

Action Notes
Joint Councils' Group
25th February 2010

Present

Cllr Louise Chapman (Chair), Cllr Ken Meeson, Cllr David Simmonds, Cllr Paul Carter, Carey Baff, Jim Crook, Vanessa Bishop ,Chris Spencer, Caroline Osborne ,Fran Fonseca, John Hickson ,Mary Blanche, Nicola Rea

Apologies

Cllr Linda Davies, Susan Ellery, Barbara Peacock, Peter Gilroy, Andrew Christie, Geoff Alltimes

Agenda Item	Discussion	Actions
1 Welcome and Introductions	LC welcomed everyone to the meeting	
2 Minutes and matters arising	Agreed	
3 Update on current financial position / 4 Current discussions with UKBA	<p>PC explained that Kent had been told by UKBA that Hillingdon and Croydon had negotiated a settlement. Kent agreed to take £150 per week for care leavers, will fit the service to this budget. AARE and young people with citizenship still a cost to the Authority and still had unpaid historic costs. Precept on Council Tax of 1.24 %</p> <p>Solihull still have unresolved issues from 08/09 . This totals £126000. For 09/10 this is £500,000 and Solihull has more UASC care leavers than those from Solihull.</p> <p>KM went to a local meeting with Phil Woolas and asked about UASC. He was told they are thinking of amending The Children Act.</p> <p>Oxford have been given money</p>	All to respond to consultation

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	<p>under Special Circumstances but are still in deficit. DCSF currently consulting on Transitions to Adulthood, guidance on Leaving Care. UASC specifically mentioned and important all respond to this</p> <p>Hammersmith & Fulham AARE young people are a large percentage of their care leavers. This year the shortfall is approximately £1million. Manchester has a small level of deficit and UASC numbers are slowly decreasing</p> <p>Birmingham's numbers with AARE are going down and are cushioned by having some access to Section 4 accommodation in the City.</p> <p>Hillingdon have had a number of offers but have rejected all but the offer of £150 per week. UKBA have quoted their lawyers as saying Leaving Care doesn't apply. Hillingdon minded to ask for legal judgement.</p>	by DCSF
5 Way Forward	<p>Need to ensure payments inflation proofed and need to provide services within £150 per week for those on Leaving Care grant There needs to be no overspend apart from AARE and those who have citizenship.</p> <p>Need to be aware this may lead to Judicial Review.</p> <p>Collective work needs to be done on what a £150 a week</p>	Hillingdon to lead on this work to be completed by

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	<p>service would look like in each Authority. Needs to be done quickly</p> <p>Letter to be sent by Joint Councils to Lin Homer detailing this work and copying to Ofsted/ DCSF</p> <p>Once this work is complete, may need to meet again</p>	<p>end April</p> <p>Kent to draft the letter</p>
6 Update on Judicial Reviews	No update at the meeting but it was agreed this needed to be monitored for the next meeting	All Authorities to monitor JRs
A.O.B	CS reported on work being undertaken by Local Authorities and UKBA to look at a format for sustainable funding. Next meeting is in March	