

Children, Schools & Families

Service Area	Current Year – £m	2011/12 - £m	Description of Activity
Assessment/ Contact Children	2.991	2.991	Contact, Referral and Assessment: All new information relating to the safeguarding of children in Sefton is routed through the Social Care Customer Service Team (SCCAT). A Social Care decision maker based within the SCCAT service provides initial screening, decision making and prioritisation of referrals through to social care. Similarly a decision maker based within the Family Crimes Investigation Unit provides the same service in relation to the increasingly high level of domestic violence referrals. Initial assessments of these referrals are undertaken by three community based Social work Teams. These teams deal with approximately 149 referrals a week relating to a range of significant to serious concerns and allegations relating to the safety of children. In the 12 months to end November 2010, the service dealt with over 15,000 contacts, 2500 referrals and made Initial Assessments on 2135 children.
Substance Misuse Advice Support and Help (SMASH)	0.125	0.125	Specialist multi-disciplinary substance misuse (including alcohol) service for young people aged 18 years and under. Support for the children (aged 4-14) of adult substance misusers. 1 FTE post is dedicated to work with the children of mis-using adults.
Statemented Children	0.095	0.095	This pays for additional specialist tuition prescribed in statements of special educational need through a statutory process (£15k and therapy contracts, specialist teachers and a specialist education programme (£80k)
Children with Disabilities	1.197	1.197	Social work team to assess, support and safeguard 200 -250 most severe and complex disabled children with currently 20 Looked After Children (LAC). Assessment results in care packages / direct payments are regularly reviewed and monitored by the team. Packages for children account for £2.94m of this amount.
Child Protect Plans and Children in Need	0.159	0.159	Child Protection Plans: There are currently 242 children in Sefton who are subject of multi agency child protection plans having been assessed as either at risk of or having suffered significant harm. The purpose of the plan is to ensure that the child's safety is maintained whilst the risk of harm in the future is reduced. In addition we have a duty to provide ongoing assessment and services to 272 children subject of child in need plans in order to safeguard them and promote their welfare whilst maintaining them within their families. As part of Local Authority safeguarding duties care proceedings are initiated in circumstances where a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. Currently this service has 22 children and young people subject of care proceedings.

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Child & Adolescents Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Tiers 3 & 4	0.427	0.277	Community multi disciplinary specialised services for Children and Young People with more severe, complex and persistent mental health disorders, with most severe cases e.g. eating disorders, children who have been sexually abused requiring day units or highly specialised outpatient teams. Most of funding is ABG with only £62k core. ABG CAMHS grant subject to £150k reduction in April 2011. Nationally 10% of children aged 5 -15 have a clinically diagnosable mental health problem.
Children in Care	17.890	17.874	<p>Children in Care includes all services for Looked After Children (including expenditure on Agency placements and foster care). Fostering Agencies are a regulated service under the Care Standards Act 2000 and the Fostering Regulations 2002. Fostering Agencies are Inspected by OFSTED against 32 National Minimum Standard. Fostering Agencies are required to recruit, approve, train and support foster carers. Fostering Agencies are required To provide foster carers with expenses to care for the children they look after (this is not a wage). Fostering Agencies are required to standardise assessment processes (through contracts with carious agencies such as British Association for Adoption and Fostering BAAF or Fostering network) and to have in place independent Fostering panels. Adoption Agencies are a regulated service under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 and the Adoption Regulations 2004, they are inspected by OFSTED against 31 national Minimum Standards. Adoption Agencies are required to recruit, approve, train, and support Prospective adopters and to support approved adopters. They are also required to link, match and place children for adoption. There are other functions that are a legal requirement that can be provided directly or commissioned. Commissioned services include arrangements with agencies for overseas adoptions. Adoption Agencies are required to provide adopters with Adoption Support Plans that will include financial allowances. Adoption Agencies are required to standardise assessment processes through contracts with various Agencies such as British Association for Adoption and Fostering BAAF, and have in place Independent Adoption Panels. The work of the Adoption Agency is also inspected against Decision timescales.</p> <p>Children’s homes provide placement choice for those children who cannot cope with or who do not wish to live within, a substitute family and for older children for whom fostering is not deemed appropriate (for example the child presents with challenging behaviours that pose risks to others). Children’s homes are a regulated service under the Care Standards Act 2000 and are inspected by OFSTED against 36 National Minimum Standards 2002. There are 4 children’s homes within Sefton offering a total of 24 placements. One children’s home Kirwan House is due to close in April 2011 (loss of 5 placements).). The closure will achieve a £100,000 savings on running costs of the provision. There is one further</p>

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			<p>children’s home offering services to disabled children on a short-term basis. Looked After Children’s Social Work Teams – duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regular visits to the child - Promoting and monitoring the child’s health education emotional and social wellbeing while in placement including contact with significant family members. - Planning for the child (going home to the family, being placed with foster carers long-term or adoption) - Reviewing those plans - Presenting the plans to court - Commissioning legal services for the child - Working with the birth family - Contributing to matching children with adopters - Developing the adoption plan <p>Scope of the Service – there are currently 378 looked after children managed by three teams (including the Leaving Care Team) Leaving Care Service – provision must include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The provision of an assessment and plan for young people in the care of Sefton MBC at 16 describing how they will be helped to make the transition from being in care to being independent - The provision of accommodation (commissioned from private sector/social landlords or specialist providers) - Assistance with the costs of education employment or training - The provision of a named person, the Personal Advisor, who must maintain contact with the young person and provide practical, emotional and financial advice and guidance <p>Depending on a number of factors including when the young person leaves care (between 16 and 18), and their circumstances this support may carry on to their 21st or even 24th birthday. Currently the Leaving Care Team provides this service as well as forming part of the Looked After Children Service, working with those young people between 16 and 18 who are still in care.</p> <p>Scope of the Service - Currently there are 53 young people in care and accommodated over 16 who are receiving a service from the Leaving Care Team.</p> <p>There are 110 former looked after children receiving a service from the Leaving Care Team. This includes all children with disability, agency and care packages. In 2011/12 anticipated inflationary increases have also been captured as well as full year effect of any in year placements from 2010/11.</p>

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Legal Fees/ Other Fees and Services	0.634	0.684	Duty to provide care arrangements: Local Authorities are required by legislation to provide accommodation for children who require it under section 20 of the Children Act 1989. Sec 31 Children Act 1989 – Legal requirement for the Local Authority to make applications to the court where a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm, to place the child with respect to whom the application is made in the care of a designated local authority. Emergency Protection Orders - Sec 44 Ch Act 1989 – duty to undertake emergency action (EPO). Police Protection Orders (S46 Ch Act 1989) – immediate protection of a child where there is insufficient time for the local authority to seek legal order. Regulation 38 – Fostering regulations 2002 – emergency and immediate placement of a child, by the local authority, with a relative /friend. Private law Proceedings – the court can at anytime direct the Local Authority to provide reports under sec 7 and sec 37, in respect of the welfare of the child. Failure to comply could result in contempt of court and/or the making of an order to the Local Authority in respect of children subject of private proceedings. Private Fostering - Where a local authority receive notification under regulation 3 they must, for the purposes of discharging their duty under section 67(1) of the Children Act (welfare of privately fostered children) ensure the safety and welfare of that child.
Emergency Duty Team	0.210	0.210	EDT: The Emergency Duty Team provide a borough wide out of hours service, of one social worker per shift, to ensure an emergency response to children and families and vulnerable adults in crisis. This includes all serious child protection interventions, vulnerable adult/elderly abuse, emergency mental health intervention, youth offending and emergency housing. This service operates 365 days per year and includes all out of hours periods and Bank Holidays.
Family Centres	1.626	1.626	Family Centres: The four Family Centres provide support and assessment services for children and their families who have been assessed as who have suffered or are at risk of significant harm or children who have become looked after. The direct work and specific assessments undertaken by the Family Centres provide critical information for courts and for the planning for those children who are most at risk or who have suffered serious neglect and abuse. In addition they provide a range of supervised contact activities for those children who require this level of protection or as directed by the courts. The family centres provide services to these children and families outside of core hours including weekend cover to maintain these children safely in the community and to facilitate court directed interventions.

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Ind Review Officers	0.391	0.391	<p>The Independent Reviewing Service has responsibility for chairing Multi-Agency meetings about children who are at risk of significant harm or who are looked after by the Local Authority. As at 24.11.09 there are 242 children subject to Child Protection Plans and 378 children who are looked after by Sefton Council. In addition to the above duties, Independent Reviewing Officers currently chair meetings in respect of children where there are concerns relating to them being missing from care, in danger of sexual exploitation or where they have come to harm whilst being looked after. The Independent Reviewing Officers also chair complex meetings when there have been sudden unexpected deaths of children, when fabricated or induced illness is suspected or where there are large scale child protection investigations involving groups of children. The Independent Reviewing Officers also attend a variety of multi-agency meetings including MAPPA and MARAC. The Service has direct input into the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board and has responsibilities relating to Serious Case Reviews. The Independent Reviewing Service has the lead role in quality assuring the services offered and delivered to the children and young people who are looked after by the Local Authority or are subject to Child Protection Plans.</p>
Youth Offending Team	0.811	0.811	<p>A statutory service providing a range of intervention and prevention services for those young people at risk of offending, pre-court disposals, managing community based and detention & treatment orders for those in custody. Youth Offending Service is a multi-agency service hosted within the local authority.</p>
Targeted Youth Support	0.080	0.080	<p>Targeted Youth Support (TYS) supports vulnerable young people aged 8-18 (24 for young people with a disability) to ensure that their needs are identified early to address their difficulties and prevent their problems from escalating to statutory services. YYS receives referrals through the CAF, from social care, YOT, police, schools, parents and young people themselves. YYS is also used as an exit strategy by specialist services. The majority of referrals are in the 12-16 age group. This service activity is funded from variety of external funding sources along with £80k contribution from Positive Activities for Young People (ABG) funding and donations from Children's Fund.</p>
Resource Centre for Children With Disabilities	0.022	0.022	<p>Team of Play leaders / play workers and casual staff providing short breaks for disabled children at weekends, after school and in school holidays in response to needs assessed by Disabled Children Social work team. The service works with around 230 children with the most complex health and learning needs.</p>

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Respite Children's	0.943	0.943	Overnight short break services for disabled children provided following disabled children social work team assessment at Springbrook (in house provision) and Nazareth House (commissioned service). Health services contribute £166k to service at Nazareth House.
Child & Adolescents Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Tier 2	0.170	0.170	Community / primary care single service e.g. primary mental health worker, psychologists offering consultation to families / other practitioners, outreach to identify severe / complex needs which require more specialist interventions and assessment and training to practitioners in universal services. Most of funding is ABG with only £62k core. ABG CAMHS grant subject to £150k reduction in April 2011
Specialised Transport Unit - Children's	3.176	3.176	Travel facilities that the Council provides to all client groups to enable access to specialist provision, i.e. Schools.
Common Assessment Framework	0.490	0.490	Common Assessment Framework (CAF) provides a standardised approach to conducting assessments of children's additional needs and deciding how these should be met promoting more effective, earlier identification of additional needs, particularly in universal services. The CAF also aims to improve integrated working by promoting coordinated service provisions. CAF funding has also been used to support 3 Area Manager posts and these will be discontinued from April 2011.
Social Care Commissioned Services	0.589	0.589	Service Level agreements with: Sefton Women and Children's Aid (SWACA), After Adoption, Homestart (Southport and Formby), Queens rd Neighbourhood Centre, Internal SLAs with H&SC re Training Unit (Ruthven Road and Customer Access Team).
Social Care - Central Management Costs: -			Administrative support to enable the delivery of safe and effective safeguarding of children and young people duties include recruitment of Foster Carers and on-going support activities for Looked After Children.
- Assessment	0.320	0.320	
- Family Centres	0.071	0.071	
- Independent Reviewing Officers	0.192	0.192	
- Child Protection Plans and Children in Need	0.325	0.325	
- Children in Care -	0.642	0.642	
- Emergency Duty Team	0.066	0.066	

Service Area	Current Year – £m	2011/12 – £m	Description of Activity
Senior Management Team plus 50% of LADO	0.466	0.334	Management and supervision of Children's Social Care Services. Cabinet has approved new senior management structure for Children's Social Care that will strengthen Safeguarding and Inspection requirements, as well as give capacity to move forward on more effective challenge on placement of LAC.

Adult Social Care

Service Area	Current Year – £m	2011/12 – £m	Description of Activity
Assessment & Care Management	7.112	7.112	All new information relating to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults in Sefton is routed through the Social Care Customer Access Team. The team then sign posts service user and customers to Voluntary, Community and Faith sector for a low level intervention service or if users assessed needs meet the critical / substantial care criteria as determined by the Fair Access to Care guidelines they are then referred to the appropriate Assessment or Care Management teams. These Teams include Adult Intake Assessment Team, Reviewing Team, Older people Elderly, Mentally Infirm, Hospital teams, Learning Disabilities, Mental Health. The Directorate currently receives on average 526 contacts per week equating to 27,000 contacts a year for social work assessments.
Residential Care Adults (incl Sefton New Directions)	20.523	20.523	Following assessment of need, people are either helped to live at home or require placement in rest/nursing homes. Predominantly within Sefton all provision is in the independent or private sector and Sefton has a total of 1700 placements in 160 nursing/rest homes in Borough. We make 300 residential placements per year. Our average age of admission is 85. Both this category and nursing care below includes £1.476m MTFP pressure growth to support anticipated increases in demand.
Nursing Care Adults	14.593	16.069	Following assessment of need, people are either helped to live at home or require placement in rest/nursing homes. Predominantly within Sefton all provision is in the independent or private sector and Sefton has a total of 1800 placements in 160 nursing/rest homes in Borough. We make 264 nursing placements per year.

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Non Residential Care (inc Sefton New Directions, Community Equipment Stores)	32.405	34.620	This facility wholly commissioned via the private sector enables people to be provided with a range of home based tasks that allow people to carry on living at home and remain largely independent. New Directions provide a range of service for all provider groups i.e. supportive living, adult placements day care all groups, respite, re-enablement. Includes community equipment and installations. The Community Equipment Service currently has over 16,920 service users who have 80,000 items of equipment loaned to them to maximise their independence and maintain dignity. Includes increase in income for 2011/12. This includes £2.215m MTFP pressure growth to support anticipated increases in demand.
Supporting People	6.757	6.757	This grant aided activity supports 60 providers to deliver contracted housing related services. These services cover older people, homeless, learning disabilities, mental health, offenders, substance misuse, young people at risk, teenage parents and people at risk of domestic violence. The services include accommodation based floating support and community alarm services. The services combined deliver support services in excess of 5000 clients at any one time. Services also include short-term provision which has a large throughput of clients, e.g. homeless hostels.
Supporting People Admin Team	0.241	0.241	A DOH inspection regime is in place to ensure that the expenditure concurs with the specific requirements of the supporting people grant. The Admin function is vital in that it commissions, monitors and regulates the services purchased in full accordance with the conditions from the grant. Failure to do so would place the grant in jeopardy. A review is currently being undertaken of this function to explore efficiencies.
Commissioned Services - Voluntary, Faith Sectors and Support to Carers	2.334	2.334	Lower level highly valued preventive services that are commissioned via a number of voluntary and third sector organisations e.g. Carers Centre, various Luncheon Clubs, domestic assistance services, Citizens Advice and other advocacy services. This expenditure is vital to enable people to access information streams on various matters thus allowing them to carry on living at home and postponing the time that they need to access higher levels of more personalised care. VCF prioritisation is running in parallel with this prioritisation process so it dovetails together, the activities associated with this budget are being considered by the VCF project.
Commissioned Services - other	2.094	2.094	Exceptional contracts for more people with long term complex mental health or Learning difficulty needs that are commissioned through highly specialised organisations, i.e. MerseyCare and other Mental Health providers. This budget area includes savings anticipated from recommissioned services

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Service Area	Current Year - £m	2011/12 - £m	Description of Activity
-Departmental Management- Heads of Service	0.330	0.330	Management and supervision of Adult Social Care Services
-Area Finance/ Finance Visiting Officers (support for services included as critical)	1.014	1.014	Part of the Area Admin activity involves the critical area of ensuring that providers, in accordance with Council policy, are paid promptly thus maximising cash flow. Another activity is the invoicing of service users for the contributions (the income stream allied to this function is £15m per annum) towards the cost of care which in turn supplements the Community care budget. Integral with these processes is the work of the Finance Visiting Officers, previously a social work task now undertaken by trained staff who visit users to maximise peoples benefits to ensure maximum contributions towards cost of care. This activity generated £2m additional income for users in 2009 /10.
Area Admin - Support for Social Work/ Occupational Therapy Teams included as Critical	0.584	0.584	Minimal cover for supporting statutory function. Occupational Therapy - -Provide statutory functions under chronically sick and disabled provide equipment and adaptations in order for people to live in homes and be discharged from hospital safely and efficiently. Also support disabled facilities grant process.
Specialised Transport Unit - Adults (Charge from Operational Services into Adult Social Care)	2.185	2.185	Travel facilities that the Council provides to all client groups to enable access to specialist provision, i.e. day care.
Specialist Transport charged to Clients	-0.146	-0.146	
New Directions - PCT Contribution	-0.420	-0.420	The Council receives a contribution from the PCT towards the cost of operating the re enablement service. This funding is directly and successfully targeted at the prevention of delayed discharges from hospital

Safer & Stronger Communities

Service Area	Current Year - £m	2011/12 - £m	Description of Activity
Vulnerable Victims	0.138	0.138	A client facing service that works with very high-risk victims of hate crime, sexual and domestic violence in order to reduce the potential for both the victims, and their children, being seriously harmed. The service also co-ordinates a Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference, MARAC [a victim centred safety plan co-produced with other partners] and the 'sanctuary scheme' [that increases the security of the victims home so as to enable victims to remain there more safely prevent leaving]
WNF funded Vulnerable Victims expenditure	0.081	0.081	
Drug Action Team	0.020	0.020	Delivers the national drug strategy within the Borough of Sefton and commissions drug treatment and wraparound support services for addicts and their families. It is estimated that there are approximately 2,000 problematic drug users (PDUs) currently resident within the borough, PDUs are defined as Heroin and Crack Cocaine users and almost 1,600 of these were in contact with treatment services last year. Treatment services are configured so as to promote abstinence, recovery and social re-integration via housing, education, training and employment. This is supported by £3.403m of external government grant committed for 3 years from 2011 plus contributions from partners.
WNF funded Drug Action Team expenditure	0.010	0.010	

Other Services – Influenced but Contracted

Service Area	Current Year - £m	2011/12 - £m	Description of Activity
Coroners Services	0.345	0.345	Provision of statutory Coroners service that investigates all sudden deaths in Sefton, Knowsley and St Helens. Cost represents Sefton's proportion of a shared service with Knowsley and St Helens.
Local Tax Collection / Housing Benefits (excluding central recharges)	3.730	3.730	Net cost of the processing of Housing and Council Tax benefit claims and the collection of Council Tax and NNDR.