



<b>Title of paper:</b>	<b><i>Coalition Government: Impact on partnership development for improving outcomes for children and young people.</i></b>	
<b>Report to:</b>	Nottingham Children's Partnership Board	
<b>Date:</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2010	
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<b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Claire Richmond: Head of Corporate Policy</li> <li>2. Liz Jones: A / Head of Partnership Policy</li> <li>3. Departmental Leadership Team (Directors and Heads of Service) Children and Families.</li> <li>4. Chief Superintendent Helen Jebb, Communities &amp; Partnership Development, Nottinghamshire Police</li> <li>5. Andrew Hall, Director of Partnerships and Health Improvement.</li> <li>6. Theme Partnership responses via Penny Wakefield, Director of Partnerships</li> </ol>	

**Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) Strategic Objective(s) :**

1. <b>Safeguarding and Early Intervention</b> - Children, young people and families will benefit from early and effective support and protection to empower them to overcome difficulties	✓
2. <b>Strong families</b> - More families will be strong and healthy, providing an enjoyable and safe place for children to grow up	✓
3. <b>Healthy and positive children and young people</b> - Children and young people will be healthier, fitter, more emotionally resilient and better able to make mature decisions	✓
4. <b>Achievement</b> - All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning	✓
5. <b>Economic well-being</b> - Child poverty will be significantly reduced	✓

**Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):**

This paper draws on the formal Coalition Agreement, the announcements of in-year expenditure cuts, the emergency budget and the Queen's Speech setting out legislation for the next year and more specific policy announcements.

In summary, the resulting key issues for the Children's Partnership are:

Issue: The statutory nature of the Children's Partnership and the CYPP may diminish, resulting in erosion of partnership over time.

**Action: The CPB to consider whether it wishes to continue in its current form in such an event, and agree options on moving forwards.**

Issue: Changes to schools that may choose to move out of maintained sector, to the NHS in pushing our resources to frontline GP's, and further empowerment locally to commission may result in a need to review the membership, determine how to secure engagement and influence around the CYPP priorities and ensure that specific vulnerable communities are supported.

**Action: The CPB to note potential for changing governance arrangements and the potential impact on commissioning for vulnerable groups identified within the CYPP.**

Issue: Partners own review of their resources may result in inconsistent approach to prioritisation around the issues in the CYPP. Support for collaborative working through commissioning for the "Total Place" is a potential approach which could encourage collaboration and pooled funding within the Partnership.

**Action: CPB to request that the Senior Officers Group agrees resource allocation aligned to priorities within the CYPP through the named Accountable Officers for each priority.**

Issue: A new approach to helping families with multiple problems is a stated objective of the Coalition which presents opportunities for the CPB to lobby Government to promote our areas of expertise to influence policy and funding proposals.

**Action: CPB to lobby Government to use the learning from Early Intervention and emerging Total Place work on complex families to influence policy and funding priorities.**

Issue: Currently, information from some parts of the Partnership is not available. For example information relating to how Health and Police changes will affect the CYPP and the agenda of the CPB is not available in detail, only at a high level. Further information on Health is expected during July.

**Action: The CPB requests that this document is updated following major policy and budget changes**

The CYPP has a clear set of priorities agreed by the CPB in May 2010. The appendix contains an impact assessment against each of the CYPP priorities.

## Recommendations

That the Partnership Board :

- Considers the impacts of the change in Government on their work programme, identifies any additional actions and supports those actions identified in the summary.
- Requests further work to identify the risks and possible measures to mitigate these in the implementation of the CYPP.
- Endorses the proposal to lobby Government to use the learning from the early intervention pilot in emerging policy and funding proposals.

## 1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

- 1.1 Since the Coalition Government was formed on the 11<sup>th</sup> May, there have been a number of significant announcements. Ministerial appointments were followed by publication of the Coalition Agreement setting out a range of policies, the announcement of significant in-year spending cuts, the Queen's Speech and most recently - the Emergency Budget. It is clear we are now at the start of a massive process of change in the way services are configured and paid for. This report provides an assessment of the impact of the changes on the objectives and priorities in the new CYPP suggests some broad themes for the Board to consider and proposes further work to keep abreast of the rapidly changing political and financial environment.

### First Public Spending Announcement - May 2010

- 2.1 The Government announced that a key priority would be "a significant acceleration" of plans to reduce the budget deficit, and that the emphasis would be on spending cuts rather than tax increases.
- 2.2 On 24<sup>th</sup> May the Government announced £6.2bn savings for this financial year. Approximately 20% of these savings are to be funded 'in 2010-11 through reductions to individual grants to Local Authorities'. Nationally, cuts to local government will come mainly from the Department for Education (£311m), Department for Transport (£309m) and CLG (£537m in total).
- 2.3 Nottingham City Council will be required to save close to £10m in-year comprising £4.535m from specific grants and £2.72 transport capital. LAA Reward Funding of £2.6m has also been withdrawn. The breakdown of specific grants is as follows.

<b>Grant</b>	<b>£m</b>
Dept. for Education Total (ABG)	2.778
Supporting People Admin (ABG)	0.218
Working Neighbourhood Fund (ABG)	1.217
Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (ABG)	-
Prevent (ABG)	0.066
Cohesion (ABG)	0.018
Road Safety Revenue (ABG)	0.185
Dept. for Transport Kickstart 2009 (specific grant)	-
Home Office Total (ABG)	0.054
<b>Total reductions</b>	<b>4.535</b>

- 2.4 The Government have pledged to reduce ring-fencing of local government grants, but announcements made to date are in areas where Nottingham City Council already has flexibility. The Area Based Grant savings will particularly affect targeted work with vulnerable children and young people.
- 2.5 The Government has announced that it will re-examine all spending approvals made since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 and all pilot schemes, to ensure they are consistent with the priorities of the new Government. Only those judged to represent value for money may go ahead. This may include ending any pilot schemes that would be too costly to implement. The proposed Universal Free School Meals Pilot and Childcare Pilot have already been cancelled.

## Forthcoming Legislation

- 2.6 The Queen's Speech on 25<sup>th</sup> May set out in more detail the legislative programme of the elected Government. The main Bills of particular interest to the Children's Partnership are listed below and, unless stated otherwise, are expected to be introduced in the autumn.
1. **Academies Bill** – This Bill has already been introduced to Parliament. It aims to enable more schools to become Academies, and removes the requirement to consult local authorities before opening an Academy.
  2. **Decentralisation and Localism Bill** – This aims to devolve greater powers to councils and neighbourhoods including giving residents the power to instigate referendums and veto council tax increases, and giving local communities greater control over housing and planning decisions.
  3. **Public Bodies (Reform) Bill** - This aims to reduce the number and cost of public bodies (quangos), and give ministers the powers to abolish, merge or transfer quangos back into Departments.
  4. **Welfare Reform Bill** – This aims to simplify the benefits system.
  5. **Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill** – This aims to introduce directly elected individuals to hold the police to account, strengthen the licensing powers of the police and local authorities to tackle alcohol problems, and focus on serious violent crime.
  6. **Education and Children's Bill** – This aims to ensure that money follows pupils, with a 'pupil premium' for more money to follow the poorest pupils. The Bill also aims to give teachers greater freedom over the curriculum and allow new providers to run state schools.
  7. **Health Bill** – This would establish an independent NHS Board to allocate resources and provide commissioning guidance.

## The Emergency Budget 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2010

- 2.9 The budget headlines are set out in Appendix 2.
- 2.10 The real pain for children's services will be contained in the autumn spending review. Departmental cuts of 25 per cent for non ring-fenced departments signal a dramatic statement of intent. The immediately obvious impact of the Budget, however, is on benefits and welfare spending. Some of the measures announced impact directly on children's services: in particular the announcement that the government will restrict eligibility to the Sure Start Maternity Grant, abolish the Health in Pregnancy Grant from January 2011 and freeze Child Benefit.
- 2.11 This raises concern about the impact that this will have on children, in particular the poorest, at the most vital stage of their development. The Government has assured, however, that Child Tax Credit will be better targeted on low-income families to ensure a minimal impact on child poverty in the next two years. There will also be concern however; that the capacity of council's to step in and provide effective support to families that are struggling will be compromised by the significant reduction in departmental budgets, the Council Tax freeze and the abolition of the ring-fence on services for the most vulnerable.



## Issues for Consideration

- 2.12 **Future Partnership development:** The Government has been silent on the future of statutory partnership arrangements. However, in the run up to the General Election, the Secretary of State for Education did question the statutory role of Children's Trusts and CYPPs. It is possible that arrangements for inter agency working could become non-statutory at some stage in the life of the Coalition Government.
- 2.13 **Governance and Commissioning Arrangements:** The legislative and funding changes may require the Partnership to re-think its governance arrangements. The conversion of existing schools to Academies and the establishment of free schools will inevitably raise issues about the role of the School's Forum, the School's Admissions Forum and the LEA's role in pupil planning, dealing with poor attendance and excluded pupils. There are some concerns that robust safeguarding with its reliance in close inter agency working, may be jeopardised in a more autonomous school environment. However, the pupil premium foreshadowed in the Education and Children's Bill, could be a significant help in providing school based support to pupils with additional needs.

Similarly the commitment in the NHS to push resources to the front line through GP commissioning consortia may require the Partnership to re-think the basis on which joint commissioning to deliver the objectives in the CYPP can proceed. The Partnership though would be able to provide GPs with the strategic framework and thorough needs analysis that are essential for effective world class commissioning.

The Coalition Government favours moves to empower local communities and VCS groups to commission local facilities and services. In very disadvantaged communities, where the skills and wherewithal may be lacking, the Partnership may need to develop a support role.

- 2.14 **Funding Issues:** The recently adopted Children and Young People's Plan does not include specific resource commitments to implement it. The overriding risk to the Partnership achieving its priorities will arise from the withdrawal of Government grants and the downsizing of public services. National analysis has demonstrated that the re-trenchment of public services on the scale envisaged affects cities with high levels of deprivation more than wealthier communities and that closing the gap will be extremely challenging if the economic downturn is severe and prolonged. However, the removal of ring-fencing from areas of local public expenditure may give partners greater opportunities to collaborate and pool funding to meet CYPP objectives. The Partnership's commitment to eliminate duplication and increase VfM through Total Place and other approaches will assist in strengthening our response to these challenges.
- 2.15 **One Nottingham:** Partnership work is essential to make progress on the CYPP but in many instances it will be necessary to work across partnership boundaries and to link up with the other One Nottingham theme partnerships. Dialogue with the other partnerships may identify common ground for mitigating risks or proposing alternative solutions in the face of severe funding pressures.
- 2.16 **Lobbying possibilities:** The new environment also presents opportunities to actively promote areas of expertise that chime with the Coalition Government. Analysis by Nottingham City Council has included a major theme of partnership activity - **Early intervention and 100 priority families work**. The City Council has recently been awarded £186k for our Total Place project for high cost families. The Coalition Agreement states that Sure Start will be refocused on early intervention and "a new approach to helping families with multiple problems". Iain Duncan-Smith, the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, has previously shown a strong interest in early intervention programmes and has worked closely with Graham Allen MP.

- 2.17 Partnership Policy can support the promotion of this by identifying key contacts and arranging briefings as required. The team leading on this area is already promoting its work and are supportive of these proposals, but the Partnership Board will need to consider what additional resources may be required or could be achieved within existing capacity.
- 2.18 **CYPP Impact Assessment:** Appendix A tabulates the estimated impact of Government announcements on the strategic and operational objectives set out in the recently approved CYPP.

### 3. **IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES**

Neutral at this stage. But specific proposals may affect vulnerable children and young people disproportionately and reports to the Board would benefit from equalities screening reports and impact assessments as specific proposals are considered.

### 4. **OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED**

All priorities targets and the objectives set in the Children and Young People's Plan will be affected by budget constraints and new policy directions. The next milestone will be the autumn expenditure review (20<sup>th</sup> October).

### 5. **CONTACT DETAILS**

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## CYPP Impact Assessment General Points

- 1) **Academisation impacts:** The increase in the number of Academies will increase the importance of the Partnership and change the nature of its role. It will become more important to ensure that the CYPP is reflected in all plans and that Academies are fully represented on the Partnership Board. Free schools are also a new element in the education provider firmament.
- 2) **Schools' finances:** There will be an impact through the reduction of certain grants for example IT based grants and budget pressures.
- 3) **Influencing role:** The Local Authority will have a fundamentally different role to play, being focused on strategic influence.
- 4) **Traded services:** a number of functions, including centralised HR and payroll for example are traded services which on academisation may have reduced demand. All traded services will need to assess demand and understand fully their break even points. There is a benefit that traded services may need to align better to meet the needs of schools.
- 5) **GP Representation:** GP consortia will have a more prominent role in commissioning health services for their practice areas and will need to be effectively represented on the Board.
- 6) **Police Impact:** The Government focus on licensing and alcohol is welcome but the effect of the major cutback in resources will be substantial – the definition of frontline (as in protecting frontline resources) is unclear.
- 7) **VCS Impact:** The Voluntary and Community sector have a key role in the 'Big Society' but the focus is on individuals and volunteering; capacity of the 'Government funded' VCS activity will, as in other sectors, be reduced by the progressive reduction in grant funded programmes.
- 8) **Sector led improvement from agencies** such as Training and Development Agency, Qualifications Development Agency, NCSL and Children's Workforce Development Council have been subjected to cutbacks which reduces the capacity to provide for sector led workforce development.
- 9) **Engagement** will be more important to undertake rigorously as part of the locality focus.
- 10) **There is absence of comment on partnerships** – the Partnership will need to demonstrate the local commitment to partnership and the agreed principles.
- 11) **Place Based Area Budgets (formerly known as Total Place):** Although there is no Government commitment to this approach, there is vigorous lobbying taking place (from the Local Government Association etc) to import the key principles into Local Based Area Budgets.

Many aspects not clear until CSR is announced in October.

## 2010-11 Announced Budget Savings

### Department for Education - £670M

#### Headlines

1. The department spokesman confirmed that reducing bureaucracy in 14 to 19 curriculum and qualifications, by scaling back activities such as marketing, would save a further £60m.
2. Up to £40m will be saved by cutting red tape on the City Challenge scheme to raise attainment in schools and the administrative functions associated with Education Maintenance Allowances (EMA).
3. The Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA), budget will be cut by £20m, £13m of which come from getting rid of a development fund, the remainder of which is a surplus of cash that is yet to be allocated to schools and colleges.
4. The department confirmed that the YPLA would be left with a contingency budget despite the cuts.
5. More savings will be achieved by ending the centralised monitoring and evaluation of initiatives such as one-to-one tuition.

#### In addition:

The Government has announced that it will re-examine all spending approvals made since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010 and all pilot schemes, to ensure they are consistent with the priorities of the new Government. Only those judged to represent value for money may go ahead. This may include ending any pilot schemes that would be too costly to implement. The Government has since withdrawn the Free Schools Meals Pilot and the assisted nursery places pilot.



## The Children and Young People's Plan 2010 – 2014: Coalition Government Impact Assessment

CA = Coalition Agreement (red) QS = Queen's Speech legislative proposal (green) P = policy initiatives (blue)

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>1. Safeguarding and Early Intervention</b> Children, young people and families will benefit from early and effective support and protection to empower them to overcome difficulties.</p>	<p><b>(1) Stronger safeguarding</b> Improving safeguarding across all agencies, to keep children and young people safe from physical, emotional and sexual abuse, neglect, and accidental injury.</p>	<p>CA1: Publish serious case reviews, with identifying details removed.</p> <p>CA2: Review the criminal records and vetting and barring regime and scale it back to 'common sense' levels.</p> <p>P1: <u>Safeguarding Review</u>: Prof Eileen Munro, from the London School of Economics, will examine ways of cutting bureaucracy to give social workers more time with children. She will also consider ways of improving links between social workers and other agencies like the police.</p>	<p>Danger here is of tabloid fuelled witch hunts which would damage the reputation and self esteem of child protection services. Partnership (and the actions of individual partners) will be under much greater scrutiny. Staff referred to in SCRs may need a high level of support following this type of exposure.</p> <p>Existing scheme is supposed to be proportionate, balanced and effective – hard to gauge what difference this Coalition commitment will make.</p> <p>The recommendations (expected in the autumn) could require a complete overhaul of statutory returns and social workers social care data reporting.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
	<p><b>(1) Stronger safeguarding (con.)</b> - Improving safeguarding across all agencies, to keep children and young people safe from physical, emotional and sexual abuse, neglect, and accidental injury.</p>	<p>Academisation (see below)</p>	<p>Experience suggests it is more difficult to affect changes in non-maintained schools and to steer the safeguarding agenda – new approaches may be needed to assure safeguarding in Academies – some of which may consider buying in their own service.</p>
	<p><b>(2) Shifting resources to early intervention and prevention</b> – Achieving a growing shift of mainstream resources towards early intervention and prevention to ensure that families in challenging circumstances are identified early.</p>	<p>CA3: Investigate a new approach to helping families with multiple problems.</p>	<p>Still no agreed Government definition of early intervention but seems to be supporting the learning from Family Intervention Projects (FIPs).</p>
	<p><b>(3) Reducing infant mortality</b></p>		

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>2. Strong families</b> More families will be strong and healthy, providing an enjoyable and safe place for children to grow up.</p>	<p><b>(4) Improving parenting support -</b> Improving support for parents and carers, particularly younger.</p>	<p>CA4: Continue support for provision of free nursery care for pre-school children / diverse range of providers / improve gender balance in the early year's workforce.</p> <p>CA5: Take Sure Start back to its 'original purpose' of early intervention, increase its focus on the neediest families, better involve organisations with a track record of supporting families; and investigate ways of ensuring that providers are paid in part by the results they achieve.</p> <p>CA6: Refocus funding from Sure Start peripatetic outreach services, and from the Department of Health budget, to pay for 4,200 extra Sure Start health visitors.</p>	<p>Sounds positive – but the devil is in the detail. Universal entitlement to 15 hour's childcare for all 3 and 4 year olds comes into effect in Sept. 2010 and is not under challenge at present. In addition, the City benefits from a targeted programme to provide 15 hours free childcare a week for 2 year olds (£600K in 2009-10) under a Pilot scheme. No info on this just yet.</p> <p>Sure Start funding is guaranteed but the coalition want a shift to targeted service provision just as Nottingham is completing its universal offer through 18 Children's Centres. The withdrawal of outreach services seems to conflict with the enthusiasm for targeted provision as it is the hardest to reach families that will be hit.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>2. Strong families (con.)</b> More families will be strong and healthy, providing an enjoyable and safe place for children to grow up</p>	<p><b>(4) Improving parenting support (con.)</b> - Improving support for parents and carers, particularly younger</p>	<p>CA7: Encourage shared parenting from the earliest stages of pregnancy – including the promotion of a system of flexible parental leave.</p> <p>CA8: Put funding for relationship support on a stable, long-term footing, and make sure that couples are given greater encouragement to use existing relationship support.</p> <p>CA9: Conduct a comprehensive review of family law in order to increase the use of mediation when couples do break up, and to look at how best to provide greater access rights to non-resident parents and grandparents.</p> <p>CA 10: End the detention of children for immigration purposes.</p>	<p>Positive for family development and recognising the role of fathers. Organisations with flexible working arrangements should not find this a problem – however, smaller service providers may be less well placed to provide a flexible approach.</p> <p>CA8 and CA9 are seeking less confrontational solutions when relationships are in trouble. This may strengthen the role of the extended family in providing care. To the extent that couples may be helped to resolve difficulties and stay together, this may have a positive impact on the number of children in care.</p> <p>This will be occurring where applications for refugee status by asylum-seekers have been rejected and the whole family is detained pending extradition. Numbers in Nottingham would be small – there may be a question of temporary care while the future of the family is resolved.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>2. Strong families (con.)</b>                      More families will be strong and healthy, providing an enjoyable and safe place for children to grow up.</p>	<p><b>5) Supporting children with learning difficulties and disabilities</b> – Providing better coordinated care for children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, emotional and behavioural difficulties.</p>	<p>CA11: The belief that the most vulnerable children deserve the very highest quality of care, improve diagnostic assessment for school children, prevent the unnecessary closure of special schools, and remove the bias towards inclusion.</p> <p>The Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA), budget will be cut by £20m, £13m of which will come from getting rid of a development fund, which has been used to support learners with learning difficulties and disabilities.</p>	<p>We have developed our special schools – impact low</p> <p>Uncertain impact. The City Council's current provision of special schools has been consolidated through BSF and is unlikely to change.</p> <p>Increased pressure on the budget for post 16 learners with learning difficulties / disabilities that is due to transfer from YPLA to Local Authorities in 2012.</p>
<p><b>(6) Improving corporate parenting</b>                      – Improving the quality of life and outcomes for children living in care and preparing for independent living.</p>			



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<p><b>3. Healthy and positive children and young people -</b> Children and young people will be healthier, fitter, more emotionally resilient and better able to make mature decisions.</p>	<p><b>(7) Promoting healthy living -</b> Tackling childhood obesity, improving diets, improving oral health, cutting smoking rates</p>	<p>CA12: Crack down on irresponsible advertising and marketing, especially to children. CA13: Take steps to tackle the commercialisation and sexualisation of childhood. CA14: Introduce a new dentistry contract that will focus on achieving good dental health and increasing access to NHS dentistry, with an additional focus on the oral health of school children. Free School Meals Pilot - £3m government has been withdrawn</p>	<p>Lifestyle implications – could have a positive impact but the Government will need the compliance or acceptance from the formidable Food and Drinks industrial lobby to be effective.  The focus on oral health re-enforces the <i>City Smiles</i> campaign, strengthens the role of school nurses and school engagement with this issue.  Nottingham responsible for match funding and a multi-agency package was being put together - this will not now proceed.</p>
<p><b>(8) Reducing teenage conceptions</b> – Reducing the rate of teenage conceptions.</p> <p><b>(9) Reducing substance misuse</b> – Reducing substance misuse and its impact on children and young people.</p>	<p>CA15: Allow councils and the police to shut down permanently any shop or bar found to be persistently selling alcohol to children.</p>		<p>Positive – though may only have a marginal impact on sources for under-age drinking.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>3. Healthy and positive children and young people (con.) -</b> Children and young people will be healthier, fitter, more emotionally resilient and better able to make mature decisions.</p>	<p><b>10) Strengthening positive behaviour -</b> Divert children and young people from anti-social and offending behaviour (including homophobic and other forms of bullying) and promote socially responsible behaviour.</p>	<p>CA16: Help schools tackle bullying in schools, especially homophobic bullying.</p> <p>CA17: Give heads and teachers the powers they need to ensure discipline in the classroom and promote good behaviour.</p> <p>CA18: Give anonymity to teachers accused by pupils and take other measures to protect against false accusations.</p>	<p>More guidance on its way. Recognition of homophobic bullying (explicitly mentioned in the new CYPP) may help this issue to be exposed and dealt with in schools.</p> <p>This could have a positive impact on attainment (but a negative one on attendance). There is a risk that temporary and permanent exclusions may rise and increase demands for PRU places and alternative learning. However, this may be contained if schools bear the cost for excluded places.</p>
<p><b>4. - Achievement</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning</p>	<p><b>11) Engaging learners better -</b> Improving school attendance and improving engagement and progression from age16 in education, employment and training.</p>	<p>Academisation (see below)</p>	<p>Current experience suggests that reporting of non-attendance may have a lower priority at Academies. Accurate up to date reporting provides the basis for effective intervention. Children missing from school and not reported may also pose a safeguarding risk.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>4. Achievement (con)</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning</p>	<p><b>(12) Improving attainment-</b> Improving educational attainment and skills.</p>	<p>QS1 The Academies Bill – to accelerate academies</p> <p><b>Proposals include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow maintained schools to apply to become Academies and power for the Secretary of State to issue an Academy order requiring the Local Authority to cease to maintain the school.</li> <li>• Remove the requirement to consult the Local Authority before opening an Academy, thus simplifying and accelerating the process.</li> <li>• Require the consent of any existing (mainly church) foundations before a school applies to become an Academy.</li> <li>• Deem Academy trusts to be exempt charities.</li> <li>• Provide for secondary, primary and special schools to become Academies.</li> <li>• Ensure there is no change of religious character in the conversion process (such changes can be made through separate existing provisions).</li> </ul>	<p>Priority Bill (Summer 2010)</p> <p>This could have direct funding implications.</p> <p>As schools become Academies the LA loses that share of the budget held back for central services. If sufficient schools opt out this will create a critical position where a number of services may become unviable. It will certainly be necessary to totally rethink the whole basis on which we trade services to both maintained and non-maintained schools. This loss of funding will directly impact on the Council's ability to address any of the CYP priorities other than through strategic influence.</p> <p>Academies are not subject to LA monitoring, challenge and intervention – this means that we can only impact on achievement through influence and not direct action. This inevitably will lessen our impact.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>4. Achievement (con)</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning</p>	<p><b>(12) Improving attainment-</b> Improving educational attainment and skills.</p>		<p>Currently, there are 15 schools in Nottingham with 'outstanding' Ofsted inspection results (11 primary, 2 secondary and 2 special schools).</p> <p>The Government has offered all outstanding schools a 'fast-track' to Academy status by September 2010. If all were to take this option, the budget currently retained centrally would go directly to the new Academies. Budget loss to the Education Authority is estimated at: £249K (2010/11). With less certainty, depending on changes to funding arrangements, the loss to the Education Authority could be £428k (2011-12) but as high as £4.3m.</p> <p>One potential stimulus to speed through primary school academisation would be 3-19 through – put on education. Currently the Nottingham Academy is pursuing this model but others may follow.</p> <p>The impact initially would be on services provided directly for schools</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
<p><b>4. Achievement (con)</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning</p>	<p><b>(12) Improving attainment-</b> Improving educational attainment and skills.</p>	<p>QS2 The Education &amp; Children's Bill – to provide parent generated start up schools where demand exists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide schools with the freedoms to deliver an excellent education in the way they see fit.</li> <li>• To reform Ofsted and other accountability frameworks to ensure that head teachers are held properly accountable for the core educational goals of attainment and closing the gap between rich and poor.</li> <li>• To introduce a slimmer curriculum giving more space for teachers to decide how to teach.</li> <li>• To introduce a year 6 reading test to make sure that young children are learning and to identify problems early.</li> <li>• To give teachers and head teachers the powers to improve behaviour and tackle bullying.</li> <li>• We expect standards across the education sector to rise through the creation of more Academies and giving more freedom to head teachers and teachers. We will also ensure that money follows pupils, and introduce a 'pupil premium' so that more money follows the poorest pupils.</li> </ul>	<p>Bill to be introduced in the Autumn 2010</p> <p>Opportunities for new schools will be heightened where there is a local undersupply of places – this may well be a factor in Nottingham</p>



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<p><b>4. Achievement (con)</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning</p>	<p><b>(12) Improving attainment-</b> Improving educational attainment and skills.</p>	<p>CA19: Support Teach First, create 'Teach Now' to build on the Graduate Teacher Programme, and seek other ways to improve the quality of the teaching profession.</p> <p>CA20: Reform the existing rigid national pay and conditions rules to give schools greater freedoms to pay good teachers more and deal with poor performance.</p> <p>CA21: Seek to attract more top science and maths graduates to be teachers.</p> <p>CA22: Reform league tables so that schools are able to focus on, and demonstrate, the progress of children of all abilities.</p> <p>CA23: Keep external assessment, but review how Key Stage 2 tests operate in future.</p>	<p>School by school terms and conditions could lead the greater mobility of teachers leave some schools unable to retain staff</p> <p>Move away from league tables would be welcome – but unfortunately they are creatures of the press and not really in the gift of the Government.</p> <p>KS2 may be based on teacher assessments? This confines external testing children at the age of 5 and 16 at the start and conclusion of school careers.</p>

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<p><b>4. Achievement (con)</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for work or further learning</p>	<p><b>13) Closing the gap (con)</b> - Closing the gap in attainment and skills between disadvantaged groups and their peers</p>	<p>CA25: Ensure that all new Academies follow an inclusive admissions policy.</p> <p>CA26: Work with faith groups to enable more faith schools and facilitate inclusive admissions policies in as many of these schools as possible'</p>	<p>This would have a limited impact in Nottingham. No definition is provided of an 'inclusive' admissions policy and the rather nebulous commitment in CA26 is unlikely to have more than a marginal impact on admissions to faith schools.</p>
	<p><b>14) 14-19 reform</b> – Preparing for significant changes for this age group, with a new 14-19 strategy and the raising of school leaving age.</p>	<p>CA27: improve the quality of vocational education, including increasing flexibility for 14-19 year olds and <u>creating new</u> Technical Academies as part of plans to diversify schools' provision.</p>	<p>Major changes in policy direction are likely and it is possible that funding for 16-19 learning may be pulled back into a new quango. The final three proposed diploma courses have been cancelled and the Government has a clear preference for developing apprenticeships as the cornerstone of post 16 vocational education.</p> <p>The principles of choice competition being developed in the school sector are likely to flow on into the FE sector.</p> <p>Nottingham is likely to be earmarked for the development of a technical Academy, having previously been engaged in discussions with Lord Baker regarding this development.</p>

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<p><b>5. Economic well-being - Child poverty will be significantly reduced</b></p>	<p><b>(15) Tackling child poverty –</b> Tackling worklessness and supporting adults to gain Level 2 skills or higher so they are able to progress in work and earn more.</p>	<p>CA28: Maintain the goal of ending child poverty by 2020</p>	<p>The intent of the Government's measures is to "ensure that every part of society makes a contribution to deficit reduction while supporting the most vulnerable, including children and pensioners". We are as yet unsure of the impact that this Budget will have on poverty in Nottingham, particularly whilst there is limited detail on the spending cuts likely to impact on public services and the impact of other tax and benefit changes. Initial estimates suggest that there are 2,500 lone parents in the city who would be affected by the requirement to move from Income Support onto JSA once the youngest child reaches the age of 5.</p> <p>Welfare to work programmes to be brought together under one programme – but how this will be delivered is at present unclear.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE	PROPOSAL	IMPACT EVALUATION
	<p><b>(16) Science City</b> – promoting science and innovation in schools, to improve the city's long term competitiveness.</p>		
	<p><b>17) Transforming learning</b> – investing in new and improved schools in every neighbourhood, with schools becoming hubs of wider services.</p>	<p>No steer yet on BSF.</p>	

## Appendix 2

### Children and Families - Related Budget Headlines

#### Taxes

- VAT rise to 20% from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011, with existing exemptions retained (e.g. food, children's clothes).
- Increase of £1,000 in personal tax allowance for basic rate taxpayers under age 65 in April 2011.
- Reduce tax credit eligibility for families with household income above £40,000 from April 2011 and further changes to this threshold in 2012-13 to focus tax credits on lower income families. The Government will also increase the rate at which tax credits are withdrawn once household incomes rise.

#### Spending

- The Government has committed to real terms increases in NHS budget and to meet international aid commitments. The Government also said it is mindful of pressures on education and defence budgets.
- A further £17bn cut in departmental spending by 2014/15, to mean that unprotected departments face an average real cut of around 25% over four years.
- Two-year public sector pay freeze, although 1.7 million public servants earning less than £21,000 will get a flat pay-rise worth £250 in both years. There will be a review on public sector pay and a review of public sector pensions.
- A package of reforms to Housing Benefit from April 2011 which would include a maximum limit of £400 per week, introducing time-limits on the receipt of full Housing Benefit for certain groups and other restrictions.
- Introduce a medical assessment for Disability Living Allowance from 2013 for all claimants.
- Child benefit to be frozen for the next three years.
- Other benefits to increase in line with Consumer Price Index rather than Retail Price Index mean lower increases.
- Lone parents with their youngest child over 5 will be moved onto Jobseekers Allowance (JSA) rather than Income Support from 2011-12.

The Chancellor said that there would be no further reductions in capital spending totals in this Budget but "careful choices" would be made about how it is spent. Projects with "a significant economic return to the country" would be prioritised, and the assessment of this will be announced in the autumn spending review.