

AREA BASED GRANT

Summary Key Issues:

Members are requested to confirm the requirement that current allocations via the Area Board Grant be confirmed to support LAA and Every Child Matters priorities.

Background:

The Area Based Grant (ABG) brought together from April 2008, a range of funding that had previously been delegated to councils as specific (ring-fenced) grants.

The total allocation of ABG for Oxfordshire in 2008/09 is £26,100,000 of which £12,445,000 supports Children and Young People's services.

Annex 1 details the components of the Children and Young People element of the Area Board Grant. It is important to note that while all this revenue has been brought together in one pot, it is fully committed to service delivery.

The Public Service Board agreed to passport all revenue to the previous recipients of the component grants for one year – 2008/09. There is, however, flexibility to redistribute elements of the funding in future years.

All thematic partnerships (including the Children's Trust Board) are required by the Public Service Board to review the APG resources and make proposals for how these should be allocated in 2009/10. In particular they are required to demonstrate that resources are allocated to support LAA2 priorities.

The Public Service Board then requires each partnership to provide proposals for funding LAA and key local targets for its November 2008 meeting.

Funding Priorities:

It is apparent that all 'elements' of the Children's Trust APG allocation are assisting in the delivery of the wide range of LAA2 targets and Children and Young People's Plan priorities. Thus, for example all the previous Standards Fund allocations contribute to the

key priority of raising attainment, the Connexions funding is fully committed to resourcing a statutory local authority duty and the Teenage Pregnancy element funds activity to support an underperforming priority in both LAA1 and LAA2.

While the Children's Trust Board may wish, in future years, to refocus elements of this expenditure to support emerging priorities, it is recommended that all existing arrangements be endorsed for 2009/10 and that this should be reported to the Public Service Board.

Name: **Mike Simm**

Position: **Head of Commissioning, Performance and Quality Assurance.**
Oxfordshire County Council

Contact: mike.simm@oxfordshire.gov.uk