

Weekly Policy Bulletin

Click on the blue links to go straight to the reports and announcements.

News

On Monday, Manchester City Council began a 90 day [consultation](#) on changes for **services for 0-5 year olds**. Key proposals are that the Council will gradually withdraw from providing day care in Council-run nurseries, there will be a new outreach service, run by the Council from its community buildings, there will be extra support for children and families in most need and Sure Start buildings and services will be reviewed.

The Children's Rights Director has published a [report](#) on children's views of **social care inspections**. The top three suggestions for change made by young people are that inspectors should spend more time talking to children, be more friendly and approachable for children and ask more children to get a wider range of opinions.

The DfE has published a [report](#) giving an overview of the research evidence on **extended school services**. It concludes that whilst making such services sustainable is a major challenge, doing so delivers important positive impacts on children, families communities and schools themselves, which can be evidenced. Positive impacts include: tackling disadvantage, up-skilling the local workforce, improving community cohesion, creating employment, developing positive attitudes to learning and raising attainment (alongside school improvement).

Education Secretary **Michael Gove** delivered a key note speech at Conservative Party Conference in Manchester yesterday and according to an [article](#) in Children and Young People Now he praised academies, free schools and university technical colleges. The full text of the speech doesn't seem to be available yet. I will try to include a link next week.

Policy Consultations

I have had a number of requests for more information about consultations. The blue links take you directly to consultations closing in the next 4 weeks. To my knowledge, Manchester City Council are submitting responses on the first four listed, please contact me if you want to know more about our responses. In future I will provide a short summary of new consultations added to this list.

[School funding reform: Proposals for a fairer system](#)

Sets out proposals for the mechanics of a new funding system, the contents of a new national formula and future funding arrangements for the Pupil Premium, early years provision and High Cost Pupils. It also clarifies the responsibilities of local authorities, schools and Academies in relation to central services.

[Implementation of the 2010-11 review of capital education](#)

Seeks views on key recommendations from the Independent Review of Education Capital by Sebastian James, published April 2011, and the government's response published July 2011. It covers implications for the way the Department allocates funding and manages its capital programme

[Strategy for the Secure Estate for Children and Young People](#)

The consultation invites views on a proposed strategy for the under-18 secure estate for the years 2011/12 and 2014/15.

[Reforms proposed by Public Bodies Bill](#)

Consultation on proposals to reform the public bodies of the Ministry of Justice - includes abolition of the Youth Justice Board

[Proposed changes to the disciplinary and induction regulations for teachers in England](#)

Provides details of proposed changes to the disciplinary and induction regulations for teachers in England, connected to the Education Bill

[Changes to the Care to Learn Childcare Support Scheme](#)

Seeks the views of young parents, young people, parents, schools, colleges, work-based training providers and other stakeholders on options for the future of the Care to Learn childcare support scheme for young parents in education or training in England, from September 2012

Regards

Liz

Liz Goodger
Principal Policy Officer
Children's Services, Overseas House
Tel: Internal - 801 7081, External: 0161 234 7081, Mobile: 07949 525768
Email: l.goodger@manchester.gov.uk
Working days: Monday - Thursday
