

CITY COUNCIL - 9 JUNE 2008

REPORT OF THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN (CYPP) 2008-11

1 SUMMARY

The Children and Young People's Plan is the statutory partnership plan adopted by the Strategic Partnership for Children, Young People and Families as required by statute. The 2008-11 plan updates the original 2006-09 plan. It has been produced in close partnership with agencies across the city. It identifies a revised set of key priorities, and an updated change programme to deliver the objectives of Every Child Matters and Change for Children in a local context. Each member agency of the Strategic Partnership for Children, Young People and Families is being asked to support adoption of the plan. Copies of the Nottingham City Children and Young People's Plan 2008-11 and the Equality Impact Assessment Summary for the refreshed plan have been circulated separately to members.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

IT IS RECOMMENDED that the City Council adopts the Children and Young Peoples Plan 2008-11.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Children Act 2004 conferred two duties on local agencies. The first is to ensure inter-agency co-operation to improve the wellbeing of children and young people. The second is to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Local Authorities are required to work with partners to produce a Children and Young People's Plan. This is a single, strategic, overarching plan describing how improvements in the five outcomes of the Every Child Matters (ECM) framework will be realised. These are: to Be Healthy, to Stay Safe, to Enjoy and Achieve, to Make a Positive Contribution, and to Achieve Economic Wellbeing. The CYPP is therefore best understood as the community strategy for children and young people.

- 3.2 Nottingham City's first CYPP was adopted in April 2006. This plan runs until March 2009, or until such time as it is updated. Since April 2006, Nottingham has undergone a Joint Area Review (JAR) in 2007 and significant progress has been made. Therefore, the decision was taken to update the plan.
- 3.3 The statutory Strategic Partnership for Children, Young People and Families (SPCYPF) has produced an updated CYPP which will cover the period 2008 to 2011. The CYPP 08-11 has been produced through extensive partnership activity that commenced in July 2007. Every group within the SPCYPF infrastructure has been involved. The work has been steered by the Executive Group of the SPCYPF.
- 3.4 The updated plan has been founded on a robust assessment of needs and outcomes, and on a clear identification of vulnerable groups most in need of support. It sets out a set of core strategic objectives. These objectives are robustly founded on a detailed analysis and understanding of the needs and outcomes of the populations within the city. These **strategic objectives** are set out in Figure A below. The plan presents a clear line of sight to the transformational strategies being employed to realise these goals. The significant **Change Programme** that is in place to develop capacity and new ways of working is summarised in Figure B below. Further details can be found by visiting the Integrated Children's Services website at www.nottinghamics.org.uk
- 3.5 The CYPP is a key driver for the development of Children's Trust activity. It is a statutory requirement that every CYPP describes the local approach to the development of a Children's Trust.
- 3.6 The plan is the document against which the annual performance of the Council and its partners will be referenced. It will contribute to the Comprehensive Area Assessment process. It is the central document that the inspectorates of all local services for children, young people and families will reference.
- 3.7 The CYPP 08-11 contains the key measures for children, young people and families that have been agreed for inclusion within the City's updated Local Area Agreement. These measures are clearly located within the strategic objectives at the heart of the plan.

- 3.8 The plan makes a clear reference to its role in driving local response to the objectives and initiatives set out in the new national Children's Plan, published in December 2007. It ensures that the SPCYPF is able to respond flexibly to the further details that will emerge from the national plan over time.
- 3.9 Detailed Delivery Plans have been established beneath the CYPP for each Every Child Matters (ECM) outcome and each national priority group. These delivery plans define the actions that will be taken to meet stated milestones, and clearly identify the accountability for these. Each Delivery Plan has been signed off by the chair of the respective sub-partnership and themed working group within the SPCYPF infrastructure, and considered by the Executive Group and the Board of the SPCYPF.
- 3.10 The Delivery Plans will be uploaded as structured web content to the Nottingham Integrated Children's Services (ICS) website. It is proposed that the SPCYPF will use its website to update and maintain this content as it monitors and drives delivery. This will be done in such a way that evidence of activity, progress and impact is captured by the SPCYPF throughout the year. This evidence will then be used to inform annual performance assessment and review activity.
- 3.11 In addition to the Delivery Plans, the following information will be uploaded to the ICS website:
- (a) A detailed review of the evidence base.
 - (b) A detailed description of the vulnerable groups within the city.
 - (c) A description of the Needs Assessment process and the identification of key lines of further research enquiry

Consultation

- 3.12 Children and Young People's Plan Regulations 2005 set out partners that should be involved in the preparation of the Children and Young People's Plan. Supplementary Regulations, published in 2007, added specific requirements to consult with schools.

3.13 Extensive consultation with the diverse range of stakeholders with an interest in children and young people's outcomes has been undertaken as part of the preparation of the plan. The key features of this have been:-

Ensuring that the five ECM sub-partnerships and five working groups of the infrastructure of the SPCYPF, which include representation from key stakeholders including the voluntary and community sector, played an active role in developing the plan through successive drafts.

Engaging the three Shadow Boards of the partnership infrastructure in the development of the plan. These represent Parents and Carers, Equality and Diversity, and the Private, Voluntary and Community Sector.

Consultation with the Youth Council, starting with the basis of their manifestos, that has shaped the plan – for example by emphasising a focus on bullying – and is continuing to develop appropriate communication of our CYPP activities to children and young people. Use was also made of the Tellus2 Survey (conducted in the summer term of 2007 as part of the JAR 2007), and of the produce of discussion in local area youth forums.

Consultation with the Children and Young People's Standing Panel

Consultation with the other Theme Partnerships within One Nottingham

Consultation with the Council's corporate Strategic Performance Group

The 2007 regulations required schools to play a more active role in the CYPP. Consultation has taken place with head-teachers, School Governors, the Education Improvement Partnerships, the Schools Forum and members of the Schools Admissions Forum.

The Nottingham ICS website has provided a community portal during the preparation of the Plan. Two working drafts of the evolving plan were posted on the website – in December 2007 and February 2008 – with an invitation to comment on the content to the preparation team.

Staff, including those of partner organisations, have been kept informed through regular communication channels and invited

to contribute to the Plan's preparation.

4 PROPOSALS

At the heart of the CYPP are five strategic objectives and fifteen priorities that will guide the strategic development of children's services over the next three years. These are:

A: To provide early, effective support and protection to children, young people and families by

- 1) refocusing services on prevention and early intervention, and
- 2) improving the safeguarding and outcomes of children and families with complex needs.

B: To nurture and support strong, healthy families* by

- 3) improving support to parents and carers (particularly young parents and young carers)
- 4) tackling the rise in childhood obesity
- 5) improving oral health
- 6) reducing infant mortality, and
- 7) ensuring that children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, including those with emotional and behavioural difficulties, receive co-ordinated child and family-centred services of high quality

C: To increase children and young people's emotional resilience and the maturity of their decision-making, aiming to

- 8) reduce substance misuse and its impact on children and young people
- 9) reduce teenage conceptions
- 10) reduce the incidence and impact of bullying, and to divert children and young people from anti-social and offending behaviour

D: To ensure that all our children, young people and families are provided with a sound foundation for lifelong learning and progression into skilled economic activity, by

- 11) raising educational attainment and skills
- 12) closing the gap in attainment and skills between disadvantaged groups and their peers, and
- 13) improving school attendance, increasing engagement in education, employment and training, and increasing

progression into further education, higher education and skilled economic activity

E: To reduce deprivation and its impact on children and young people

- 14) increasing the proportion of the working age population who are qualified to at least Level 2 or higher
- 15) reducing the number of working age people who are in out of work benefits.

The City Council and its partners are implementing a Parenting Strategy to provide a framework to deliver services to parents and carers across the continuum of need. It has established an integrated pathway to ensure needs are properly assessed and gaps in services are addressed via commissioning and workforce development. The Parenting Strategy works through a range of settings and provides programmes and interventions designed to tackle underlying causes of poor outcomes in families. The Strategy promotes early intervention and holistic approaches which address the needs of the whole family and develops personalised packages of support.

5 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

6 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

Every Child Matters Green Paper: September 2003
The Children and Young People's Plan Regulations 2005
Guidance on the Children and Young People's Plan 2005
Annual Review of the Children and Young People's Plan (Supplementary Guidance) 2007

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