

**APPENDIX B**

**Final Monitoring Report  
BV Review of Children with Disabilities**  
(refers to Best Value Review Action Plan, Appendix A)

<p align="center"><b>Item</b></p> <p>Numbers in brackets refer to original recommendations from BVR</p>	<p align="center"><b>Progress Report</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Date Target Achieved/New Target Date</b></p>
<p><b>KEY PRIORITIES</b> <b>Strategic Development 7.1-7.3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointment of Senior Manager (7.1)</li> <li>• Joint Strategic Framework (7.2)</li> <li>• Communication strategy (7.3)</li> </ul>	<p>Policy and Planning Manager appointed to develop Joint Strategic framework. Negotiations continue with partner agencies to joint fund the post. Management of Disability services remain under the Head of Specialist Services.</p> <p>Dedicated time from Policy and Performance Review Unit achieved June 2001 to begin work on joint strategic framework. Policy &amp; Planning Manager will further develop strategic framework.</p> <p>i) Audit of existing specialist communication skills within social services resources completed October 2001. ii) 4 x ½ day training sessions for staff based on materials jointly devised by ESCC and Triangle; focussing on interactive communication, from November 2001 – March 2002. iii) Agreed standard of communication in place (by April 2002). iv) Contract with Xpress Advocacy Service “ achieved November 2001.</p>	<p>Manager in post by April 2002</p> <p>Began June 2001 In place by January 2003.</p> <p>All achieved by April 2002</p>
<p><b>Prioritisation and Resource Allocation 7.4-7.6</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligibility Criteria (7.4)</li> </ul>	<p>Eligibility Criteria have been revised to incorporate the needs of disabled children, including amendments to take into account the needs of young carers, to meet the requirements of the Carers and Disabled Children’s Act 2000.</p>	<p>Achieved November 2001</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing Officer (7.5)</li> <li>• Prioritisation of Resource Allocation (7.6)</li> </ul>	<p>Additional Looked After Children’s Reviewing Officer’s will be appointed during 2002-03 which will enable “off line” reviewing of children’s care plans. The format for reviews has been amended to dovetail with the annual review of educational arrangements.</p> <p>A system for prioritising resource allocation within an overall financial management strategy has been agreed. Monthly allocation meeting based on priority of need.</p>	<p>Mostly achieved December 2001 (recruitment of posts ongoing)</p> <p>Achieved February 2002</p>
<p><b>Service Development 7.7-7.9</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fitness for purpose study of buildings (7.7)</li> <li>• Pilot for use of Direct Payments (7.8)</li> <li>• Transitions Service (7.9) (Management accountability and staff funding) ( see also recommendation 7.38)</li> </ul>	<p>Undertaken by Policy Officer from Policy and Performance Review Unit. Recommendation to replace Dorset Road, Bexhill. Currently exploring possibility of Section 106 Agreement to contribute to the reprovisioning of Dorset Road and include proposal in the County Council’s 5-year rolling Capital Programme.</p> <p>2 service users identified for Direct Payments, commencing April 2002.</p> <p>i) Management accountability is with Operations Manager, Disabled Children. ii) Funding for dedicated transitions staff member secured on permanent basis. iii) Revised Joint Transitions Protocol and Process in place.</p>	<p>Achieved December 2001</p> <p>Achieved April 2002</p> <p>Achieved November 2001</p>
<p><b>WORK PROGRAMME</b></p> <p><b>Strategic Planning 7.10-7.15</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of need (7.10)</li> <li>• Multi-Agency Project Group + links between other planning groups (7.11; 7.12; 7.13)</li> </ul>	<p>The newly appointed Policy and Planning Manager will consolidate existing data.</p> <p>The Disabled Children’s Development Group (DCDG) is now formally linked to the Children’s &amp; Young People’s Strategic Planning Team and has the “BV Action Plan” as its priority within its work programme. Dedicated time from Policy &amp; Performance Review Unit has been achieved.</p>	<p>In post April 2002</p> <p>Achieved July 2001</p> <p>Achieved June 2001</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation on draft national strategy (7.14)</li> </ul>	<p>A presentation on the White Paper “Valuing People” has been given to the DCDG. The Chair of the DCDG is a member of the Learning Disability Partnership Board (LDPB), as is the Policy Officer who is also the dedicated time to support the work of the DCDG. This has ensured effective links between the two groups. The LDPB is required to appoint a “transitions” champion; this was achieved in November 2001.</p>	<p>Achieved November 2001</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled Children’s Register (7.15)</li> </ul>	<p>Implemented May 2001. Good response from parents; register will develop even more substantially if access to service information can be linked to it.</p>	<p>Achieved May 2001</p>
<p><b>Partnership Working 7.16 – 7.17</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parental involvement (7.16)</li> </ul>	<p>Parents are represented on the DCDG and the LDPB and other service development groups.</p>	<p>Achieved October 2001</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance Monitoring by parents &amp; young people(7.17)</li> </ul>	<p>Not progressed to date.</p>	<p>New target date October 2002</p>
<p><b>Service and Management Arrangement 7.18 – 7.20</b></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Service Structure (7.18)</li> </ul>	<p>Service structure agreed June 2001. Discussions continue with other agencies on the extent and timescale for integrating Health, Education and Social Services to disabled children. The newly appointed Policy and Planning Manager will take forward the Strategic and Commissioning agenda.</p>	<p>Achieved June 2001 Manager in post April 2002</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection and analysis (7.19)</li> </ul>	<p>Transfer of data to “Carefirst” achieved.</p>	<p>Achieved October 2001</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Administrative support (7.19)</li> </ul>	<p>Redistribution of Admin support will enable adequate level to be achieved from April 2002.</p>	<p>New target date April 2002</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce Excel spreadsheet etc. (7.20)</li> </ul>	<p>This recommendation will be introduced from April 2002.</p>	<p>New target date April 2002</p>

<b>Care Pathways 7.21 - 7.38</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment Framework (7.21)</li> </ul>	Multi-agency Framework for Assessment achieved April 2001.	Achieved April 2001
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of Ethnic Minorities Needs (7.22)</li> </ul>	Will be progressed from April 2002.	New target date April 2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task Analysis (7.23) (Specialist Fieldwork Teams)</li> </ul>	Achieved December 2001	Achieved December 2001
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protocols and Multi-Agency Agreement for residential placements (7.24)</li> </ul>	Multi-Agency Commissioners Group (MAC) established November 2001.	Achieved November 2001
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of placements in residential school (7.25)</li> </ul>	All agency placements to be the subject of an internal audit by October 2002, in partnership with Education.	New target date October 2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health care in social care settings (7.26)</li> </ul>	Discussions commenced in Hastings and St Leonard's, including Health Services, looking at a pilot scheme aimed at making better use of available multi agency resources including "Health Support" in " Social Care settings".	New Target Date December 2002
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit of training needs (7.27)</li> </ul>	Achieved within social services teams with annual training plan renewed January 2002.	Achieved August 2001
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Physical and sensory disability risk assessment (7.28)</li> </ul>	To be progressed from April 2002.	New target date April 2002

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term projections for residential care (7.29)</li> </ul>	<p>All agency placements to be the subject of internal audit by October 2002. Long term projection to be informed through outcome of Strategic Framework. Children and Families and Education are reviewing agency placements/school placements with a view to testing viability of “in county” or “in house” alternatives (to include Health where funding is currently 3 – way or where additional health input is required to support “in county/house placement).</p>	<p>New target date from October 2002</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Link and Outreach developments (7.30 – 7.36)</li> </ul>	<p>These recommendations are being addressed as the extended Link and Outreach services come on stream. Outreach Services will be available in Lewes and Wealden from Easter 2002. Delay caused by staffing and recruitment difficulties has meant some slippage to original time scale. Additional funds have been secured from “Quality Protects” funding. Dedicated management time/resources for Outreach and Family Link Scheme now identified and in recruitment process. This will enable further development and service improvement at a far greater pace.</p>	<p>New target date April 2002</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Developments/EYCDP/ Sports Development (7.37)</li> </ul>	<p>i) No significant progress in community development activity.</p> <p>ii) Agreement with EYCDP that its development activity will include children with disabilities.</p> <p>iii) Pilot project established with Wealden D.C. at Hailsham (Buddy Scheme).</p>	<p>Achieved May 2001</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pooled Transition Budget (7.38)</li> </ul>	<p>Major review of transition process, including panel operation to be undertaken following recommendation of Joint Review, to ensure good quality information is made available at an early stage, detailing recommended care packages and profiling/projecting likely financial commitment. To make maximum use of “Supporting People” initiatives and increased use of Direct Payments. Identification of inter-dependent groups who might be placed together via partnership developments with the voluntary sector or Housing Associations. £600,000 ringfenced for 2002/03, made from interdepartmental savings, for transition services and those with increased needs.</p>	<p>New target date October 2002</p>

February 2002

