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**OVERVIEW OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

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1. Since the last ordinary meeting of Council, the following are the main areas of work that have been undertaken by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee:-
  - (a) **Performance Report 3rd Quarter 2009/10** – We continue to scrutinise and monitor the four service plans for which this Committee is responsible including those elements of the Sustainable Community Strategy ‘One Darlington : Perfectly Placed’ and the Local Area Agreement for which this Scrutiny have responsibility. For the four service plans ie. Children and Families, Partnerships, Planning and Resources and School Improvement and Development, the overall aggregated target was being achieved with the Partnership plan showing above target performance. Using latest data there are 150 indicators in the four service plans and of these 43 are above target, 69 on target and 38 are showing below target performance.
  - (b) **‘Choices’ Film and Presentation on E-Safeguarding** – As a result of continuing work by this Scrutiny Committee into internet safety advice being provided to all children and young people within Darlington we received an update on recent developments regarding E-Safeguarding and watched a film, which has been produced by Darlington Borough Council in partnership with Humantics, the Community Interest Group, the Youth Service and schools within the Borough which aims to address young persons safety with internet usage. Members agreed that the film was excellent and provided a powerful tool to advise young persons keeping safety when using the internet. It is intended that a dvd of the film will be distributed to all schools which includes a teaching pack and also plans are in place to market the dvd to other authorities.
  - (c) **Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Framework for all Children and Young People in Darlington** – We gave our support to further development of the Emotional and Wellbeing and Mental Health Framework for all children and young people in Darlington first launched in September, 2009. Following the launch event and feedback from the consultation workshops thereat the Strategy Group developed an action plan which outlines key areas for further development of awareness and understanding of emotional wellbeing and mental health, developing a child friendly version of the framework and to continue to collection information and data on the work being undertaken across all agencies to support emotional wellbeing and mental health.
  - (d) **Darlington ESOL Action Plan** – We approved the Darlington ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Action Plan which local authorities have been asked to lead on to ensure that English language provision for adults meets local needs, is fundable and is delivered through a partnership arrangement. The action plan identifies priority groups in Darlington and provides key objectives to improve the outcomes for English language provision.

The Members of the Task and Finish Review Group which have been looking at language provision also welcomed the action plan and have agreed that no further work is required by the Group into adult learning provision but will closely follow the action plan with interest.

- (e) **The New Ofsted Framework for School Inspections** – Members received an update on the Ofsted Framework for school inspections which came into force on 1st September, 2009 and included some of the changes to the Ofsted inspections of schools within the borough.
- (f) **Annual Report of Scrutiny** – We considered and approved the draft Annual Report highlighting the work undertaken by this Scrutiny Committee for the Municipal Year 2009/10 and forwarded to Council.
- (g) **Draft Work Programme 2010/11** – The Committee considered the draft Work Programme for the Municipal Year 2010/11, and examined Cabinet’s Forward Plan, in order to identify areas of particular interest or concern and have included various reports for future meetings. We also gave consideration to topics/subjects that we may wish to review/scrutinise during the Municipal Year 2010/2011.

**Councillor Eleanor Lister**  
**Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**