



**NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**  
**CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

**Date:** Wednesday, 24 June 2015

**Time:** 4.00 pm

**Place:** Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG

**Councillors and Board Members are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business**

**Acting Corporate Director for Resources**

**Constitutional Services Officer:** Catherine Ziane-Pryor **Direct Dial:** 0115 8764298

**AGENDA**

**Pages**

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| <b>1</b> | <b>APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR</b>   |         |
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| <b>3</b> | <b>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b>   |         |
| <b>4</b> | <b>MINUTES</b><br>Of the last meeting held on 25 March 2015 (for confirmation)   | 3 - 10  |
| <b>5</b> | <b>CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD 2014/15 YEAR END PERFORMANCE REVIEW</b><br>Report of Corporate Director for Children and Adults                                    | 11 - 16 |
| <b>6</b> | <b>EDUCATION WELFARE SERVICE - SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REPORT</b><br>Report of Directors of Education, Presentation by Karen McAndrew, Education Welfare Service Manager | 17 - 26 |
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- 8 HEALTH AND WELLBEING OF CHILDREN AGED 0 TO 5 YEARS BY CHILDREN'S CENTRE AREAS** 35 - 38  
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Report to be presented by Lynne McNiven, Consultant in Public Health
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[dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)
- 12 FUTURE MEETING DATES**  
To approve the following meeting dates at Loxley House:
- 30 September 2015  
16 December 2015  
30 March 2016

IF YOU NEED ANY ADVICE ON DECLARING AN INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA, PLEASE CONTACT THE CONSTITUTIONAL SERVICES OFFICER SHOWN ABOVE, IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING

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## NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

**MINUTES of the meeting held at Ground Floor Committee Room - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 25 March 2015 from 16.02 - 17.52**

|                           |  |   |  |
|---------------------------|--|---|--|
| ✓ Councillor David Mellen | - Chair of the Board and Portfolio Holder for Children's Services        | ) |  |
| Ian Curryer               | - Chief Executive  | ) |  |
| Chris Wallbanks           | - Programme Manager Early Intervention and Partnerships                  | ) |  |
| Councillor Sam Webster    | - Executive Assistant for Schools  | ) |  |
| ✓ Jon Rea                 | - Engagement and Participation Lead Officer                              | ) | Nottingham City Council                          |
| ✓ Alison Michalska        | - Corporate Director for Children and Adults                             | ) |  |
| ✓ Helen Blackman          | - Director for Vulnerable Children and Families & Children's Social Care | ) |  |
| ✓ Pat Fielding            | - Director of Education  | ) |  |
| ✓ Sally Seeley            |  | - | NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group |
| Angela Horsley            | - Clinical Lead  | - | Nottingham Children's Hospital                   |
| Michelle Battlemuch       | - Small Steps Big Changes Co-ordinator                                   | - | Nottingham CityCare Partnership                  |
| Paula Webber              | - Senior Advisor   | - | Young People's Learning Agency                   |
| Steve Cooper              | - Superintendent   | - | Nottinghamshire Police                           |
| ✓ James Strawbridge       | - CONGA (City of Nottingham Governors' Association) Representative       | ) | Nottingham Schools                               |
| Andy Sloan                | - Head Teacher, Rosehill School (Special School representation)          | ) |  |
| Jill Robey                | - Head Teacher, Nottingham Nursery School and Training Centre            | ) |  |
| ✓ Karen Slack             | - Head Teacher, Rise Park Primary School                                 | ) | Local Safeguarding Children Board                |
| Anna White                | - Fernwood Secondary School  | ) |  |
| Paul Burnett              | - Independent Chair of   | - |  |
| Anne Danvers              | - District Operations Manager  | - | JobCentre Plus                                   |
| ✓ Stephen McLaren         | - Literacy Volunteers  | - | On behalf of the Community and Voluntary Sector  |
| ✓ Malcolm Cowgill         | - Principal, Central Nottingham College                                  | - | Further Education                                |

✓ John Yarman

Nigel Hill - Director

✓ David Stewart

- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Futures
- Nottinghamshire Probation Trust
- Oakfield Special School

✓ Indicates present at meeting

#### **Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:**

|                     |                                    |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Michael Nicholson   | - Youth Cabinet Member             |
| Michelle Zuiripayi  | - Youth Cabinet Member             |
| Amy Weir            | - Chief Social Worker              |
| Phyliss Brackenbury | - Nottingham City Care Partnership |
| Tanith Davis        | - Governance Officer               |

#### **49 APOLOGIES**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Sue Smith       | - Deputy Head, National Probation Service |
| Sam Webster     | - Councillor                              |
| Sean Kelly      | - Head Teacher, Top Valley Academy        |
| Chris Wallbanks | - Programme Manager, Early Intervention   |
| Chloe Mullins   | - Youth Cabinet                           |

#### **50 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None

#### **51 MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 December 2014 were confirmed and signed by the Chair.

Councillor Mellen advised the Board that at 5pm, he would need to give his apologies and leave the meeting. Malcolm Cowgill (Vice Chair) will chair the remainder of the meeting.

#### **52 QUARTERLY YOUNG PEOPLE'S REPORT**

This report was delivered to the Board by Michael Nicholson and Michelle Zuiripayi, who are members of the Youth Cabinet. The following points were highlighted:

- a) Youth Cabinet is currently made up of 16 members aged between 16 and 21. The members are involved in youth projects, further and higher education, training, volunteering and apprenticeships;
- b) the members of Youth Cabinet work with a wide range of boards and organisations and have an active involvement in decision making;
- c) other forums such as the Children in Care Council are influenced by the Youth Cabinet;
- d) the Youth Cabinet programme enables young people to participate alongside decision makers and contribute to the design, development and delivery of strategies and plans for service improvement;
- e) in 2014/15 Youth Cabinet members contributed to the following Boards:
  - 1) Children's Partnership Board;
  - 2) Nottingham City Growth Board;
  - 3) Equality and Fairness Commission;

- f) in 2014/2015, Youth Cabinet members provided advice and guidance to a range of services such as the Nottingham City Children and Adult Safeguarding Board, the Youth Offending Team and the Early Citizen/Institute of Mental Health (University of Nottingham);
- g) Youth Cabinet meetings are held once a term and the following topics are discussed during these meetings:
  - 1) Education, Work and Training (Autumn term);
  - 2) Safe Lives and Positive Communities (Spring term);
  - 3) Health and Well-being (Summer term).
- h) there is a Primary Parliament for Year 5 and 6 children, which is organised in conjunction with the Nottingham Learning Trust. In 2014/2015, 170 children took part in Primary Parliament meetings;
- i) various topics have been discussed such as sexual health and relationships, science and technology careers and healthy eating;
- j) Youth Cabinet members have been involved in delivering and planning sessions on voting and voter registration for 16-17 year olds;
- k) an exchange visit has taken place with Newcastle Youth Council, to learn about STEM engagement and to develop *Sharing the Future*. *Sharing the Future* is a new model for citizen participation;
- l) Youth Cabinet is now planning its 2015/16 programme and invites partners from the Children's Partnership Board to engage with members of the Cabinet, to identify participation needs and plan appropriate engagement activities;
- m) Youth Cabinet members will represent Nottingham at YouConf2015 in Karlsruhe in June 2015.

Further information was provided following the questions raised:

- a) most events held by Youth Cabinet occur in the school holidays. This is to ensure that there is minimal disruption to the education of the members;
- b) young people with disabilities are encouraged to join the Youth Cabinet and take part in the activities that are on offer.

**RESOLVED to:**

- i. **thank Michael Nicholson and Michelle Zuiripayi, for delivering their presentation to the Board;**
- ii. **recognise the contribution made by the Youth Cabinet in ensuring children and young people influence decision making within the Children's Partnership;**
- iii. **continue to use the findings of participation work to inform plans and strategies for service improvement for children and young people across the Children's Partnership;**
- iv. **support the work of the Youth Cabinet and its associated participation forums in 2015/16.**

**53 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN PRIORITY - STRONGER SAFEGUARDING**

This report was presented to the Board by Helen Blackman, Director for Vulnerable Children and Families & Children's Social Care. The following points were made:

- a) the demand for social care services remains high. There have been 800.6 per 10,000 referrals;
- b) 520 children were subject to child protection in January 2015;
- c) health assessments have risen from 71.8% in 2013/14 to 85.9% in January 2015;
- d) 96.9% of children in care cases were reviewed within the required timescales. This figure has reduced from 98% in 2013/14;

- e) 94.6% of children and young people participated to their care plan (Quarter 3);
- f) Signs of Safety are developing a consistent strength based approach and work with families and local champions;
- g) the Family Support Strategy and Pathway is currently under review with a refresh planned to address learning from the Ofsted inspection and Serious Case Reviews;
- h) work on child sexual exploitation is being undertaken to ensure that there is awareness and action across all front line services. National issues are being used to learn and improve services;
- i) Nottingham City Council have been picked as one of ten Local Authorities to work on a national system in regards to child sexual exploitation;
- j) the Referral Team work with a large number of families and signpost them to additional services (if required) such as Women's Aid;
- k) a redesign of the system is currently being undertaken to ensure that services are improved. Various service areas have now come together to work under one directorate. As a result, more support and services are being offered to children and multi agency work is taking place;
- l) the Priority Families Programme works to identify and offer an effective service to the most complex, local families in need of additional support;
- m) Nottingham City Council have created 3 additional Independent Reviewing Officer posts to ensure that children receive a good service and 10 additional Social Work posts to improve the timeliness of allocations;
- n) it is encouraged that the briefing which has been published by Nottingham City Council on child sexual exploitation is shared with all front line services.

Further information was provided, following questions which were asked by the Board:

- a) pressure on staff working in this service area is high;
- b) users of the service have noticed an improvement when contacting the Department;
- c) data around children with Special Educational Needs is to be extracted and provided to the Board;
- d) data in relation to age and sex of children in need is to be brought to a future meeting and also, information on how this compares with data from other areas.

**RESOLVED:**

- i. **to note the contents of this report;**
- ii. **that Board members are to ensure that their services are aware of Child Sexual Exploitation risks and that the briefing available is shared with local services.**

**54 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN PRIORITY - RAISING ATTAINMENT**

This report was delivered to the Board by Pat Fielding, Director of Education. The following information was provided:

- a) children in Nottingham are starting school with attainment levels which are below those expected nationally. By the end of Key Stage 2, attainment levels are still below the national average.
- b) overall for Key Stage 1-2, Nottingham are ranked:
  - 1) 35<sup>th</sup> for maths;
  - 2) 47<sup>th</sup> for reading;
  - 3) 41<sup>st</sup> for writing.
- c) over the last three years, Nottingham has lost on average around 25% of its Key Stage 2 pupils, as they move to secondary schools outside of the city;
- d) a large proportion of the children moving to a non city school are considered to have a high prior attainment;
- e) at Key Stage 4, the number of pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) including English and Maths, is 44.6%. This ranks Nottingham 148<sup>th</sup> nationally;

- f) 56.3% of Nottingham's pupils achieved the expected progress in maths. This ranks Nottingham 143<sup>rd</sup> nationally;
- g) 65.1% of pupils achieved the expected progress in English, which ranks Nottingham 141<sup>st</sup> nationally;
- h) for Key Stage 5, 88.3% of children achieved 2 or more A Level passes or equivalent in 2014. This ranks Nottingham in 97<sup>th</sup> place;
- i) the number of young people aged 16-17 in employment, education or training is very high at 92.3%. Work is undertaken with other organisations to ensure that further skills are obtained by pupils such as team working and organisation skills;
- j) achievement is being improved by carrying out risk assessments and holding meetings and reviews with schools.

Further information was provided following questions which were raised:

- a) work is being done to try and prevent students migrating to schools outside of the city;
- b) some secondary schools are under performing, with some schools being placed under special measures;
- c) further work needs to be done to ensure children are obtaining skills that employers require such as timeliness and team working. Some schools already have measures in place for this;
- d) even though some pupils do not have access to services to build extra skills, the number of children in education, employment or training is very high;
- e) work continues to take place with partners to ensure that opportunities for young pupils are not missed;
- f) some schools within the city attract pupils who do not reside within Nottingham;
- g) creative activities can be implemented into lessons. However, this is reliant on the school/teacher;
- h) children's progress should be calculated city wide and not just per individual schools;
- i) the current Government have introduced free schools, partly provide a range of schools that encourage competitiveness;
- j) experiences for school pupils differ depending on which area of the country they live in. More work is needed to signpost young people to services such as Futures;
- k) schools can invite former pupils back to give talks on their careers, education and to offer younger pupils advice;
- l) it is felt that there is too much focus on percentage achievements and not enough focus on individual children. Pupils are missing out on various learning opportunities as a result of this.

**RESOLVED to note the content of the report.**

At 17:13pm, Councillor Mellen (chair) gave his apologies and left the meeting. Malcolm Cowgill (vice chair) chaired the remainder of the meeting.

**55 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN**

Alison Michalska, Corporate Director, Children and Adults presented this report to the Board and highlighted the following points:

- a) the Refreshed Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2015/16 builds on the plan for 2010-2014. The plan has been updated and is more focused;
- b) following a workshop which was held in December 2014, four priorities have been developed:
  - 1) safeguarding and supporting children and families;
  - 2) promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people;
  - 3) supporting achievement and academic attainment;
  - 4) empowering families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing.

- c) more details on these priorities can be found in appendix 2 of the report for the Refreshed Children and Young People's Plan 2015/16;
- d) indicators have been identified to measure the extent to which Nottingham City Council are improving on these priorities. The indicators now reflect:
  - 1) key priorities for Nottingham, including relevant Nottingham Plan targets;
  - 2) particular performance challenges;
  - 3) the impact of prevention and early intervention activities;
  - 4) issues where more than one partner on the Board can contribute.
- e) concerns were expressed that the current Government have acted too quickly in introducing free schools and allowing schools to become academies;
- f) there is still time for minor amendments to be made to the CYPP. Board members have been invited to offer their thoughts;
- g) once the CYPP has been finalised, it will be published online and through internal/external organisations.

Following a brief discussion:

- a) the Board was asked to provide feedback on the Nottingham Children's Partnership website, to see if any improvements are needed;
- b) the Youth Cabinet members have agreed to assist in constructively criticising the site.

**RESOLVED to:**

- i. **approve the refreshed CYPP for 2015/16 (Appendix 1), subject to any final changes arising from discussion;**
- ii. **approve the draft Action Plan for delivering the proposed CYPP for 2015/16 (Appendix 2) and for members recognise their organisation's contributions to it;**
- iii. **consider future amendments to the CYPP which could strengthen its impact over the next 12 months;**
- iv. **note that a further update on the CYPP will be provided to the Board in 6 months.**

**56 SAFEGUARDING INSPECTION ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

Amy Weir, Chief Social Worker delivered this presentation to the Board and highlighted the following points:

- a) in March/April 2014, Ofsted inspected the services provided for Children in Need and found that no children were unsafe in the City;
- b) 26 areas for improvement were identified and improvements have since been made;
- c) Nottingham City Council produced an Improvement Action Plan and this plan was submitted to Ofsted in August 2014;
- d) there has been a reduction in the number of unallocated Child in Need cases in the Social Work Team;
- e) the attendance campaign has been successful in reducing school absence;
- f) work force development is being undertaken and the IT system is being redesigned;
- g) a new case management system for Children's Social Care will be introduced by March 2016;
- h) packages of support for Newly Qualified Social Workers have been improved;
- i) SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timely) templates have been created for Care Plans and Supervision meetings;
- j) the Virtual School has been restructured to support children in care over the age of 16;
- k) the following areas still require action;



- 1) delivering a restructure of the Fostering & Adoption service;
- 2) ensuring that all children's cases have an up to date chronology;
- 3) ensuring that schools are informed about the role of the Virtual School and that data sharing agreements and protocols are in place around key city-wide issues;
- 4) refreshing the Family Support Strategy and Pathway, ensuring that services fully embed learning from the Priority Families programme and Signs of Safety roll-out.

Following questions from the Board, further information was provided:

- a) the Adult and Children Leadership Team hold regular meetings and assist when a child reaches 18 and transfers to adult services;
- b) areas for improvement in child to adult transitions have been identified;
- c) from April 2015, the Care Act will be implemented and will make Adult Safeguarding a statutory requirement;
- d) protection for adults is a priority, along with children. The Out of Hours Team are qualified to deal with issues raised with both adults and children.

**RESOLVED to note:**

- i. the key areas of progress and areas requiring further development;
- ii. that regular updates on the Improvement Action Plan will be provided to the Children's Partnership Board.

**57 KEY MESSAGES AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

None

**58 FORWARD PLAN**

It is noted that any requests for the Board to consider further topics, should be forwarded to Dot Veitch, Partnership Support Officer at [dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

**59 PROPOSED MEETING DATES**

The provisional dates for future meetings have been noted.

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# Children's Partnership Board 2014/15 Year End Performance Review

24 June 2015

# Headlines:

## Strategic Objective 1: Safeguarding & Early Intervention

### Headlines:

- Continued implementation of the recommendations following the Ofsted inspections of Children in Need of Help and Protection, Children Looked After and Care Leavers – Nottingham's children remain safe and effective measures in place
- Demands on Social Care remain high
- Effective work of Children Families Direct service diverting calls away from Duty service
- The new Duty model has faced initial implementation challenges but a robust management oversight and minor changes will improve the service
- Children in Need work continues to increase in Fieldwork teams
- Safeguarding activity remains high but a recent audit of Section 47 decision making concluded that threshold have been applied appropriately and those taken in the enquiry stage are correct
- Small Steps Big Changes programme is progressing well – Dolly Parton Imagination Library launched
- The supplier of our key Social Care IT system has been agreed
- Young people actively involved in decision making
- Early Intervention projects within Children's Big Ticket in delivery and now realising significant savings
- The DrugAware, Broxtowe Youth Homeless and Stronger Families programmes continue to work with vulnerable groups
- Safe Families for Children pilot progressing well
- There has been an increase on CAF closures leading to referral to Children's Social Care – Audits have identified a need to focus on quality of assessment and 'voice of the child'
- Infants breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks rates continue to improve and remain higher than the national average
- Stage 3 Baby Friendly, Breastfeeding Peer support, FNP and closer working between Midwifery and Health Visiting will continue to improve rates

### Selected Improving Pls:

- 35% reduction in contacts
- 84.9% of Children's Assessments authorised within 45 days
- 2.9% of Child Protection Plans closing that lasted longer than 2 years
- 99.0% of CPPs reviewed within timescale

### Selected Declining Pls:

- 3% increase in referrals
- 8.2% increase – No. Section 47 enquiries carried out
- 14.4% increase – No. children subject to a Child Protection Plan
- 4.9% less CAFs being carried out
- 46.4% of infants being breastfed at 6-8 weeks compared to 48.4% (13/14), however, still better than national picture

## Headlines:

### Strategic Objective 2: Strong Families

#### Headlines:

- There has been a reduction in the number of Children in Care
- There have been increased permanency rates of Adoptions
- Citywide Children's Centre rates of sustained contact across five target groups has increased
- The third state of the art play and youth facility at Green Lane (Clifton) is now fully operational
- Demands on Alternative Provision remain high especially for Key Stages 3 and 4
- Family Support Strategy and Pathway continues to be implemented
- Phase 2 of the Priority Families/FIP commenced 1<sup>st</sup> January – three months ahead of the official national launch
- 20 dedicated workers supported the PF/FIP delivery

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#### Selected Improving PIs:

- 1.9% decrease of the number of Children in Care
- 97.6% of CiC reviewed within appropriate timescale
- 49.0% of Care Leavers (19yo) in Employment, Education or Training
- 95.0% of CiC with a Personal Education Plan
- 85.9% of CiC with an up to date health assessment
- 65.9% of CiC living in the same place for at least 2 year

#### Selected Declining PIs:

- KS3/4 Alternative Provision rates/targets not met (Q2)
- 76.5% of CiC with an up to date dental check
- 43.0% of Care Leavers are NEET

## Headlines:

### Strategic Objective 3: Healthy & Positive Children & Young People

#### Headlines:

- Prevalence of Obesity in reception age children has remained static for the past four years. The national picture shows an increase
  - Obesity rates amongst Year 6 students has increased within the City – this follows the same results nationally
  - Immunisation levels for Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Polio & HIB have dropped by 1.0% over the past year
  - Public Health continues to work with NHS England to ensure that immunisation rates improve
  - There is an increased number of schools engaged in the Healthy Schools 'Health & Wellbeing Improvement' model
  - The Teenage Pregnancy Plan was approved and signed off and is now being performance managed by the Teenage Pregnancy Taskforce
  - Although Teenage Pregnancy rates have increased throughout the year, it should be noted that the rates are achieving the 2020 target to reduce rates by half from their 1998 baselines
  - The number of Offences committed by under 18s has decreased across all offence types with the exception of Drugs which has seen a slight increase
- Youth Justice Board performance remains positive with reoffending rates better than family, core cities and national averages
- The number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System is a fifth of what it was 7 years ago
- The number of custodial sentences for children has fallen
- More young people leaving substance misuse treatment in agreed and planned way

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#### Selected Improving PIs:

- 10.5% of reception age children are obese
- 56.0% (Q2) of schools achieving the 'Health & Wellbeing Improvement' model
- The rate of Teenage Pregnancy amongst 15-17 years old girls is 37.5 per 1,000 pop.
- 3.6% of 10-17 year olds in custody
- 241 First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

#### Selected Declining PIs:

- 23.4% of Year 6 children are obese
- 5.8% increase – No. of under 18s Drugs offences
- 67.8% decrease - No. of young people supervised by the YOT in fulltime education, training or employment

## Headlines:

### Strategic Objective 4 & 5: Achievement & Economic Well-Being

#### Headlines:

- The Education Improvement Board is fully established with the aim for all children in the city to attend schools that are deemed to be good or better
- In October 2014, the Education Improvement Strategy was published
- In 2015, all parents who submitted an on-time application for a school place were offered one – the first time since pupil numbers increased in 2009 that this has happened. 85% were given their first choice place, and 6% their second choice
- Following the 2013 inspection of the city's Secondary Schools, where Ofsted judged seven as 'inadequate', monitoring visits to the schools have continued over the past year. Most are showing significant improvements, with three predicted to be rated 'good'. A further three schools have achieved academy status in the past three years so have no Ofsted rating
- 44.6% of pupils achieved 5 A\*-C GCSEs including English and Maths
- The proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in education, employment or training (EET) was the highest of all eight English Core Cities, at 92.3% in December 2014
- All of the City's Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children received free school meals. Work was carried out on a number of school kitchens to ensure they coped with demand
- There was a major programme launched to heighten awareness about school attendance
- School attendance rates improved across Primary and Secondary sectors
- The percentage of 19 year old achieving level 2 or 3 qualification increased
- Based on published 2012/13 figures that were released in the summer of 2014, 34.6% of children and young people were shown to be living in households dependent on out of work benefits – an increase of 0.8 percentage points from the previous year

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#### Selected Improving PIs:

- 6.4% of 16-18 years olds are NEET - 2.0% are Not Known
- 6.8% and 6.0% - Secondary school persistent and overall absence rates
- 2.8% and 4.4% - Primary school persistent and overall absence rates
- 91.0%, 92.0% and 90.0% of KS2 pupils making expected progress from KS1 for Reading, Writing and Maths
- 62.9% overall employment rate of the working age population
- 1,960 18-24 year old JSA claimants
- 4,234 (Nov 14) Lone Parent Income Support claimants
- 8,340 – all JSA claimants

#### Selected Declining PIs:

- 44.6% achieved 5 A\*-C GCSE grades (not measurable against previous years)
- 3.1% of pupils left with no qualifications (not measurable against previous years)
- 64.2% of schools judged Good or Better by Ofsted

# Challenges / Areas for Future Progress

## **1 – Safeguarding and Early Intervention:**

- Ensure delivery of the post-Ofsted Safeguarding Inspection action plan
- High numbers of Children in Need
- Review of the whole of 'Front Door' services
- Review/Refresh of how data is reported in relation to Missing Children
- Future quality, cost and demand pressures around Children in Care
- Delivery of savings within the Children's Big Ticket

## **2 – Strong Families:**

- Implementation of the 'Small Steps, Big Changes' programme
- Phase 2 of the Priority Families programme
- Work to increase the number of CAFs being initiated

## **3 – Healthy and Positive Children & Young People:**

- Continue to implement targets within the Teenage Pregnancy Plan
- Strategic Commissioning Reviews for Health Improvement and Children 0-19
- Transfer of Public Health services for 0-5 years and Family Nurse Partnership to Local Authority
- Self Harm pathway commissioned by the CCG is currently under development
- Remodelling of CAMHS pathway
- Negative impact of the economy/deprivation on the physical and mental wellbeing of children

## **4 – Achievement and 5 – Economic Well-Being:**

- The Education Improvement Board to continue to drive improvements in our education settings to ensure that all young people are in a good or better school.
- Continue to work on achievement and attainment, behaviour, recruitment, quality of teaching and leadership and governance
- Policies to be implemented across all schools and academies, outlining practice relating to intervention and support 2015 onwards, to include 'Education Improvement Strategy' / 'Schools Causing Concern' / 'Partnership Protocols' / 'School Improvement Service Core Offer'



|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Title of paper:</b>  | Education Welfare Service - School Attendance Report                        |   |   |
| <b>Report to:</b>   | Children’s Partnership Board  |   |   |
| <b>Date:</b>  | 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2015  |   |   |
| <b>Relevant Director:</b>   | Pat & Sarah Fielding  | <b>Wards affected:</b> All Wards  |   |
| <b>Contact Officer(s) and contact details:</b>  | Nick Lee – Head of Service<br>Karen McAndrew – Education Welfare Service    |   |   |
| <b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>  |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |
| <b>Relevant Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) priority or priorities:</b>   |   |   |   |
| <b>Safeguarding and supporting children and families:</b>   |   | Children, young people and families will benefit from early and effective support and protection to empower them to overcome difficulties and provide a safe environment in which to thrive.              |   |
| <b>Promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children, young people:</b>  |   | From pregnancy and throughout life, babies, children, young people and families will be healthier, more emotionally resilient and better able to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing |   |
| <b>Supporting achievement and academic attainment:</b>  |   | All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for independence, work or further learning                                     | ✓ |
| <b>Empowering Families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing:</b>   |   | More families will be empowered and able to deal with family issues and child poverty will be significantly reduced   |   |
|   |   |   |   |
| <b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>   |   |   |   |
| To present an update of school attendance in Nottingham showing current attendance data, a summary of the Education Welfare Service and how the service links with the Children’s Partnership |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |
| <b>Recommendations:</b>   |   |   |   |
| 1   | To celebrate the success of Nottingham City pupil attendance improvement    |   |   |
| 2   | To recognise the functions and development of the Education Welfare Service |   |   |
| 3   | To demonstrate the links between the EWS and the Children’s Partnership     |   |   |

## 1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

School attendance is improving in our City. Official statistics from the Department for Education for the Autumn 2014 term show that absence has dramatically reduced over the last five years. In fact, from 2013 to 2014, we were the most improved local authority in the country.

The headline figures for our City are:

- The number of children missing lessons has fallen from 5.2% in Autumn Term 2013 to 4.6% in Autumn Term 2014.
- Authorised absence in Nottingham has fallen from 3.5% in Autumn 2013 to 3.2% in Autumn 2014
- Unauthorised absence has fallen from 1.8% to 1.4% over the same period
- Overall absence in the autumn term has fallen over the last five years in Nottingham, from 8.1% in 2010 to 4.6% in 2014

Nottingham is now ranked 109th nationally for attendance out of 152 local authorities – up from 150th in 2013.

### Education Welfare Service (EWS) – Attendance Improvement Service (Sept. 2015)

The EWS, previously integrated into the targeted teams has now returned to a service in its own right. The team of Education Welfare Officers is based at the North MALT office in Bestwood. Additionally the team have transferred from Family Community Teams (as was) to Access and Learning in the Schools Directorate. This firmly integrates the EWS with Education colleagues streamlining practice with Children Missing Education, Pupils Without a School Place, Elective Home Education and the wider services within the directorate. The EWS are currently involved in the Nottingham City Council Attendance Improvement Campaign and the zero tolerance approach to school absence. Operationally the EWS have a focus on enforcement.

The number of penalty notices issued on behalf of school and the number of prosecutions have risen since 2011.

|  | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15     |
|--|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| <b>Number of Penalty Notices issued to parents</b> | 149     | 357     | 726     | 665 to date |
| <b>Prosecutions for Non-school attendance</b>      | 161     | 194     | 257     | 163 to date |

This does not mean however that the service has cut links with Early Help and Extensive and Specialist Services, and with the Children's Partnership. The focus on attendance improvement and improved outcomes for children and families can be illustrated as:

Education Welfare Officers - All of the EWOs are fully trained practitioners who undertake assessments as an integral part of their role using the signs of safety model in line with the Family Support Strategy and Pathway.

### Early Intervention

The EWS actively encourage schools to refer pupils at 10% unauthorised absence (before they reach the 15% persistent absence threshold) tackling the absence earlier avoiding PA

### Priority Families

Attendance being a key indicator of PF the EWS is an integral part of the programme. Accredited Practitioners are able to refer directly to the EWS (whether the pupil is at a school or academy) to support their ongoing support and challenge role. All EWOs are trained PF practitioners and have well established links with Family Intervention Project

### Children & Families Direct

C & F Direct field calls from the check and challenge initiative (soon to be rebranded as pupil safe/pupil watch)

### Looked After Children

A new initiative has been introduced to analyse the children looked after attendance data, and to challenge any poor or irregular school attendance.

### Safeguarding

The EWS have strong working links with safeguarding colleagues as part of a multi-agency plan and/or making direct referrals should safeguarding concerns arise.

### Police

EWOs are eyes and ears on the ground, front line workers undertaking unannounced home visits have regular contact with the Police and links with projects such as Child Sexual Exploitation, Female Genital Mutilation, and Forced Marriage etc. The EWS have a key role with the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference as the conduit between schools and domestic violence.

### Health

The EWS work closely with School Nurses, Health Visitors etc. and have communications with Paediatricians and GPs.

### Legal Services

The EWS have very strong links with legal services that support developing legal interventions. Increasing prosecutions has resulted in a wide range of disposals at court such as Education Supervision Orders, Parenting Orders and School Attendance Orders. (It's not just about fining parents!)

### Schools and Academies

Links with schools and academies has increased during this academic year, almost all have signed up to Nottingham City Council Common Attendance Protocol, the team are established within a group of School Attendance Officers which includes schools and academies working together to improve attendance.

## **2. RISKS**

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

The risk involved in not continuing with the Education Welfare Service is that the continued improvement in school attendance will not continue but will deteriorate especially in the light of the persistent absence threshold being reduced from 15% to 10% absence. Further risk will be the facility to support our schools and academies with the issue of penalty notices for unauthorised absence, persistent lateness to school, leave of absence in term time and excluded pupils being seen in a public place during the period of their exclusion.

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The functions of the EWS are within current budget

## **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal implications as the team undertake statutory functions

## **5. CLIENT GROUP**

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

Parents/carers and school age pupils who may or may not be registered at a school

## **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.**

The EWS strive to ensure all school aged children and young people in Nottingham City have access to an appropriate education and are committed to supporting their parents and carers.

## **7. OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED**

**(Briefly state which of the CYPP priorities will be addressed)**

Supporting achievement and academic outcomes by ensuring children and young people attend school regularly.

## **8. CONTACT DETAILS**

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**Education Welfare Service - Nottingham City Council**

**Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham. NG2 3NG**

**Tel: 87 64892 [karen.mcandrew@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:karen.mcandrew@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)**

## *School Attendance Update June 2015*

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# *School attendance is improving in our City*

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- Overall absence in the autumn term has fallen over the last five years in Nottingham from 8.1% in 2010 to 4.6% in 2014

Nottingham is now ranked 109<sup>th</sup> nationally for attendance out of 152 Local Authorities – up from 150<sup>th</sup> in 2013.

|  | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 |
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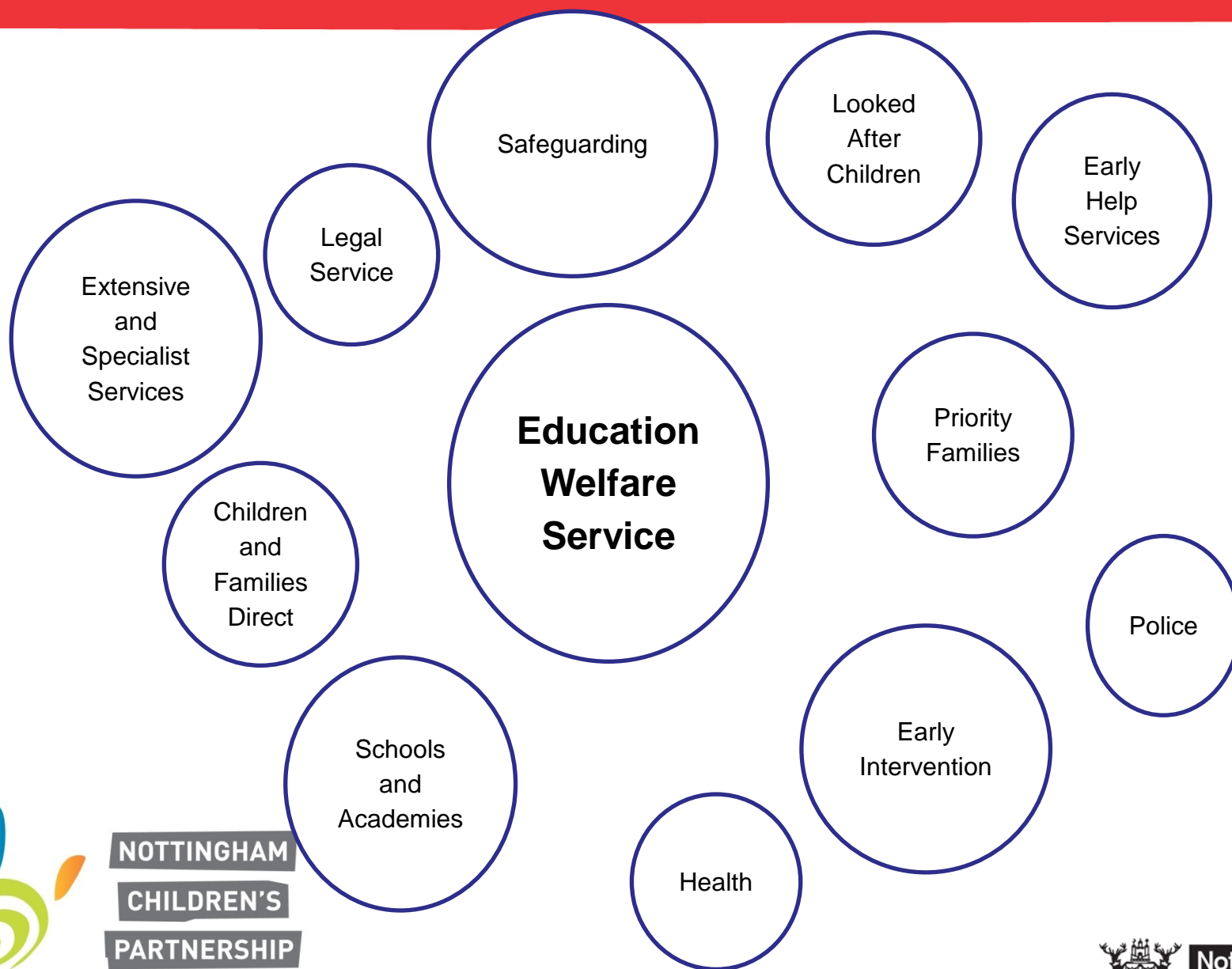


**NOTTINGHAM  
CHILDREN'S  
PARTNERSHIP**

PROUD OF NOTTINGHAM'S CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE



**Nottingham  
City Council**



**NOTTINGHAM  
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**Nottingham  
City Council**



# Case Study

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|  |  |                            |   |
|--|--|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Title of paper:</b>   | CAF and Early Help Annual Report 2014/15 |                            |   |
| <b>Report to:</b>  | Children's Partnership                   |                            |   |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2015               |                            |   |
| <b>Relevant Director:</b>  | Helen Blackman                           | <b>Wards affected:</b> ALL |   |
| <b>Contact Officer(s) and contact details:</b>   | Tajinder Madahar<br>Gemma Waygood        |                            |   |
| <b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>   | Sara-Jane Brighthouse<br>Ian Hayes       |                            |   |
|  |  |                            |   |
| <b>Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) priority or priorities:</b>  |  |                            |   |
| <b>Safeguarding and supporting children and families:</b> Children, young people and families will benefit from early and effective support and protection to empower them to overcome difficulties and provide a safe environment in which to thrive.   |  |                            | x |
| <b>Promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people:</b> From pregnancy and throughout life, babies, children, young people and families will be healthier, more emotionally resilient and better able to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.   |  |                            | x |
| <b>Supporting achievement and academic attainment:</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for independence, work or further learning.  |  |                            | x |
| <b>Empowering families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing:</b> More families will be empowered and able to deal with family issues and child poverty will be significantly reduced.   |  |                            | x |
|  |  |                            |   |
| <b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>  |  |                            |   |
| <b>A more comprehensive understanding of early help</b>  |  |                            |   |
| For the first time the annual report includes a more holistic understanding around the quality of early help for 2014/15 including:  |  |                            |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Quantitative data from two separate systems; CAF Central Records and Local Authority CareFirst IT system.</li><li>NCSCB Audits of Partnership CAFs and Local Authority Vulnerable Children and Families Quality Assurance Framework which evaluate the quality of support.</li><li>NCSCB workforce consultations evaluating the lead professional role and the effectiveness of CAF.</li><li>The Partnership data includes valuable information about engagement of parents and carers with early intervention.</li><li>The Vulnerable Children and Families CAF includes outcome measures including if the child/young person/parent/carers views an improvement at review and closure stage, as well as Signs of Safety scoring.</li></ul> |  |                            |   |
| <b>What's working well?</b>  |  |                            |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>There has been improved quality assurance arrangements, with the NCSCB coordinating dip sample audits of partnership CAF's and the Local Authority Vulnerable Children and Families has developed a QA Framework that tracks improvement (Appendix 1).</li><li>NCSCB now deliver CAF training to partner agencies and CityCare has delivered internal CAF training from the beginning of 2014.</li><li>Local Authority CAF assessments include Signs of Safety and need scaling and the partnership CAF's review if the need has been met or escalated.</li><li>The Local Authority CAF captures child/young person and parent/carers consultations on their views</li></ul>   |  |                            |   |

and wishes.

#### **What difference has this made?**

- A higher percentage of those completing the NCSCB workforce survey are aware of the CAF, understand how it is used in their own agency and have completed CAFs.
- A high proportion of partnership CAF's show children's needs are being met.
- Partnership data shows a reduction of non-engagement as a reason for closure.
- There has been an increase in the quality of CAF's being undertaken by Vulnerable Children and Families evidenced by the quarterly and comparable audit information.
- During this period there was also an increase of 42% in the number of CAFs initiated by Health Visiting from 137 to 195.
- Local Authority CAFs consulted with child/young person/parent/carers and evidenced a high proportion (75-82%) viewed an improvement at review and closure stages.

#### **1.1 Areas of development**

- Currently there are two recording systems, CAF Central Records and the Local Authority system CareFirst. Subsequently further work needs to be undertaken to combine the data. The Partnership also needs to consider how to integrate Family Assessments.
- Despite an increase in the workforce feeling more confident about undertaking the Lead Professional role there has been a slight decrease in partnership CAF's being initiated (1%) and a decrease of Vulnerable Children and Families of 10%. This could be attributed to not recording Partnership CAFs on central records and the increase of recording Family Assessments as part of the Priority Families approach.
- During the 2014 inspection, the quality assurance information shows although there has been improved assessment analysis, engagement of children and young people and planning, these themes should still remain a focus for improvement.

#### **Recommendations for discussion and approval:**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | The Partnership to ensure CAF's are recorded on Central Records and closed appropriately   |
| <b>2</b> | To decide if the evaluation of early help will incorporate both CareFirst and CAF Central Records with further consideration about incorporating Family Assessments (Priority Families).   |
| <b>3</b> | The partnership to support the implementation of an electronic CAF with roll out of the new Local Authority case management system.  |
| <b>4</b> | To support focusing on virtuous learning by developing and cascading a good CAF example  |
| <b>5</b> | To support the continuation of the NCSCB CAF training to increase partnership confidence, particularly focusing on <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Assessment analysis</li><li>• Engaging children and families</li><li>• Planning</li><li>• Good practice CAF</li></ul> |
| <b>6</b> | To support the continuation of the NCSCB and Vulnerable Children and Families audits to drive up the quality of CAF's  |
| <b>7</b> | To consider utilising the Vulnerable Children CAF QA to track improvement in quality and re-audit partnership CAFs   |

## **1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS**

1.1 The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is the process to identify children who have additional needs, assess needs and strengths and to provide them with a co-ordinated, multi-agency support plan to meet those needs.

1.2 As part of the Ofsted Single Inspection Framework and Reviews of Safeguarding Board's, children who have been the subject to a common assessment will be audited to evaluate the impact of early help. This is crucial to ensure services achieve positive outcomes for children and families by providing timely and proportionate support and divert them from statutory services.

1.3 This report provides insight into the quantity, quality, impact and areas of development focusing on the CAF.

### **1.3 Quantitative**

- 1.3.1 There are currently two systems where CAF's are recorded. The Local Authority host CAF Central Records (CCR), where the partnership provide information on CAF initiations and closures, as well as information if the need is met or risk escalated. To improve recording for Vulnerable Children and Families, in 2014, the facility to record CAF's was developed on CareFirst. The two systems have resulted in improved recording for Local Authority CAF's and a refresh of the assessment to include Signs of Safety scaling and assess if the level of need has reduced. A third system captures Families Assessments (Priority Families Portal).
- 1.3.2 However this has meant some duplication and a reduction in the numbers of CAF's recorded on CCR despite the early intervention activity continuing as they are held on a different system. Therefore the quantitative data presented in this report has been run for the first time from both systems, which has raised some further data reporting and comparative issues. The Local Authority has been requested to undertake some further analysis of the CAF data that will be published in the NCSCB Annual Report.
- 1.3.3 This is evidenced by the following: 864 initiated CAFs were recorded on CAF Central Records (CCR) across the partnership in 2014/15, which represents a 21.8% decrease on the number initiated in 2013/14 of 1104.
- 1.3.4 However when including all Local Authority CAF and early help assessments recorded with CareFirst by Vulnerable Children and Families teams not registered on CCR, the total is 1489 in 2014/15 down from 1657 in 2013/14 (a decrease of 10%). This could be attributed to Priority Family Assessments being undertaken in place of a CAF. The Partnership need to consider how these assessments will be incorporated in the future.

#### **Initiation by Agency / Organisation**

- 1.3.5 When analysing both CareFirst and CCR, Vulnerable Children and Families initiate the highest proportion of CAF's at 70.3% (1117).
- 1.3.6 Excluding the CAFs initiated by Vulnerable Children and Families, there has been a slight decrease of the number of CAFs initiated by the partnership between 2013/14 and 2014/15 of around 1%.
- 1.3.7 Outside of Vulnerable Children and Families, the other largest service/organisation initiators of the CAF remain Health Visiting and Primary and Secondary Schools.
- 1.3.8 Between 2013/14 and 2014/15 there was a 29% decrease in the number of CAFs initiated by Primary Schools (151 to 107), and a further decrease of 24% of those initiated by Secondary Schools between those periods (72 to 55). This decrease can be partly attributed to the Family Support Workers being based in schools who are employed by partly funded by schools and record on the Local Authority CareFirst System. In addition the NCSCB workforce survey confirmed some schools felt "it was not their responsibility to initiate a CAF", although other staff within the school undertaken the Lead Professional role and they also contribute to early help assessments.
- 1.3.9 During this period there was also an increase of 42% in the number of CAFs initiated by Health Visiting from 137 to 195.

#### **Initiation by Reason**

- 1.3.10 The largest area of CAFs initiated in 2014/15 against the Family Support Pathway dimensions were within:
- Education and Learning with 212 (25%).
  - Emotional and Behavioural Development with 170 (17%),

- Health with 134 (16%)
- Basic Care and Protection with 125 (15%)

1.3.11 This is a pattern reflected in the previous year with the above 4 dimensions been the most prevalent.

1.3.12 In regards to the four main agency initiators of CAF against those main initiation reasons there is a degree of variation in terms of proportion.

### **Outcomes**

1.3.13 Taken from CCR, across the partnership as a whole, the percentage of cases closed where needs were identified as being met was 77.9% for 2014/15 which is an increase on 2013/14 where needs met was 64.1%.

1.3.14 The proportion of cases closed in 2014/15 due to increased risk/need was 12.6%. Increased risk / need covers escalation to a range of specialist services, the majority of which is escalation to Children's Social Care but also covers transfer to YOT, FIP and Specialist CAMHS.

1.3.15 The percentage of those closed due to increased risk / need is lower compared with the previous year, with 18.9% closing with increased risk / need in 2013/14.

1.3.16 The proportion of cases closing due to non-engagement is lower compared with the previous year, with 7.7% closing in 2014/15 compared with 11.7% in 2013/14.

### **Outcome by Ethnicity**

1.3.17 In respect of outcomes by ethnicity, the proportion of cases closing with needs met in 2014/15 classified as:

- White British is 74% (201/271),
- White other is 67% (14/21),
- Asian ethnicity is 90% (26/29),
- Black ethnicity is 56% (20/36),
- Dual heritage is 72% (48/67).

### **Outcome by Age**

1.3.18 For 2014/15 across the age groups 0-4, 5-9, 10-14 and 15-18, broadly speaking, the number for each outcome after intervention are consistent. For example, all age groups broadly have the same proportion where needs are identified as being met, non-engagement and increased risk/need.

### **Levels of Need and Signs of Safety**

1.3.19 The Local Authority CAF captures and tracks progress of levels of need and signs of safety. This information has not previously been recorded in the CAF assessment.

- 50.8% of cases demonstrate a reduced level of need at review.
- 50.4% of closed CAFs show a reduction in Level of Need since the Assessment stage.
- 36% of cases demonstrate an improvement in signs of safety at review.
- 50% of cases demonstrate an improvement in signs of safety at closure.

(Further analysis is being undertaken the Local Authority regarding how this data is recorded and what the outcomes are after closure).

## **1.4 Qualitative**

- 1.4.1 In February - March 2014 38 CAF's completed by the following agencies were audited by the NCSCB:
- Nottingham City Council, Social Care, and Family Community Teams
  - City Care Partnership (Health Visiting and Family Nurse Partnership, School Nursing)
  - Nottingham University Hospitals (Midwifery)
  - Nottingham City Schools
- 1.4.2 The audit findings included all agencies / service areas found issues with the storage and retention of the CAF documentation; it was inconsistently stored within agencies and across agencies and there is an issue with agencies recording on CAF Central Records. Service improvements have already been made for Vulnerable Children and Families CareFirst recording system, but further work needs to be undertaken to ensure partnership record on CAF Central Records to consider the improvement with the Local Authority IT update which may have improved partnership functionality.
- 1.4.3 The NSCBC audit positively identified appropriate partnership agency involvement in the majority CAFs selected for audit. This included Police, Probation, Housing, YOT, CAMHS, and adult services (for example specialist substance misuse services.) There was one case which would have benefited from housing being included.
- 1.4.4 The Local Authority Vulnerable Children and Families Service has implemented a Quality Assurance Framework since 2014 which tracks the quality and effectiveness of the key stages of a child's journey, from assessment and planning, through intervention and review to closure and outcomes. An example is found in Appendix 1. It is used to evidence a worker's individual performance and development, as well as triangulating themes with the NCSCB audits to inform strategic improvement.
- 1.4.5 The audits provide tracked and comparable information based on 65 questions framed on the Ofsted inspection identifying areas of improvement and quality of provision. To date nearly 200 audits have been completed and compared on a quarterly basis to effectively track improvement in each stage of a child's journey.
- 1.4.6 Positively there has been improvement in a number of areas. This includes taking a family centred approach to intervention with all CAF's being graded as good or outstanding. Although there has been improvement further work needs to be undertaken with engaging with the young people.
- 1.4.7 For both the partnership audit and the Vulnerable Children and Families audit there needs to be improvement to the assessment quality (45% partnership, 48% were not good or outstanding).

## **1.5 Engagement with frontline staff**

- 1.5.1 In terms of the CAF, a higher percentage of those completing the survey are aware of the CAF, understand how it is used in their own agency and have completed CAFs. As outlined in the Partnership CAF Performance 2013/14, a communication plan was delivered across the Partnership to raise awareness of CCR and the revised processes. This increase could also be attributed to the NCSCB now delivering CAF training to partner agencies and the fact that CityCare has delivered internal CAF training from the beginning of 2014.
- 1.5.2 There is a slight increase in the number of practitioners who are 'confident' or 'very confident' in taking on the role of lead practitioner. However, this still leaves 25% of practitioners as feeling 'unconfident' or 'not at all confident'. And the NCSCB audit identified that CAF training is not consistently being delivered across partnership agencies. One agency has a long established CAF

training programme, one has a recently developed training programme, and the others are not in receipt of routine access to CAF training.

## **1.6 Engagement with service users and their families**

- 1.6.1 The partnership data indicates the number of families not engaging as closure reason has reduced from 99 in 2013/14 to 36 in 2014/15. However this reduction might be explained by the total number of CAF's not been closed on central records, which has been identified as an issue in the data cleansing activity undertaken in 2013/14.
- 1.6.2 The Local Authority CAF captures the views of the child/young person and the parent/carer at review and closure stages of intervention. In 2014/15 the following views were recorded:
- Reviews where child/young person views an improvement is 81.1% (587/724)
  - Reviews where parent/carer views an improvement is 75.9% (431/568)
  - Closure where child/young person views an improvement 81.2% (782/963)
  - Closure where parent/carer views an improvement 76.7% (601/784)
- 1.6.3 The Local Authority CAF assessments include signs of safety views and captures child/young person and parent/carer consultation on their views and wishes. In 2014/15, 71% of children/young people have been consulted on their views and wishes and 93% of parents/carers have been consulted on their views and wishes.
- 1.6.4 As part of the NCSCB audits, attempts were made to contact families. One parent responded and their feedback reflected a very positive experience, she felt as a result of the CAF her children were happier, better behaved, and had developed friendships, she felt her relationship with the children had improved, and her relationship with professionals had also improved, she no longer wanted to "run away from the." and didn't "feel alone". She did wish that the CAF had started sooner.

## **1.7 Conclusion**

- 1.7.1 The 2014/15 Annual Report there has been a slight decrease of CAF activity. As identified in the body of the report CAF information is now stored on separate systems. We need to agree a way forward regarding the recording of CAF, Family Assessments and early help support across the partnership to ensure all activity is recorded. The implementation of the Local Authority IT system will present a solution and the Partnership should support its roll out.
- 1.7.2 There has been improved training arrangements and increase in partners undertaking the Lead Professional role.
- 1.7.3 There are improved quality assurance arrangements and mechanisms to gather if children/young people/parents/carers view if there has been an improvement and assess if intervention has made a difference. It is recommended to build upon good practice.
- 1.7.4 The quality assurance work evidences an increase in oversight and understanding around the quality of early intervention and Common Assessments. The audits evidence there has been an improvement in the all areas of the child's journey, although there are still areas of development around assessment and engaging children, these have shown improvement.

## **2 RISKS**

- 2.1 The risk is not recording on the system, therefore not accurately evidencing the activity, provision and impact of early help.
- 2.2 There is a risk of duplicate and parallel system developing unless the Partnership supports the implementation of Project Evolution (the Local Authority IT solution).



### **3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 3.1 There is a body of research that evidences the increase in cost and statutory services unless there are timely and effective early intervention services.

### **4 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None identified

### **5 CLIENT GROUP**

- 5.1 All children, young people and their families who have been subject to early help and intervention across the partnership through the CAF.

### **6 IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES**

- 6.1 The report data includes specific analysis and appreciation of CAF intervention and associated outcomes across the protective factors to ensure there is oversight of patterns or issues of disproportionate outcomes within minority groups.

### **7 OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED**

- 7.1 Effective delivery of early intervention through the CAF and equivalent early help assessments is fundamental to achieving all of the Children and Young People's plan objectives and priorities.

### **8 CONTACT DETAILS**

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Gemma Waygood  
Innovation and Change Manager  
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## Appendix 1 (Example of the Vulnerable Children and Families QA Framework)

### 4.5 Intervention and Review

4.5.1 Positively there has been improvement in a number of areas. This includes taking a family centred approach to intervention with all CAF's being graded as good or outstanding, although further work needs to be undertaken with engaging with the young people.

4.5.2 Intervention and review has seen an improvement in taking an evidenced based approach to reflect on the level of need. Overall there has been improvement.

| Selected Area  | July to Sept 2014 |                       | Oct to Dec 2014  |                       | Jan to Mar 2015  |                       |
|--|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
|  | No. of responses  | % good or outstanding | No. of responses | % good or outstanding | No. of responses | % good or outstanding |
| 24. To what level is it evidenced that the child/young person understood and was involved in the design of the intervention they received? | 18                | 67%                   | 27               | 81%                   | 18               | 61%                   |
| 25. To what level is it evidenced that the parent/carer understood and was involved in the design of the intervention they received?       | 24                | 71%                   | 30               | 90%                   | 24               | 100%                  |
| 27. To what level are the decisions, actions and engagement of the child/young person/parents carers/other professionals clearly ordered?  | 24                | 71%                   | 31               | 81%                   | 25               | 96%                   |
| 29. Is the identified progress or worsening Levels of Need supported by sufficient evidence?   | 18                | 78%                   | 29               | 93%                   | 25               | 92%                   |
| 30. Is the identified progress or worsening Signs of Safety supported by sufficient evidence?  | 19                | 74%                   | 24               | 79%                   | 25               | 84%                   |
| 35. What is the overall quality of the Intervention?   | 24                | 67%                   | 31               | 74%                   | 25               | 80%                   |
| 39. What is the overall quality of the Review?   | 22                | 68%                   | 31               | 74%                   | 24               | 75%                   |
| 40. What is the overall quality of the case at the Review stage  | 22                | 55%                   | 31               | 74%                   | 25               | 80%                   |

|  |   |                            |   |
|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Title of paper:</b>   | 0 to 5 years Area Profiles at Children's Centre Geography areas |                            |   |
| <b>Report to:</b>  | Councillor Mellen / Children and Young Peoples Partnership      |                            |   |
| <b>Date:</b>   | June 2015   |                            |   |
| <b>Relevant Director:</b>  | DPH (Interim) Alison Challenger                                 | <b>Wards affected:</b> all |   |
| <b>Contact Officer(s) and contact details:</b>   | Lynne McNiven, Consultant in Public Health                      |                            |   |
| <b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>   | Sarah Diggle<br>Dale Burton<br>Sarah Quilty                     |                            |   |
|  |   |                            |   |
| <b>Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) priority or priorities:</b>  |   |                            |   |
| <b>Safeguarding and supporting children and families:</b> Children, young people and families will benefit from early and effective support and protection to empower them to overcome difficulties and provide a safe environment in which to thrive.   |   |                            | X |
| <b>Promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people:</b> From pregnancy and throughout life, babies, children, young people and families will be healthier, more emotionally resilient and better able to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.   |   |                            | X |
| <b>Supporting achievement and academic attainment:</b> All children and young people will leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve and will be ready for independence, work or further learning.  |   |                            | X |
| <b>Empowering families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing:</b> More families will be empowered and able to deal with family issues and child poverty will be significantly reduced.   |   |                            | X |
|  |   |                            |   |
| <b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>  |   |                            |   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The health and well-being of children in Nottingham is generally worse than the England average for both 0-4 and 5-19 year olds.</li><li>• More than a third of Nottingham's children are living in poverty. Children are particularly susceptible to economic and social deprivation resulting in unfair inequalities in health that contribute to generational cycles of deprivation.</li><li>• These inequalities mean delayed early development, lower educational achievement, lower aspirations and mental well-being and poorer health outcomes for many of the City's children which continue into adulthood.</li><li>• Focusing on prevention and early intervention has a vital role to play in improving child health outcomes and breaking the cycle of health inequalities within families.</li><li>• As part of the changes introduced through the Health and Social Care Act 2012, from April 2013 responsibilities for the commissioning of child public health services (age 5-19 years) transferred from the NHS to Local Authorities, offering a valuable opportunity to improve health outcomes and address health inequalities for children in Nottingham.</li><li>• The local authority will become responsible for commissioning public health services for 0-5</li></ul> |   |                            |   |

year olds from October 2015. This will provide further opportunities to ensure a coordinated pathway of evidenced based preventative health care for all children from birth, all the way through their crucial developmental during preschool and school years.

Improving health and reducing health inequalities in Nottingham can be challenging. The development of health, social and educational outcomes profiles for each Children's Centre area allows everyone involved in the improvement of children's outcomes to have access to a concise, evidence based document which gives them the information they need. The profiles therefore make an important contribution to OFSTED requirements for Children's Centre's to understand the needs of families within their area.

Access to up to date population information is crucial when commissioning and delivering services such as Public Health Nursing in Schools, Health Visiting, Family Nurse Partnership, Children's Centre services, etc.

The 0-5 Years Area Profiles for 2015 for each of the seven Children's Centre Areas are all completed as well as a summary documents which summarises data across all seven areas. The profiles have been uploaded to Nottingham Insight. The profiles can be found here:

<http://www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/f/123196/Library/Public-Health/0-5-Years-Area-Profiles-2014-15/>

#### **Recommendations:**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>1</b> | Children and Young People's Partnership to examine the detail of the reports for individual Children Centre areas and utilise the content.   |
| <b>2</b> | Children and Young People's Partnership to examine the detail of the reports for individual Children Centre areas and comment on the content.  |
| <b>3</b> | Support the approach towards prevention and early intervention and the role it has to play in improving child health outcomes, breaking the cycle of health inequalities in Nottingham City and suggest ways of encouraging all agencies to utilise the evidence within the 0 to 5 years profiles and work together to offer children and young people in Nottingham City the best start in life and realise their full potential. This begins before birth and continues through the early years of life and throughout school years. |

## **1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS**

### **(Explanatory detail and background to the recommendations)**

Nottingham City is an 'Early Intervention City' and as such we already recognise that improving the health and social outcomes of our children and young people is not only emotionally driven, it makes economic sense too. The future prosperity of the City is undoubtedly intertwined with a healthy population which will have the ability to achieve their optimum potential throughout their life course. The interdependencies between health and social outcomes are inseparable and these cannot be altered in isolation. This is reflected in the very comprehensive drive forward between agencies to achieve a fully coordinated approach to systematically reduce health and social inequalities across the City.

The best possible health underpins a child's or young person's ability to flourish, stay safe and achieve as they grow up; and lifestyles and habits established during childhood, influence a

person's health throughout their life. The need to ensure all children within Nottingham get the support they need to obtain the best start in life is clear.

As a Nottingham 'Early Intervention Community' we must make sure we use the various health and social indicators available to highlight areas where we could improve performance and be confident that we are working together to guarantee sustainable gains in health and social outcomes for children and young people.

Reducing Health inequalities and improving health, social and educational outcomes for children is not easily achieved. The evidence clearly shows that any one agency on its own will not have sufficient impact to guarantee a reduction in the gap currently observed between populations. Actions need to be executed in partnership with all agencies involved in the wider causes and outcomes of child health inequalities.

To achieve sustainable change requires a high level strategic understanding of the current outcome data which allows a coordinated approach. Public Health will continue to support services and strategies by providing high quality data analysis and interpretation which will support a wide range of partner agencies to direct their services and make certain the reduction in child health inequalities remains high on everyone's agenda.

The 0-5 Years Area Profiles for 2015 are all completed and have been uploaded to Nottingham Insight. The profiles can be found here:

<http://www.nottinghaminsight.org.uk/f/123196/Library/Public-Health/0-5-Years-Area-Profiles-2014-15/>

## **2. RISKS**

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

None

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

## **5. CLIENT GROUP**

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

All colleagues interested in understanding the interdependencies between health and social outcomes and the impact of the wider determinants on health inequalities.

## **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.**

Consulted on widely with colleagues and partners

## **7. OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED**

**(Briefly state which of the CYPP priorities will be addressed)**

This detailed information will support all areas of the Children and Young People's Plan

## **8. CONTACT DETAILS**

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|  |   |                            |  |
|--|---|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Title of paper:</b>   | Participation in Governance Programme and Youth Council Update  |                            |  |
| <b>Report to:</b>  | Children's Partnership Board  |                            |  |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2015  |                            |  |
| <b>Relevant Director:</b>  | Alison Michalska, Corporate Director of Children and Adults   | <b>Wards affected:</b> All |  |
| <b>Contact Officer(s) and contact details:</b>   | Jon Rea, Engagement and Participation Lead<br><a href="mailto:Jon.rea@nottinghamcity.gov.uk">Jon.rea@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</a> , 0115 8764817   |                            |  |
| <b>Other officers who have provided input:</b>   | Charlotte Croft, Michael Nicholson and Chloe Mullins Youth Cabinet representatives on Children's Partnership Board<br>Umar Hussain, PATRA Business Support Officer, REC Team                  |                            |  |
|  |   |                            |  |
| <b>Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) objectives(s):</b>   |   |                            |  |
| <b>Stronger safeguarding</b> – 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.  |   |                            |  |
| <b>Healthy living</b> – With a key focus on increasing the proportion of children and young people who have a healthy weight.  |   |                            |  |
| <b>Reducing substance misuse</b> – 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.  |   |                            |  |
| <b>Raising attainment</b> – Raising the attainment levels and increasing engagement in employment, education and training.   |   | x                          |  |
| <b>Improving attendance</b> – Improving rates of attendance at both Primary and Secondary as a key foundation of improving outcomes.   |   | x                          |  |
|  |   |                            |  |
| <b>Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):</b>  |   |                            |  |
| This report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provides an update to the Board on the activities of the Youth Cabinet in the first quarter of 2015/16</li><li>• Outlines forthcoming programme meetings and event and highlights opportunities for Board partners to work with the group</li></ul> |   |                            |  |
|  |   |                            |  |
| <b>Recommendations:</b>  |   |                            |  |
| 1  | The Board recognises the important contribution made by the Youth Cabinet and its related children and young people's participation forums to decision making in the city                     |                            |  |
| 2  | That Board partners continue to use the findings of participation work to inform plans and strategies for service improvement for children and young people across the Children's Partnership |                            |  |
|  |   |                            |  |

## 1. BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS

The Youth Cabinet is the Nottingham City Children's Partnership's youth leadership group. Supported by the Engagement and Participation lead it is responsible for co-producing the annual Participation in Governance programme to ensure children and young people have a voice in decision making processes across the local authority.

Membership of the Youth Cabinet is drawn from young people aged between 16 and 21 (up to 24 for those with SEND) from or living in Nottingham who are involved in youth projects, further and higher education, volunteering, apprenticeships, work and/or training and who wish to contribute to youth leadership activity and decision making in the city. The group currently has an active membership of around 16 members.

The first quarter of 2015/16 has been a particularly busy period for the Youth Cabinet.

### Creative Quarter ENTER programme

ENTER is the Creative Quarter's two month long festival programme celebrating young people's enterprise and creativity. The two-month long programme held over May and June consists of a varied programme of events to encourage enterprise, entrepreneurialism, creativity, technology, skills development and networking, and generally promote the Creative Quarter as a resource for young people.

The Youth Cabinet initially worked with the organisers of the ENTER programme to help them identify ways to engage those young people who would not normally engage with CQ activities. A number of engagement approaches were suggested and deployed by CQ including working through local area youth teams to disseminate the ENTER programme.

In addition Youth Cabinet organised two events specifically for the ENTER event calendar:

1. A Saturday workshop on how to use the participation model *Sharing the Future*. This was held at the Vintage Warehouse on lower Parliament Street on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. 20 young people took part, creating peer to peer participation activities from the four areas of the model: Sharing Ideas and Information, Sharing Views and Experiences, Sharing Decision Making and Sharing Leadership. The workshop was a great success and demonstrated the ease with which the *Sharing the Future* model can be used to generate simple but highly effective participation activities in any setting. The group who took part was aged between 16 and 21 included Youth Cabinet members as well as young people from Russell Youth Club, the Chat'bout group, Bluecoat School and students from the University of Nottingham.
2. A Youth Council meeting was also developed for the ENTER programme. Held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May the meeting, entitled *Young People's Health and Well-Being in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* explored young people's health and emotional well-being issues and the relationship with health and technology. 40 young people aged between 10 and 19 took part were drawn from youth projects across the three localities, supported by NCC Play and Youth workers. Workshops were delivered by partners from the Strategic Commissioning Team and Game City. Findings from the strategic commissioning workshop will inform the current Child Development review while the Game City workshop led to the young people creating 'paper app' participation games to take back and implement in their youth clubs and project groups.



## YouConf 2015

The other major activity of the first quarter has been the participation of Youth Cabinet members at YouConf2015 in Karlsruhe, Germany, an event held in early June to mark Karlsruhe's 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

A dedicated report on the conference is available separately but in summary the conference brought together young people from Karlsruhe's four sister cities, Nottingham, Nancy (France), Timisoara (Romania) and Krasnodar (Russia) with young people from the German hosts. Over a seven day period young people 40 young people from the five countries worked together to explore themes around creating the future city, developing through different workshops activities, products and processes to support young people's empowerment and develop their future leadership potential to innovate and deliver change in our cities. A delegation of nine represented Nottingham including eight members of the Youth Cabinet.

YouConf2105 was a unique international gathering that demonstrated the power of using creative youth work embedded with participation principles to approach issues around shared urban development issues. The legacy is one of lasting friendship between the participating European nations and a real enthusiasm amongst all the young people and supporting staff involved to use the conference as a springboard for future work.

A number of potential future next steep projects are currently being considered including a bid for EU Horizon2020 funding around getting more young people into STEM careers. This is an area in which both Nottingham and Karlsruhe have a very strong record and offers a realisable platform for future exchange work with the YouConf2015 partners.

## Future Youth Council and Primary Parliament

The next Youth Council and Primary parliament events will take place in the Autumn term, during late October and early November. Dates and details will be confirmed shortly and circulated to Board members.

The theme of Participation in Governance programme during the Autumn term will be Education, Work and Training and Board partners are invited to work with Youth Cabinet to potential participation activities that will support their decision making.

In the meantime Youth cabinet continues to meet monthly on the first Wednesday of each month and Board members and their representatives are always welcome to bring issues to the agenda.

## **2. RISKS**

None

## **3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None .

## **4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

## 5. CLIENT GROUP

Children and young people

## 6. IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES

None

## 7. OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED

This work contributes to the following CYPP outcomes:

**Stronger Safeguarding**, through improving the skills and confidence of children and young people and empowering them to have a voice that is heard;

**Raising attainment**, through improving young people's focus on their personal development and skills and providing opportunities for learning in informal settings;

**Improving attendance**, by motivating them to take a more active role in their own personal and educational development and improving their understanding of how organisations and institutions work and benefit them.

## 8. CONTACT DETAILS

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## Children's Partnership Board Forward Plan

To be scheduled

|   |
|---|
| CYPP PRIORITY: SAFEGUARDING REPORT  |
| CYPP PRIORITY: REDUCING SUBSTANCE MISUSE  |
| PARTNER UPDATES:<br>EDUCATION (FTE)<br>JOBCENTRE PLUS<br>POLICE<br>VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR |
| 0-19 STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING REVIEW   |
| HOUSING YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARE AND CARE LEAVERS   |
| MST   |
| CHILD POVERTY   |
| DISABLED CHILDREN'S CHARTER   |
| YOUNG PEOPLE'S MENTAL HEALTH REPORT FROM HEALTHWATCH (new)  |

Please contact Dot Veitch if you have any suggestions for future items for the forward plan  
[dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

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