

Title of paper:	Children and Young People's Plan and the Family Support Pathway rewriting/refreshing	
Report to:	Children's Partnership Board	
Date:	19 th March 2014	
Relevant Director:	Director of Quality and Commissioning	Wards affected: All
Contact Officer(s) and contact details:	Simon Down – Lead Commissioning Manager - 0115 876 3492 – simon.down@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other officers who have provided input:	Helen Blackman – Acting Director of Safeguarding Colin Monckton – Head Of Commissioning and Insight	
Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) objectives(s):		
Stronger safeguarding – With a key focus on ensuring that there are high standards of safeguarding across all agencies and that the Partnership takes a pro-active approach to the elimination of domestic violence.		Y
Healthy living – With a key focus on increasing the proportion of children and young people who have a healthy weight.		Y
Reducing substance misuse – Partnership work to lessen the impact on children of parental drug and alcohol misuse and to reduce drug and alcohol misuse amongst children and young people.		Y
Raising attainment – Raising the attainment levels and increasing engagement in employment, education and training.		Y
Improving attendance – Improving rates of attendance at both Primary and Secondary as a key foundation of improving outcomes.		Y
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
<p>This report sets out the high level plan for the writing of the Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2020 (which will then be the single strategic document relating to children and young people in the city) and the details of the interim refresh of the Family Support Pathway.</p> <p>The interim refresh of the Family Support Pathway will ensure that recent legislative and policy updates, including Munro and Working Together 2013, are swiftly incorporated to provide Nottingham's children's workforce with a clear framework through which to best meet the needs of the city's children and young people.</p> <p>The longer term plan for the writing of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2015-2020 will allow a co-productive approach to be taken in developing a new CYPP that will be bought into by all partners, respond to all new policy drivers, reflect the new "Operating Model" and, most importantly, continue to drive improvements for the city's children and young people.</p>		
Recommendations:		
1	That the board approve the high level plan for the writing of the Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2020 (appendix 1)	
2	That the board approve the plan for the interim refresh of the Family Support Pathway (appendix 2)	
3	That the board approve the broad areas of change in the Family Support Pathway and the approval route for the final draft	

1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

(Explanatory detail and background to the recommendations)

- 1.1.1 The Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2014 and its subsidiary documents (the Family Support Strategy 2010-2014 and the Family Support Pathway) have successfully driven change in Nottingham over the last 4 years and improved support for Nottingham's children and young people. However, these documents will shortly reach the end of their planned period and require redevelopment. A new strategic partnership document is required that will take Nottingham forward to 2020.
- 1.1.2 The plan for the rewriting of the Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2020 can be found in appendix 1 and enables the CYPP 2015-2020 to be published at the very start (early January) of 2015.
- 1.1.3 The young people engagement structures that were set up through the original CYPP and Children's Partnership (Youth Cabinet, Youth Council and Primary Parliament) will be used to ensure that the child's voice is central to the CYPP 2015-2020.
- 1.2.1 In 2010 a multi agency working group (chaired by the Government Office East Midlands (GOEM)) finalised the Family Support Pathway (FSP) as the City's access to services and threshold document. Since this time, where the city has identified learning from serious case reviews (such as the Somerset SCR) and national research, this has been embedded into the FSP to guide all practitioners and agencies and has particularly included the addition of a clear escalation process to resolve interagency disagreements. This further refresh will take account of the more recent changes to national policy and legislative guidance ensuring that Nottingham's Children's workforce are incorporating these key changes into their working practice.
- 1.2.2 The plan for the refreshing of the Family Support Pathway (FSP) can be found in appendix 2 and enables the FSP to be refreshed and distributed by the end of June/beginning of July 2014.
- 1.3.1 The FSP predates both the Munro report and Working Together 2013. Both of these documents talk extensively about "early help" and Working Together 2013 requires that Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) "publish a 'threshold' document that includes:
 - The process for the early help assessment and the type and level of early help services to be provided; and
 - The criteria, including the level of need, for when a case should be referred to local authority children's social care for assessment and for statutory services"
- 1.3.2 The FSP already largely meets the above definition of a threshold document (the Common Assessment Framework – CAF is our "early help assessment") and the proposed changes will ensure that it is fully compliant with this definition.
- 1.3.3 Given that the FSP needs to be refreshed to meet a statutory purpose, the opportunity will also be taken to make a small number of wider changes to the FSP to reflect local changes. This includes the step up/step down process, the "operating model", signs of safety, priority families and Children & Families Direct.
- 1.3.4 Because the FSP will be meeting the statutory requirement of having a threshold document, it is proposed that it is signed off at both the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board's Operational Management Group (OMG) in May and the Children's Partnership Board meeting in June.

2. RISKS

(Risk to the CYPP, risk involved in undertaking the activity and risk involved in not undertaking the activity)

- 2.1 Whilst having a Children and Young People Plan is not a statutory requirement, the lack of a cohesive, current and partnership based strategic driver to improve the lives of children and young people in Nottingham would put at risk the progress made by the outgoing CYPP and would undermine effective future partnership working. It would also leave us without a children/young people specific strategy against which to commission services which would undermine the commissioning process.
- 2.2 The statutory requirement to have a “threshold document” requires the swift refresh of the FSP to ensure that we continue to be compliant. Failure to update the FSP in this way could leave us open to legal challenge and could compromise our ability to safeguard children and young people.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The rewriting of the CYPP will incur some costs in terms of co-productive consultation events, design, printing, launch event etc. But it is currently unclear how much these costs might amount to. Once the cost of these elements has been ascertained then these will be approved through the appropriate channels.
- 3.2 The refreshing of the FSP is not expected to incur significant costs as it will be distributed electronically and will maintain its current design layout. Furthermore, as the rewrite of the CYPP will involve extensive stakeholder, parent, children and young people engagement, the FSP refresh will have only minimal consultation so as to avoid any confusion between the two. This will keep any consultation costs to an absolute minimum.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Whilst there is no legal obligation to have a CYPP, it does help to ensure that a number of legal functions are fulfilled.
- 4.2 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 is issued under section 7 of the Local authority Social Services Act 1970 and sections 11(4) and 16 of the Children Act 2004 which all state that the local authority must act/have regard to any guidance given to them by the Secretary of State. The refreshed FSP will meet our statutory obligation to have a “threshold” document and the redeveloped CYPP will then meet this requirement thereafter.

5. CLIENT GROUP

(Groups of children, young people or carers who are being discussed in the report)

- 5.1 The rewriting of the CYPP and the refresh of the FSP are both entirely cross cutting and ultimately can be considered to affect every single child and young person in the city.

6. IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES

(A brief description on how many minority groups are being engaged in the proposal and how their needs are being met: This section includes traveller and refugee families. The themes of the Shadow Boards – children and young people; parents and carers; equalities issues and the voluntary and community sector should be considered here.)

- 6.1 The changes being proposed to the FSP are not expected to have any equalities implications.
- 6.2 Equalities will be fully considered within the rewriting of the CYPP

7. OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED

(Briefly state which of the CYPP objectives and priorities will be affected)

7.1 This proposal sits across all CYPP objectives and priorities

8. CONTACT DETAILS

8.1 Simon Down – Lead Commissioning Manager - 0115 876 3492 –
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Appendix 2 - Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2020 - High level plan

Action	March	April	May	June	July
Write paper detailing the proposed rewrite of the CYPP					
Children's Partnership Board - paper deadline	5th				
Safeguarding board - paper deadline	7th				
Create presentation for boards					
Take to Children's Partnership Board		19th			
Take to Safeguarding Board		21st			
Bring together a co-productive stakeholder steering group(SG) (inc. YP and parents)					
Set up wider YP and parent engagement mechanisms for co-production					
Pull together recent and undertake further analysis to inform CYPP					
Consider the strategic drivers for the CYPP 2015-2020					
Establish what has changed since the previous CYPP					
Carry out initial consultation with YP and parents re. priorities/vision					
Hold stakeholder (inc. YP and parent reps) visioning and priorities event					
Pull out/agree vision and priorities with senior stakeholders					

Action	August	September	October	November	December
Agree broad structure of CYPP 2015-2020 with SG based upon vision/priorities					
Assign individual parts to most relevant author					
Write initial draft of the CYPP 2015-2020					
Write report for Children's Partnership Board/ Safeguarding Board					
Children's Partnership Board/Safeguarding Board - paper deadline					
Take first draft to Children's Partnership Board/Safeguarding Board					
Consult with young people and parents on the first draft					
Hold stakeholder event (inc. YP and parent reps) to gain feedback on first draft					
Create second draft of CYPP 2015-2020					
Create first draft of easy read version					
Main CYPP and easy read version redesigned by design and print					
Write paper for Children's Partnership Board					
Children's Partnership Board - paper deadline					
Take 2nd draft "designed" CYPP plus easy read to Children's Partnership Board for final changes/approval					
Make final changes to the CYPP and easy read and get glossy copys printed					

Launch the CYPP 2015-2020 through event and a number of other channels

Early Jan 2015

