

Title of paper:	CYPP Priority: Empowering Families to be Strong and Achieve Economic Wellbeing	
Report to:	Children's Partnership Board	
Date:	25 th September 2019	
Relevant Director:	Helen Blackman, Director of Children's Integrated Services	Wards affected: All
Contact Officer(s) and contact details:	Sophie Russell, Head of Children's Strategy & Improvement	
Other officers who have provided input:	Jon Hill, Priority Families Principal Analyst	
Relevant Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) priority:		
Safeguarding and supporting children and families: 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
Promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people: 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
Supporting achievement and academic attainment: 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
Empowering families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing: More families will be empowered and able to deal with family issues and child poverty will be significantly reduced.		X
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
This report updates the Board on the progress of the Priority Families programme and the outcomes achieved to date.		
Recommendations:		
1	That the Board note the contents of this report.	
2	That the Board consider how they can continue to embed 'whole family' working beyond March 2020 and integrate into their strategic plans.	
3	That the Board utilise any opportunities to promote the positive impact of the programme to inform national decisions re: funding from March 2020 and beyond.	

1 **BACKGROUND AND PROPOSALS**

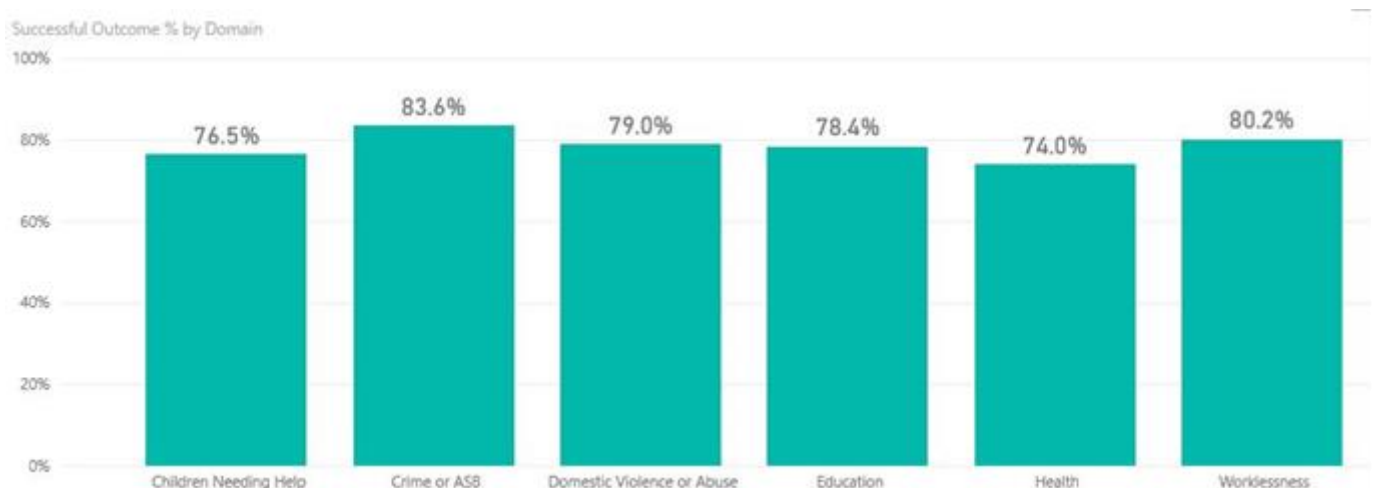
Priority Families (PF) is a national programme, led by the Troubled Families Unit in the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government. Phase 2 of the Priority Families programme began in 2015 and is due to end in March 2020.

The programme aims to embed a whole family approach to working with complex families, who are often costly to the public purse. Funding from the national programme is provided to local areas through Service Transformation Grant (STG), attachment fees and Payment by Results (PbR). Over the five years of Phase 2 (2015-2020) the programme will have generated circa £10m in income for the City. This funding has been invested in maintaining services at a time of austerity, building capacity in the workforce and piloting innovative approaches. Nationally, there is growing concern that for many local authorities the programme is now under-pinning the majority of early help and intervention services as other funding sources have reduced and demands for statutory services continue to increase.

Locally, we have delivered a successful programme. We are on track to meet our national targets for the numbers of families worked with and who have been supported to achieve significant and sustained progress or entered continuous employment. We also have growing evidence that services utilising this approach (and funded by the programme) are a key element of our strategy to manage demands for more costly, specialist services. As of 29.08.19, 72.9% of families worked with through the programme have not been re-referred to Children's Integrated Services in the 12 months since closure of their case.

Outcomes for families are positive. See Fig 1 for details for the six PF criteria.

Fig 1.



In addition to this, the local programme has also supported 680 families into continuous employment. This is the 2nd highest number nationally and 12% highest as a proportion of all claimed cases (29%).

In Feb 2019, we were also successful in attracting an additional £490,000 to the City through a specific national Troubled Families funding stream – Supporting Families against Youth Crime.

Further slides will be available at the Board to provide more information re: the local programme and any update re: funding.

2 RISKS

At the time of writing this report, there is a significant risk to the programme after March 2020 as no funding decisions have been made nationally. Resultant risks include a significant reduction in early intervention/prevention resources (particularly family support and parenting programmes). Given the number of complex families in Nottingham City, reductions in these services are likely to lead to increased demands for statutory services.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

See above risks re: funding of services. Funding from this programme currently contributes circa £2m per annum into existing, mainstream services.

4 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

5 CLIENT GROUP

All families city-wide who meet the PF criteria.

6 IMPACT ON EQUALITIES ISSUES

This programme works with our most complex and vulnerable families, children and young people.

7 OUTCOMES AND PRIORITIES AFFECTED

Given the breadth of the criteria and support offered through the programme it impacts on all CYPP priorities.

Sophie Russell
Head of Children's Strategy and Improvement

Sophie.russell@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Tel: 0115 8763423