

## Quarter 4 Performance Report (1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2010 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010)

### Local Area Agreement 2008-2011

**LAA Priority:** Inspiring Young People (LAA30)

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**RAG Status:** **Amber**

**RED** = fundamental blockage to progress with milestones and/or achievement of target  
**AMBER** = positive movement but with risks to achievement of milestones and/or target (so cannot say with confidence that priority would be achieved)  
**GREEN** = on track to achieve target and Milestones

#### Delivery Board Recommendations:

##### Delivery Board are asked to:

- Note the links between health inequalities, the duties and purpose of the Child Poverty Act and the Narrowing the Gap theme of this strand of the LAA.
- Support the development of a more coherent strategy across the DSP to address the causes and effects of child poverty (as previously discussed) as the development of the LAA

#### Quarter 4 Summary Statement:

Fundamental building blocks are being put into place to raise the achievement of the lowest 20% so that the gap between these children and young people and the rest is narrowed. This is through a variety of long term transformational projects including:

**Stepping Stones** (to develop the continuum of provision to meet a continuum of need for all children and young people by:

- Improving the range of support in mainstream schools.
- Extending the range of specialist facilities available across Devon for children with more complex needs.
- Developing Devon's Special Schools to ensure that all children and young people can have their needs met within Devon.
- Developing provision that will facilitate the coordination of integrated multi agency teams.
- Developing common working practices across all services to children and young people including those processes involving assessment of need

**Integrated Children's Services** to get joined up services based on the needs of children and young people

- Using a common method of assessment
- Sharing information amongst services
- Working with families on solutions
- Having one lead professional working with a family
- Having a team around the child established to ensure coherence, efficiency and effectiveness

**Building Schools for the Future and the Capital Change programme** to rebuild or refurbish schools to make them fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century

**14 – 19 Partnerships** to make sure there is appropriate education and training provision in place for all 14 – 19 year olds

plus other major programmes such as the roll out of children's centres across the county.

Challenges have included:

- improving placement stability – Southwark judgement and Baby Peter case have increased pressures and reduced options
- increasing the numbers of young people in employment, education or training – approaches have been successful but now it is older young people (18+) who are more likely to be without occupation
- swine flu and severe weather have affected attendance at school

**End of year 2 review:**

**Achievements:**

- Agreement across partners on the direction and delivery of Stepping Stones with 13 different projects
- Success in joining the Building Schools for the Future Programme with a pathfinder in Bideford and five more new school buildings planned for Marland (residential provision for those with emotional and behavioural difficulties); and Dartmouth, Ilfracombe, Tiverton and Chumleigh secondary schools to transform teaching and learning for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century . This is a great opportunity to raise the aspirations and achievement locally as has been achieved in Exeter but to take it further
- Ofsted judged as good the services for children in care in Devon

**Outcomes for local people:**

- Stepping Stones has already led to children who would have been placed in schools outside the county being placed nearer home
- The Building Schools for the Future programme is being developed with local people in order to ensure that the new schools are a real hub for the community and designed to be environmentally sustainable and low carbon emissions

**Value for money:**

- Placements for children with complex needs from out of county are normally very expensive and savings have been made without reducing the quality of provision
- Old buildings will be replaced by buildings that are more efficient to maintain and which are fit for purpose
- By investing in early intervention issues are prevented from escalating and thus provide better outcomes for the families at less cost in the long term