

**CHILDREN AND LEARNING SCRUTINY PANEL  
MIDDLESBROUGH YOUTH SERVICE AND CONNEXIONS – ACTION PLAN**

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	BY WHOM	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
1. That work is continued to ensure that the Connexions service is fully integrated into Middlesbrough Council to ensure that it operates at maximum efficiency and effectiveness.	Since Connexions desegregation in 2007 the Service has been gradually integrated into Middlesbrough Council. This includes all major systems and staff terms and conditions. The next significant stage is the restructuring of young people’s services within CFL and a report has been compiled which sets out a timescale for this integration.	Bill Robinson - Assistant Director Performance & Young People's Services.	Mainstream budget	Report implemented/ integration complete - March 2010
2. That Connexions explores the developments of links with targeted sectors of local employers (for example the petro-chemical industry, local information and communication technology (ICT) providers), to assist in identifying training/employment opportunities for young people	The Connexions service is working closely with partners including the National Apprenticeship Service via National Apprenticeship Vacancy Matching Service to identify suitable opportunities for local young people to access the labour market. Connexions Service is working closely with colleagues in economic development to develop systems for identifying opportunities for local young people in the labour market. Connexions is	John Keelty – Connexions Service Manager	Mainstream budget	LMI report – end of June 2009.  Work with partners – ongoing.

	working closely with partner agencies to obtain labour market information to cascade to staff and local partners including schools/colleges.			
3. That work is undertaken by the Youth Service to improve contact rates and move towards achieving targets in this area. This should include continued work with disadvantaged groups as well as promoting the service across the whole of Middlesbrough.	The final quarter report was not included in the figures submitted to scrutiny because of timescales. All contact and recorded outcomes and accreditation figures were reached and surpassed (see attached doc) Strategies are in place to improve participation figures for 09/10.	Lynne Coppinger Operations Manager	Mainstream budget costs.	March 2009
4. That work is undertaken in respect of areas which currently have little or no youth service provision - such as Nunthorpe, Linthorpe and Marton - to examine how young people in these areas can be encouraged to access services. This could include, for example, use of the Outreach Team in such areas and a detailed examination of whether facilities could be provided at non-youth centre locations, such as community centres or schools, through initiatives such as the Youth Opportunities Fund or Extended Schools.	The Outreach team have done some reconnaissance in the areas mentioned. Nunthorpe is predominately Redcar and Cleveland's responsibility. However these areas will be researched when prioritising provision.			

<p>5. That the extensive work which has resulted in the Council achieving reductions in excess of its target for young people who are not in education, employment or training ('NEET') is welcomed and that work is continued in this area to ensure that the latest, more stringent, targets are also met. The Children and Learning Scrutiny Panel should be kept appraised of developments.</p>	<p>The Children's Trust has recently agreed a refreshed NEET Reduction strategy for 2008 to 2011. The Connexions Service is a key partner in this strategy. All partners have agreed that the strategy will be reviewed on a bi-annual basis. These monitoring updates will be made available to the scrutiny panel upon request.</p>	<p>John Keelty – Connexions Service Manager</p>	<p>Mainstream budget.</p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> Monitoring report – End of June 09.</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> Monitoring Report – End of December 09.</p> <p>Bi-annual cycle there in.</p>
<p>6. That, with regard to <i>myplace</i>:</p> <p>a) Steps should be taken to ensure that the project is financially sustainable in the longer term - such as by ensuring that provision is made for mainstream budget funding, that income generation schemes are viable and that all external funding avenues are explored.</p> <p>b) The issue of transport links should be fully addressed to ensure that the service is accessible to all young people. This should include links with developments such as the Boho project and</p>	<p>A 5 year business plan is currently being developed. The plan will be submitted to the Big Lottery in August 2009. Part of the plan includes a financial forecast for the next 5 years with particular emphasis on income generation to promote sustainability.</p> <p>Transport officers are involved in the development of the myplace project. A young persons community transport initiative is currently being developed.</p>	<p>Wendy Kelly</p>		<p>August 2009.</p> <p>Summer 2011.</p>

Middlesbrough College and ensuring that transport is available to/from all areas of Middlesbrough at all times when <i>myplace</i> is open.				
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