Support Service initiative has to date made progress in scoping out potential savings and improved efficiency from co-location and amalgamation of business support.</p> <p>This proposal includes a more radical re-engineering and redesign of process to improve efficiency. It involves a more radical reduction in business support functions and therefore the level of reduction in numbers of support posts.</p>				
<p>Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners</p>	<p>Governance structure for the Professional Support Service project.</p> <p>Ongoing consultation and communication with Trades Unions and staff.</p> <p>Ongoing communication and engagement with Senior Managers.</p> <p>This proposal does not impact on the number of children and young people receiving children's services.</p>				
<p>What further Policy Decisions are required</p>	<p>None</p>				

More information

Consultation with Trades Unions will take place at Professional Support Services Trades Union meeting on 12 December 2012.

Consultation events for business support and administration staff will take place after the 12 December 2012.

For further information, please contact Rachel Egan at Rachel.egan@birmingham.gov.uk

CYPF10. Customer First

Current Service	<p>A range of customer referral and information enquiry services across CYPF including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Area and Citywide Switchboard Services • Integrated Access Teams • Family Information Services • Emergency Duty Teams • School Admissions Service 				
Budget	£3.469m	Reduction 13/14	£0.400m	Reduction 14/15	£0.400m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>It is proposed that one integrated or consolidated CYPF Information and Access Service will be formed, made up of the remodelled Switchboard, Integrated Access Teams, and Family Information Service Teams. Front-line School Admissions enquiries would be incorporated within this new function.</p> <p>The Emergency Duty function is to be remodelled and become part of the new service.</p> <p>This will provide a single point of access for all information and services, with improved IT and telephony infrastructure. Social Work professional and management oversight will be an integral feature of the service.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of a governance structure. • Robust project planning and management. • Ongoing stakeholder consultation and communications – staff/unions. • Staff training and development programme. 				
What further Policy Decisions are required	<p>None. Corporate agreement will be required on aspects of this proposal that sit outside the Directorate.</p>				
More information	<p>For further information, please contact Rachel Egan at Rachel.egan@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF11. Strategic Support Services

Current Service	This proposal relates to savings from teams supporting Governance and Policy, Commissioning, Information Management, and Customer Relations.				
Budget	£2.600m	Reduction 13/14	£0.675m	Reduction 14/15	£0.675m
Proposed Changes to Service	This will mean reductions in budgets supporting staffing and non-staffing elements of central support. There will be an impact on performance monitoring and support for strategic management and planning of children's services.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>The priorities for the Teams will be reviewed – and less important projects managed to a conclusion.</p> <p>The reductions will require smarter and more efficient ways of working alongside prioritisation of work. Whilst this will affect strategic support capacity, this would be managed by ceasing lower priority tasks.</p> <p>This proposal will need to be managed to avoid an impact on speed of improvement in children's services.</p> <p>This proposal does not impact on the number of children and young people receiving children's services.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	None.				
More information	<p>Members of the team will be engaged in the process through team meetings and briefings.</p> <p>There will be consultation with staff and unions.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Seamus Gaynor at Seamus.gaynor@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF12. Youth Offending Service

Current Service	<p>The current service is a multi agency partnership involving, Social Care and Education, Police, Probation and Health. The service works with young people to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce numbers of young people who commit offences • Reduce numbers who are remanded into custody • Reduce re-offending rates 				
Budget	£8.800m	Reduction 13/14	£0.400m	Reduction 14/15	£0.400m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>It is proposed to make reductions in service delivery of prevention and Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme of £400,000 in operational posts as management reductions have already been made.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>Discussions will take place with key partners to ensure that implications of service reductions across the partnership do not impact significantly on services to young people. The YOS Board will review savings across partnership and agree service priorities based on current service performance and needs.</p> <p>It is proposed more young people will be supported through targeted early support projects. Resources are available from the Think Family project which will mitigate immediate impact on young people.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	<p>None.</p>				
More information	<p>There will be consultation with staff and unions.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Lorna Scarlett at Lorna.scarlett@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF13. Rights and Participation (RAP)

Current Service	The service optimises and empowers Birmingham's children and young people; involvement is with strategic and local decision that affects their lives. RAP provides advocacy to Birmingham children in care and care leavers				
Budget	£0.800m	Reduction 13/14	£0.300m	Reduction 14/15	£0.300m
Proposed Changes to Service	There would be a significant reduction in the activity that currently takes place. There would be a reduction in the amount of activity young people are involved in and a significant reduction in the activity budget, largely providing the statutory functions of advocacy and engagement with children and young people in children in need, child protection and children in care.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>Integrate management into performance assurance and commissioning services. Align this service with other CYPF activity.</p> <p>It may be possible to develop a new model of service, dependent on using young people as volunteers providing peer support and further commissioning from the independent sector to support the wider activities.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	An executive decision will be required on the proposed reduction to the service.				
More information	<p>Further directorate consultation will take place and equalities impact will be assessed.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Jacqui Jensen at Jacqui.jensen@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF14. Parent Partnerships

Current Service	<p>The service is currently provided by the Council to meet statutory requirements and involves working with parents of all children with special educational needs to provide information and publicity, training, advice and support, to foster networking and collaboration, and to inform and influence local special educational needs policy and practice. In order for the service to provide impartial information and for parents to have confidence in this they are expected to be at 'arms length' from the local authority.</p>				
Budget	£0.390m	Reduction 13/14	£0.080m	Reduction 14/15	£0.080m
Proposed Changes to Service	<p>Birmingham Parent Partnership makes use of volunteers/ interns but in the current financial climate there is even more need to ensure that services are delivered efficiently. The proposal is to review and possibly outsource the Parent Partnership service, whilst continuing to ensure the Council meets its statutory requirements.</p>				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>All relevant stakeholders will be informed.</p> <p>The proposal will not impact on service users or partners and any new arrangements will be subject to further consultation.</p> <p>Staff and unions will be consulted on any emerging staffing issues.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	<p>An executive decision will need to be made on this proposal following consultation.</p>				
More information	<p>For further information, please contact Sue Twells at Sue.twells@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF15. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Current Service	This service provides direct help to children and adolescents who are experiencing emotional/mental health difficulties, in some cases the result of experiencing abuse, neglect and trauma. The staff group have a variety of skills and offer therapy to children directly and support and advice to the people caring for them.				
Budget	£3.781m	Reduction 13/14	£1.430m	Reduction 14/15	£1.430m
Proposed Changes to Service	The proposal will directly reduce the number of staff working within CAMHS based at Birmingham Children's Hospital. As a result there will be fewer staff available to work with children and young people in care and fewer staff working within the community CAMHS. The proposal will impact on the strategy for emotional health and sits alongside reductions in services that promote emotional health as a result of savings in the voluntary sector and care leaver services.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	The Council recognises the potential impact on the CAMHS and will work with NHS Commissioners and the provider to mitigate the impact in order to limit the impact on children. Inclusion of CAMHS and emotional health service delivery in the integrated model of service will provide a level of mitigation.				
What further Policy Decisions are required	None.				
More information	For further information, please contact Amanda Lamb at Amanda.lamb@birmingham.gov.uk				

CYPF16. Remodelling of Connexions Service

Current Service		Connexions provides targeted careers information, advice and guidance to young people 13-19 (up to 25 LDD) who are NEET, have a statement of special educational needs or are identified as being within a vulnerable group.			
Budget	£3.800m	Reduction 13/14	£0.750m	Reduction 14/15	£1.250m
Proposed Changes to Service		It is proposed to reduce reliance on Local Authority funding and target services at those most in need, in wards with the highest levels of youth and adult unemployment and lowest school attainment. The service will build a new relationship with those schools whose leavers are at particular risk of becoming NEET (not in employment, education or training).			
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation exercise with service users, partners , staff in line with 188 requirements - Revised offer to schools - Addressing Local Service Directorate agenda - Addressing Leader's agenda around social cohesion and job / skills agenda - Launch of a new service with new name and revised priorities 			
What further Policy Decisions are required		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - None identified at this stage 			
More information		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A remodelled service with a focus on Targeted Careers Information Advice and Guidance Service to young people 13-19 (up to 25 LDD) . A new name, able to deliver cost effective interventions and address Directorate, City Council and Leader's priorities around Youth Unemployment and positive outcomes for young people. - For further information please contact Harry Fowler: harry.fowler@birmingham.gov.uk 			

CYPF17. Schools Settings/Improvement

<p>Current Service</p>	<p>The Schools and Settings Improvement Service is responsible for delivering the local authority's statutory responsibilities in relation to schools in need of improvement, including schools in Ofsted categories.</p> <p>Its key tasks in relation to schools in need of improvement are related to early identification of potential vulnerability and to formulating a strategy to bring about rapid improvement.</p>				
<p>Budget</p>	<p>£1.092m</p>	<p>Reduction 13/14</p>	<p>£0.500m</p>	<p>Reduction 14/15</p>	<p>£0.500m</p>
<p>Proposed Changes to Service</p>	<p>The Service will provide the LA with necessary information to identify and provide support to vulnerable schools. It will broker this support between schools, monitor impact, and assure quality. The option involves a phased reduction in service and the redirecting of school resource through a commissioning model. The reductions would be in salary costs.</p>				
<p>Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners</p>	<p>Partners, including National Leaders in Education, National support schools, DfE, School Improvement Groups and Teaching Schools will be informed and supported to take on a greater role in delivering school improvement.</p>				
<p>What further Policy Decisions are required</p>	<p>Members will need to agree to reduce the service and understand the implications of the new arrangements.</p>				
<p>More information</p>	<p>There will be consultation with staff and unions.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Sue Twells at Sue.Twells@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF18. School Management & Governor Support

Current Service	This service provides a range of professional support and advice on all aspects of school management and administration, including procedures, legal and technical issues, and implementation of regulations. It has been the intention that schools would pick up this support function in future.				
Budget	£0.039m	Reduction 13/14	£0.039m	Reduction 14/15	£0.039m
Proposed Changes to Service	The service will identify efficiencies and review its charges to deliver the reduction.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>Schools will be consulted about new charges and about service going forward.</p> <p>This proposal does not impact on the number of children and young people receiving children's services.</p> <p>There are some risks around loss of confidence of school leaders and governors and to the quality of advice offered to schools mitigated by modest increases in charges to schools</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	None.				
More information	For further information, please contact Sue Twells at Sue.twells@birmingham.gov.uk				

CYPF19. Admissions & Appeals

Current Service		The admissions and appeals service coordinates the offer of school places for all maintained schools and academies in Birmingham.			
Budget	£4.28m (includes Pupil Connect)	Reduction 13/14	£0.150m	Reduction 14/15	£0.150m
Proposed Changes to Service		<p>The proposal is to become more efficient through a redesign of systems and processes. The intention is to encourage parent/carers to apply online and to access the City Council website for information and therefore become less labour intensive.</p> <p>It is proposed that the information advice and guidance function currently delivered by the service will be taken over by the Customer First service.</p>			
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners		<p>Schools will be engaged in process of service change. Users (parents and students) will be informed of new processes via the City Council website etc.</p> <p>Provision will be made to engage those who do not have access to internet resources.</p>			
What further Policy Decisions are required		An executive decision will be needed to move to Customer First.			
More information		<p>There will be consultation with staff and unions.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Sue Twells at Sue.twells@birmingham.gov.uk</p>			

CYPF20. Education and Skills Infrastructure

<p>Current Service</p>	<p>The service has statutory responsibilities to ensure sufficient local education provision for all young people; to maintain the education asset portfolio to prevent school closures and mitigate health and safety risks; and to ensure full participation by facilitating partnerships to secure appropriate education and training pathways for all learners. It is responsible for meeting carbon reduction targets by supporting suitable and sustainable education spaces, and manages contractual obligations (including PFI contracts).</p>				
<p>Budget</p>	<p>£10.956m</p>	<p>Reduction 13/14</p>	<p>£0.820m</p>	<p>Reduction 14/15</p>	<p>£0.820m</p>
<p>Proposed Changes to Service</p>	<p>The service's functions will be absorbed elsewhere in the Council in order to make the service more efficient and cost effective.</p> <p>This proposal will see the deletion of unfilled posts (£100k), conversion of one post to an apprenticeship, redefinition of some higher posts to lower grades, maximisation of capital grant funding of £500k to fund posts associated with capital projects.</p> <p>Asset Management function will trade and generate £100k in income.</p>				
<p>Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners</p>	<p>BCC internal users of the service will be informed.</p> <p>External users will be informed of arrangements, including trading function of Asset Management.</p> <p>The proposal does not impact on the number of children and young people receiving services.</p>				
<p>What further Policy Decisions are required</p>	<p>The decision to move to another Directorate has already been taken.</p>				
<p>More information</p>	<p>There will be consultation with staff and unions.</p> <p>For further information, please contact Sue Twells at Sue.twells@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF21. Hospital Social Work Team

Current Service	A team of social workers provide a social work service in hospitals across the City. The work is concerned with providing an initial response to expressions of concern and a child protection enquiry and assessment service. The service hub is based at Birmingham Children's Hospital, with one senior social worker allocated to each of the City Hospitals with the exception of QE. They respond to all initial enquiries, child protection investigations and child in need enquiries. The intention is also to offer pre birth assessments in situations where there are concerns for the unborn baby, to provide the social care input in situations where there is an unexpected death of a child and to contribute to regular review of children presenting in Emergency Departments.				
Budget	£0.488m	Reduction 13/14	£0.488m	Reduction 14/15	£0.488m
Proposed Changes to Service	The proposal is to remove this service from hospital settings and deliver it from area based social work services. This proposal is based on two factors 1) this service could be delivered as part of the mainstream social care service operating in all parts of the City and 2) it is proving difficult to retain and secure an appropriately skilled and experienced workforce to deliver a social work service in health settings.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	<p>Health colleagues have expressed strong views about the need to retain the service in its current form. Their concern is that :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the volume of serious cases of child abuse presenting in hospital setting warrant a dedicated service b) the speed of response would be compromised by the volume of work in area settings <p>Responding to child protection enquires is the highest priority for all our services, the speed of response will be determined by need. We will fully consult with our partner agencies and manage any exit strategy with them.</p>				
What further Policy Decisions are required	None				
More information	<p>There will be consultation with staff and unions.</p> <p>For more information, please contact Kay Child at Kay.child@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				

CYPF22. Contact and Escort Service

Current Service		The service supports and delivers contact with parents and families for children in care and provides escorts to enable children to attend.			
Budget	£2.123m	Reduction 13/14	£0.333m	Reduction 14/15	£0.790m
Proposed Changes to Service		Reduction in use of contact is linked to the strategy of reduction in the overall population of children in care over the next 3 years as part of the developments in integration of services for children. The proposal is to reduce reliance on externally provided contact services and make better use of in-house services. It is also necessary to improve practice in order to be able to challenge requests for frequent contact in cases before the courts where the plan is not likely to be a return home.			
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners		There are no implications where levels of contact are reasonable and have been agreed by all parties.			
What further Policy Decisions are required		None.			
More information		For more information, please contact Amanda Lamb at Amanda.lamb@birmingham.gov.uk			

CYPF23. Child Protection Specialist Assessments

Current Service		Currently there are a significant number of assessments commissioned for court. There is a significant commissioning budget. Some of these relate to psychological and learning disability assessments with commissioning the only route.			
Budget	£1.559m	Saving 13/14	£0.500m	Saving 14/15	£0.500m
Proposed Changes to Service		<p>It is proposed that more social work-based specialist assessments would be completed by our established social workers, in particular using skilled and experienced social workers to carry out work currently commissioned, for example in community-based settings.</p> <p>Work is ongoing to improve social work skills through current training programmes, the setting up of new exemplar teams and work through the Family Justice Board and partners to agree critical processes, including an agreed reading list for all professionals engaged in this work and what a “good enough” assessment should cover.</p> <p>The aim is to increase confidence, speed of judgement of decision-making and costs of commissioning</p>			
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners		<p>Approval for commissioning of specialist assessments will be required at assistant director level in order to gate-keep commissioning appropriately.</p> <p>Work will continue with courts and partner agencies such as CAFCASS (Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service) to ensure that Birmingham’s social workers’ assessments are sufficient to enable the court to make a decision without recourse to further expert assessment.</p>			
What further Policy Decisions are required		None.			
More information		For more information, please contact Amanda Lamb at Amanda.lamb@birmingham.gov.uk			

CYPF24. Children's Centres

Current Service	This proposal relates to seeking operating efficiency savings from the 73 children's centres supported by the Council.				
Budget	£26.400m	Reduction 13/14	£3.000m	Reduction 14/15	£3.000m
Proposed Changes to Service	£2m of the proposed saving will be achieved by reducing central budgets for non-core elements of provision. The remaining £1m will be achieved by a percentage budget reduction to centres applied with due regard to deprivation levels of the areas they serve.				
Managing the implications of change for Service Users and Partners	There will be a reduction in some of the universal services delivered by the centres, but mitigation will be sought by working with partners and joint commissioning of services with health partners. Priority will continue to be given to the most deprived under 5s in the city.				
What further Policy Decisions are required	None				
More information	<p>There will be a series of consultation events held across the city. The details for these will be publicised via the Council's website.</p> <p>For further information, please contact: Karen.S.Pearson@birmingham.gov.uk</p>				