REPORT TO:	CABINET MEMBER, CHILDREN'S SERVICES CABINET
DATE:	15 SEPTEMBER 2009 1 OCTOBER 2009
SUBJECT:	INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SYSTEM: FURTHER CAPITAL GRANT 2009/10
WARDS AFFECTED:	ALL WARDS
REPORT OF:	PETER MORGAN DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
CONTACT OFFICER:	CHRIS DALZIEL (0151 934 3337)
EXEMPT/ CONFIDENTIAL:	NO

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to update the Cabinet Member on the Integrated Children's System (ICS).

REASON WHY DECISION REQUIRED:

The Cabinet Member has delegated powers to refer the capital funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children's Services Capital Programme 2009/10.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

The Cabinet Member is recommended to: -

(i) note the progress of the ICS;
(ii) refer the additional funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children's Services Capital Programme 2009/10.

KEY DECISION:	No.
FORWARD PLAN:	Not appropriate.
IMPLEMENTATION DATE:	Following the expiry of the "call-in" period for the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

Not appropriate.

IMPLICATIONS:

Budget/Policy Framework: None.

Financial: There are no financial implications for the Council's general capital resources as all funding is from specific resources. The Capital Programme will be increased by £37,230 as shown in the table below.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	**2009/ 2010 £**	**2010/ 2011 £**	**2011/ 2012 £**	**2012/ 2013 £**
Gross Increase in Capital Expenditure	37,230			
Funded by:				
Sefton Capital Resources				
Specific Capital Resources Integrated Children's System Capital Grant	37,230			
REVENUE IMPLICATIONS				
Gross Increase in Revenue Expenditure				
Funded by:				
Sefton Funded Resources				
Funded from External Resources				
Does the External Funding have an expiry date? Y/N		When?		
How will the service be funded post expiry?				

Legal: Not appropriate.

Risk Assessment: There are no risks associated with this report as all funding is from specific resources.

Asset Management: Not appropriate.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN/VIEWS

The Finance and Information Services Director has been consulted and has no comments on this report. FD 103.

CORPORATE OBJECTIVE MONITORING:

Corporate Objective		Positive Impact	Neutral Impact	Negative Impact
1	Creating a Learning Community	✓		
2	Creating Safe Communities		✓	
3	Jobs and Prosperity		✓	
4	Improving Health and Well-Being		✓	
5	Environmental Sustainability		✓	
6	Creating Inclusive Communities	✓		
7	Improving the Quality of Council Services and Strengthening local Democracy	✓		
8	Children and Young People	✓		

LINKS TO ENSURING INTEGRATION:

The full implementation of the ICS will help to:-

- create and maintain an environment where people feel safe;
- create a culture and an environment where people can make a positive contribution to their community.

IMPACT UPON CHILDREN'S SERVICES TARGETS AND PRIORITIES:

The implementation of the ICS will contribute towards the following LAA targets:-

- looked after children;
- making a positive contribution;
- statutory education targets.

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS RELIED UPON IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT

Report to Cabinet Member, Children's Services and Cabinet – 5/7 May 2009 – Integrated Children's Services: Capital Grant Funding 2009/10.

INTEGRATED CHILDREN'S SYSTEM: FURTHER CAPITAL GRANT 2009/10

1. Background

1.1 The Integrated Children's System (ICS) is a set of requirements for the practice of social work for children in need. The ultimate benefits from the IT enablement of ICS are the reduction of risk and improvement of outcomes for children, easier information management and increased job quality for social workers and improved resource deployment for managers.

1.2 Members will recall that approval was given, on 7 May 2009, to include a capital grant of £26,032 in the Children's Services Capital Programme. This ICS grant was to support the implementation of Phase 1C of the project, phases 1 and 1B having already been completed.

1.3 Phase 1C includes adoption and reports for courts, completes the ICS specification, originally proposed in June 2000 in 'Learning the Lessons: the Government's Response to Lost in Care', and will enable the interests of Looked After Children to be better served. The implementation of phase 1C will ensure that local IT systems are capable of recording information required in order to comply with the Children and Adoption Act 2002.

1.4 Members will further recall that the full implementation cost of phase 1C was £65,000 and that this second round of funding in 2009/10 was anticipated but unconfirmed. Contingency plans to find the balance of £38,968, from the Children's Services IT Strategy Funding, were in place if the additional funding was not confirmed.

2. Funding

2.1 The Department for Children, Schools and Families has confirmed that Sefton MBC will receive an additional £37,230 in 2009/10 to further support implementation of the ICS. This brings the total ICS capital grant, in 2009/10, to £63,262. The modest outstanding balance of £1,738 can be contained within the existing Children's Services IT Strategy Funding.

3. Recommendation(s)

3.1 The Cabinet Member is recommended to: -

(i) note the progress of the ICS;
(ii) refer the additional funding to Cabinet for inclusion in the Children's Services Capital Programme 2009/10.