FINANCE COMMITTEE CALL FOR EVIDENCE

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (SCOTLAND) BILL: FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

SUBMISSION FROM PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL

Consultation
Did you take part in either of the Scottish Government consultation exercises which preceded the Bill and, if so, did you comment on the financial assumptions made?
1. Yes and commented on the financial assumptions.

Do you believe your comments on the financial assumptions have been accurately reflected in the FM?
2. No it is felt that areas highlighted as concerns have not been built into the financial assumptions.

Did you have sufficient time to contribute to the consultation exercise?
3. Yes although the lack of detail in the bill has made estimating very difficult.

Costs
If the Bill has any financial implications for your organisation, do you believe that these have been accurately reflected in the FM? If not, please provide details?
4. No; again lack of detail and not sufficient allowance for infrastructure/administration costs for example – Children’s Rights for systems to record monitoring and evidence, or direct costs for example ongoing training costs for staff taking on the Named Person role due to staff turnover, providing a range of options for delivery of 600 hours flexible early learning & childcare etc.

Do you consider that the estimated costs and savings set out in the FM and projected over 15 years for each service are reasonable and accurate?
5. No we have estimated PKC share as 2.5% (Based on GAE) and we estimate there could be shortfalls in funding however it has been difficult to predict costs due to the lack of detail in the bill. Also only see figures for the next 5 years not 15 in the FM?

If relevant, are you content that your organisation can meet the financial costs associated with the Bill which your organisation will incur? If not, how do you think these costs should be met?
6. No not content; Scottish Government should fully fund all aspects of the Bill, otherwise the Council will have to implement further savings at a very challenging financial time.
Does the FM accurately reflect the margins of uncertainty associated with the estimates and the timescales over which such costs would be expected to arise?

7. No again due to lack of detailed guidance it is unclear what the actual affect will be once implemented at a local level.

**Wider Issues**

**Do you believe that the FM reasonably captures costs associated with the Bill? If not, which other costs might be incurred and by whom?**

8. No again the actual implementation of various sections of the Bill for example Named Person and Corporate Parent may put additional responsibilities on to individual staff. This increased workload will have an effect on their ability to carry out other duties within their remit. This may affect other staff in the organisation who may have to take on more duties to compensate, this could have a financial cost or opportunity cost for PKC.

**Do you believe that there may be future costs associated with the Bill, for example through subordinate legislation? If so, is it possible to quantify these costs?**

9. Yes; unable to quantify them at this time but an example would be 21 – 25 year olds former Looked After Children and Kinship Carers