

Title of paper:	Draft Children's Trust Statutory Guidance on Co-Operation Arrangements, Including the Children's Trust Board and the Children & Young People's Plan.	
Report to:	Children's Partnership Board	
Date:	27 th January 2010	
Director(s)/Corporate Director(s):	Candida Brudenell Director, Children's Trust Transition Programme	Wards affected: ALL
Contact Officer(s) and contact details:	Candida Brudenell Tel: 9150782 candida.brudenell@nottinghamcity.gov.uk	
Other officers who have provided input:	None	
Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) objectives(s):		
Provide early, effective support and protection to children, young people and families		X
Nurture and support strong, healthy families		X
Increase children and young people's emotional resilience and the maturity of their decision-making		X
Ensure that all our children, young people and families are provided with a sound foundation for lifelong learning and progression into skilled economic activity		X
Reduce deprivation and its impact on children and young people		X
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
<p>This report summarises proposals set out in the Draft Statutory Guidance published by the DCSF on 13th November 2009. The purpose of the guidance is to support the implementation of the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children & Learning (ACSL) Act 2009 which received Royal Assent on 12th November 2009.</p>		
Recommendations:		
1	That the Partnership notes the contents of the new draft Statutory Guidance.	

1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

To support the implementation of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 the Government has published draft Statutory Guidance around the role of Children's Trusts.

Key areas covered in the Draft Guidance include:

- 1.1 The Children's Trust Board will be placed on a statutory footing from April 2010.
- 1.2 Responsibility for developing, publishing and reviewing the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) passes from the local authority alone to the Children's Trust Board. The first new style CYPP must be published by April 2011.
- 1.3 The CYPP becomes a joint strategy in which the Children's Trust partners set out how they will co-operate to improve the well-being of children and young people in the local area. It differs from the previous CYPP in that although the scope of the new CYPP includes all services that affect children and young people's well-being, once the Children's Trust Board had identified its main cross-cutting priorities, the Plan should focus on what the partners will do together to deliver them.
- 1.4 Responsibility for implementing the CYPP remains with the individual partners, who are under a duty to have regard to the Plan. The Children's Trust Board is responsible for monitoring the extent to which the partners act in accordance with the Plan and to publish an annual report which sets this out.
- 1.5 Schools (including Academies, non maintained special schools and Short Stay Schools/Pupil Referral Units) FE and sixth-form colleges and Jobcentre Plus will become new statutory 'relevant' partners; in the Children's Trust co-operation arrangements from January 2010. This means that like other statutory 'relevant partners' they:-
 - 1.5.1 Will be required to co-operate with the local authority and its other partners to improve children's well-being through the Children's Trust;
 - 1.5.2 Will (subject to any specific restrictions on partners' funding arrangements) be able to pool budgets and share other resources with the other partners and;
 - 1.5.3 Must be represented on the Children's Trust Board.

Additionally, the Guidance places strong emphasis on the following points:

- 1.5.4 The overriding need for Children's Trusts to ensure there is effective frontline delivery supported by use of common processes
- 1.5.5 That the relationship between Health and the Local Authority is key to ensuring a successful Children's Trust.
- 1.5.6 That services beyond those directly related to services for Children and Young People should be able to be represented. Within a Unitary Authority it suggests the role of the Chief Executive is key.
- 1.5.7 That arrangements for joint commissioning should be firmly put in place around the implementation of the priorities within the CYPP.

2. RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER PARTNERS

The Guidance maps the relationships that the Children's Trust needs to have with other partnerships including its context within the LSP arrangements as a thematic partnership. It also emphasises the importance of the relationship between the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Children's Trust.

3. THE LOCAL CONTEXT

Nottingham's Children's Partnership has been mindful of the proposals within the ACSL and has established itself in a way that will readily allow for the changes. There is nothing within the draft Statutory Guidance that contradicts expectations regarding what will be required of the Children's Trust Board.

Likewise, the arrangements that have been put in place to secure the Children's Partnership as the themed partnership for One Nottingham and the CYPP within the context of the Nottingham Plan are all in accordance with the proposals in the Guidance.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Guidance allows for Children's Trusts to ensure that partners jointly contribute to the functioning of the Children's Trust. Further work needs to take place in Nottingham to examine what costs should be budgeted for. A future report will address this issue.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Guidance makes clear the statutory requirements regarding the implementation of the Children's Trust.

6. CLIENT GROUP

All children and young people in Nottingham.

7. CONTACT DETAILS

Candida Brudenell
Director of Children's Trust Transition Programme
0115 91 50782

Candida.brudenell@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Sandfield Centre
Sandfield Road
Lenton
Nottingham, NG7 1QH