

CO-ORDINATOR SEBD SERVICES UPDATE FOR CHILDREN'S EXECUTIVE.

Finance:

- The finances for the Children's Executive continue to operate within budget. This is mainly due to the delay in the opening of the new children's home which will be based at the old secure unit site. This saving is allowing pressures from elsewhere across the service to be managed appropriately.
- The financial pressures at Heathfield and La Preference have continued to ease despite numbers in both units being high. This has been due to the closer working relationships between the two units and the management at Greenfields.
- Growth bids for 2008 have once again been submitted through Health & Social Services. These bids had been previously submitted on for 2007 but had been unsuccessful.
- Continuing negotiations have been undertaken with Children's Service to jointly manage budgets related to residential and fostering services over the next few years. This will allow for a joint plan which will incorporate growth funding allocated to fostering services in the first two years. This could be used for residential services or community based interventions whilst fostering services continue to be developed. As the fostering developments are introduced, this will hopefully see a marked reduction in the need for residential care. These discussions will be ongoing over the coming months.
- Nicola Doyle (Finance Officer) will no longer have responsibility for the Children's Executive. A temporary support arrangement is in operation until long term plans can be made.

Schools Development:

- The MAST teams have been operational since the beginning of September 2005 at the two identified schools (Le Rocquier and Haute Vallee). The system at Le Rocquier continues to develop and is reported as working creatively and pro-actively with young people.
- As previously reported, developments at Haute Vallee have not been so straightforward due to the social work vacancy. This post has now been filled and the social worker is due to take up his position in July 2007. A plan has been formulated which will lead to MAST services being introduced to both schools by January 2008.
- Further discussion is taking place which will lead to the development of the MAST services at the other two schools through 2008.