

APPENDIX 3

EARLY YEARS DEVELOPMENT AND CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY PLAN 2001-04/IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2001-02

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership is responsible for writing both the 3 year Strategic Plan and the Implementation Plan 2001-02.

The Implementation Plan sets out targets which the Partnership hopes to achieve by March 31st 2002, and demonstrates how the yearly targets contribute to the three year targets set out in the Strategic Plan.

This is the third Early Years Development and Childcare Plan. Producing an Implementation plan is an annual requirement and the format is, in the main, prescribed by the Department for Education and Employment.

KEY ELEMENTS

The Early Years Development and Childcare Plans has 29 targets which can be summarised as:-

1. Early Education and Childcare Places
2. Raising quality in Early Education and Childcare through
 - Increased recruitment
 - Increased training
 - Quality Assurance
 - Increased inclusion of children with SEN
 - A Equal Opportunity Strategy
3. Increasing Choice and Diversity for parents
4. Ensuring a comprehensive information strategy is in place
5. Improved Partnership working

All 29 targets are closely linked to national performance indicators which are shown in the Strategic Plan.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The majority of activities set out in the Implementation Plan are funded by specific government grants. Spending plans for the current year are enclosed with the Plan.

ISSUES

Specific issues affecting the 29 targets are indicated throughout the Strategic Plan under the heading of feasibility constraints. The main issue, throughout the Plan, is the recruitment of staff in all sectors. Buckinghamshire is a County of almost full employment and high housing costs with a close proximity to London. All these factors combined make recruiting especially difficult.