

Meeting: Children's Trust

Date: 19 May 2009

Report Title: Children and Young People's Plan: Update

Report of: Director of Children's and Young People's Services

Summary

This report was requested by the Children 's Trust so that members could be updated on the work.

Equalities Implications

The development of the new Children and Young People's Plan gives an opportunity to review the needs assessment with particular regard to more vulnerable young people and to start to plan for the future to better meet the identified needs.

Recommendations

- i. To note the update on the Children and Young People's Plan and to continue to contribute to the development of the new plan.
- ii. To ensure that feedback on the final draft of the Needs Assessment is given to Zakir Chaudry in the Policy Team.
- iii. To ensure that the consultation exercise is being publicised within all services and responses encouraged.

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Background

The Children and Young People's Plan 2006-09 – Changing Lives will conclude in September 2009 and work is well advanced on evaluating the existing plan and preparing the new Children and Young People's Plan.

The intention is to have a ten year Strategic Plan with three year Implementation Plans. The new Children and Young People's Plan will be the plan of the new Children's Trust. This means that it will be prepared and agreed with all the partners on the Children's Trust.

The DCSF has produced guidance on preparing new Children and Young People's Plans and this has formed the basis of the planning process.

Developing the Plans

Needs Assessment

A comprehensive needs assessment underpins the new Children and Young People's Plan. This has been led by the Council Policy Team and been developed through the work of a sub group with representatives from across the Children's Trust.

The working group has shared existing needs assessment from across services. A comprehensive analysis of children's needs has resulted, framed using the five Every Child Matters themes and includes consideration of needs by geographic network.

The needs assessment will be at the heart of the planning process to see how we can best meet those identified needs. It will also be refreshed on an annual basis. The whole document is over 300 pages and can be accessed through the [Agenda report pack CYPSPB 19th May 09](#)

The [actual](http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.asp?CId=127&MId=3710&Ver=4) link is:
(<http://www.minutes.haringey.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.asp?CId=127&MId=3710&Ver=4>)

The agenda papers will be posted on the web page on 12/5/2009.

The executive summary provides a useful overview and this is attached at Appendix 1.

Consultation

A detailed consultation process also underpins the preparation of the new plan. The engagement of young people to capture their thoughts and ideas in the plan is central to the process.

The consultation exercise has been planned with the Corporate Consultation team and is being led by members of the Children and Young People's Service working in partnership with representatives from across the Children's Trust.

The consultation is available from the Council website and a range of strategies to encourage contributions are in place.

The consultation with children and young people will use a range of processes to engage young people. This includes more vulnerable children and young people to make sure their voice is heard.

The DCSF guidance includes a comprehensive list of groups who must be part of the consultation process. The list has been used to ensure full coverage of these groups and is included in by the consultation strategy.

Preparing the Strategic Plan

The expectation is that the Strategic Plan will be a fairly short document setting out the aspirations and ambitions for children and young people over the next ten years.

It will also provide an opportunity to review the current vision statement.

“We want every child and young person in Haringey to be happy, healthy and safe with a bright future”

This is part of the discussion activity on the next agenda for the Children’s Trust meeting on 19 May.

The three year Implementation Plan will then follow setting out the actions to be achieved. The JAR Action Plan will form the first three year Implementation Plan for Stay Safe.

The working group developing the action plan includes all Children’s Trust Services working with children and young people in Haringey as well as Council Services working with children and young people. There will be a summary version of the plan for children and young people.

Workforce Development

The new plan will also have a workforce development strategy sitting alongside it. This must also be agreed by the Children’s Trust.

Funding

The guidance requires all members of the Children’s Trust to publish the new Children and Young People’s Plan on their websites and to ensure it is well publicised within their own services. The Council is responsible for publication of hard copy.

The Action Plan will include joint initiatives and actions to tackle some of the issues impacting on Children and Young People. There is a requirement therefore for the pooling and alignment of resources across partners to meet this requirement. The intention is to form a group to consider how this will work in practice as the actions are developed in the Implementation Plan.

Timeline

A timeline is in place for the plan to be in place for September 2009.

Conclusion

Work is well underway to prepare the plan for September 2009 and the evaluation of the current plan is in process.

Appendix 1 - Draft Executive Summary of the Needs Assessment

The 54,000 children and young people living in Haringey are not all the same. As the document shows they will face different challenges even from birth.

The available data allows us to illustrate and quantify some of this difference in order to provide a more accurate picture of the challenges facing groups of children and young people in the borough. The following boxes highlight some of this difference in the context of the five ECM outcome areas and highlights key issues that will be fed into the Children & Young People's Plan.

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Enjoy Economic Well-being

a) Some have particular health needs

- The still birth rate is 6.4 per 1000, compared to 6.2 and 5.2 per 1000 for London and England respectively
- Low birth weights were highest in the North Network Area (9.6%) and lowest in the West Network Area (6.4%)
- 8.57% of mothers smoke during pregnancy which is behind the local target 5.0%
- Indications are that over one third of children, aged 10-11 (Year 6), are either overweight or obese, compared to under one quarter in reception year
- 42% of adults in drug treatment in Haringey are parents
- A total of 277 young people aged 19 years and under were diagnosed with Chlamydia in 2007
- In 2007 the teenage conception rate was 70.0 per 1000; highest in the North Network Area (94 per 1000) and lowest in the West (40 per 1000)
- There are currently 2,452 children aged 5-16 with mental health problems
- There are 10,000 children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and 1,233 of these children and young people have statements of SEN
- Potentially over 3,000 children and young people have disabilities
- 723 children and young people in Haringey are providing care to members of their family

Key Issues:

- **Reduce the health inequalities** between the east and west of the borough
- **Increase the uptake of immunisations** in Haringey which remain well below national target levels
- **Reduce Infant mortality**
- **Reduce the high level of teenage pregnancy**
- Increase the number of people tested for **Chlamydia** to identify young people that already have Chlamydia and work on the future spread by promoting wider use of condoms
- Address the **mental health issues** which will affect 2650 children and young people by 2013, and in particular for vulnerable children who are five times more likely to develop mental health problems
- Reduce the level of **obesity** especially in the North and South network areas
- Address the **low rate of referrals into specialist services for drug users**
- Take forward the **recommendations from the Scrutiny review of the early identification, assessment and referral** of children and young people with drug and alcohol problems
- **Ensure greater read across to other relevant strategies** when dealing with children and young people with drug and alcohol problems e.g. Teenage pregnancy, CAMHS, Integrated Youth Support, Safeguarding plan
- **Produce data on smoking and eating habits at ward level** to better understand these behaviours and produce targeted interventions at high risk communities
- **Develop care pathways** to improve the management of common childhood ailments; this is highlighted by the continued inappropriate use of A&E services

b) Some are less safe than others

- 173 children were subject to a child protection plan, most of whom lived in the North and South network area. Children from black or black British ethnic minorities are over-represented in this category.
- 476 children and young people are in care, the highest concentration being in the North and South network area.
- In 2007/08 there were 1849 youth victims of crime. This is a 19% reduction from the previous year.

Key Issues:

- In 2008/09 following the **Joint Area Review of Safeguarding** in Haringey an **action plan** was produced which will form the improvement plan for the next three years for Stay Safe. The plan sets out some key changes including:
 - Closer working between social workers, police officers and health staff
 - Recruiting and developing top quality staff
 - Putting more resources into safeguarding
 - Improving systems and procedures, including ensuring all child protection plans are realistic, achievable and are explicit about how they will help the child
 - Strengthening the managerial and political supervision of the system
 - A stronger more robust Local Safeguarding Children Board

- A lack of quality **culturally appropriate accommodation sites** for Traveller and Gypsy families.

c) Some may find it harder to enjoy and achieve

At Foundation Stage:

- Nearly two thirds of the bottom 20% of the Foundation Stage Profile (FSP) cohort are boys

At Key Stage 1:

- 38% of White UK pupils attain L3+ in reading compared to 12% African Caribbean, 13% African, 2% Turkish, 32% Irish, 29% Nigerian and 25% White Other pupils

At Key Stage 2:

- The attainment of 'mobile' pupils is significantly below 'non mobile' pupils. In English, for example, 63% of mobile pupils attain L4+ compared to 79% of non-mobile pupils

- 62% of Free School Meal (FSM) pupils obtained English level 4+, compared to 82% of non FSM pupils. Mathematics and science have similar differences

At Key Stage 3:

- the number of low achievers (level 3 and below) has reduced slightly from last year but remains significantly higher than the national. In Science, for example the percentage has decreased 15.9% to 15.0% (nationally 7%)

Key Stage 4:

- The percentage of young people achieving at least one qualification at GCSE has improved by 1.1% to 96.0%, but remains below the national which is 98.6%

- There remain significant differences between ethnic groups in the 5+ A* - C (including English and maths) indicator- 65% of White British pupils, compared to 36% of African pupils, 30% of Caribbean pupils, 27% of Turkish pupils, and 28% Kurdish pupils
- Bruce Grove (8.8% of total NEETS), Noel Park and White Hart Lane wards (both at 8.0%) have the highest percentage of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETS)
- Mixed White and Caribbean (4 pupils) and Black Other (3 pupils) are most significantly over-represented in the permanent exclusion data

Key Issues:

- The percentage of pupils achieving the **Foundation Stage improvement target** (percentage achieving at least 78 points and 6+ in all PSE and CLL) **has improved** from 41.2% to 43% but is still below the national of 49%.
- There has been an **improving trend at Key Stages 1 and 2**, but results are **still below national**.
- There are **significant differences between the results of the West network in comparison with the North and South networks**. These differences are also linked to differences between pupils eligible for free school meals and pupils not eligible. The differences in attainment are particularly marked at the higher levels of each key stage (including the Foundation Stage).
- There has been a **good trend in reducing the percentage of low attaining pupils**, but the percentage of such pupils is still above national figures and needs to be reduced further.
- The number of **schools where fewer than 55% of pupils attain both English and maths level 4 or above at Key Stage 2 has been reducing** but is still too high at 13 schools.
- Ofsted primary school reports show a higher percentage of outstanding schools than national. The number of satisfactory schools, however, is too high. We need to **ensure more schools move from satisfactory to good and outstanding**.
- **Key Stage 3 results are significantly below national** particularly in maths and science.
- We have been successful in **driving down the number of schools below the GCSE threshold of 30% 5+ A* - C grades** (including English and maths) from 6 in 2003 to 1 in 2009. We need to ensure that no schools are below that threshold and continue to improve attainment at GCSE.

- There are **too many pupils who leave school with no GCSE qualifications** at all.
- The **attainment of many minority ethnic groups has been improving** at all key stages. The gap, however, between Black Caribbean, Black African, Kurdish, Turkish and Other White pupils with their White British peers is still too wide and needs to be a constant focus.
- **The attainment gap between pupils eligible/not eligible for free school meals** is similar to national at KS2 and below national at GCSE. The gaps, however, are still significant and need to be consistently reduced.
- A higher proportion of pupils than nationally say that they **do not have someone to talk to when they are worried about something** (TellUs 3 survey).
- A higher proportion of pupils than nationally say that **they have not participated in any group activity led by an adult outside school lessons** (TellUs 3 survey).
- **The attainment of Looked After Children in Haringey is generally above their national peers**, but remains significantly below the overall levels of Haringey pupils.
- Overall **attainment at Key Stage 5 needs to be improved**, particularly the total average point score for each student.
- There is a need for **Children Centres to target priority groups more effectively** e.g. workless households, lone parents teenage parents and families with children 0-5 years

d) Some may find it harder to make a positive contribution

- There are over 250 care leavers. Care leavers are much less likely to go into higher and further education and much more likely to have health problems, be unemployed or homeless than their peers.
- There are 723 children and young people providing care to members of their family.
- 532 active programmes with the Youth Offending Service

Key Issues:

- Our children and young people, their parents and the Children's Trust are concerned about the **negative portrayal of young people in the media** and the impact this may have on their emotional well-being and their sense of belonging and ownership within their communities.
- There needs to be **greater consistency of practice** across the Council in demonstrating **to young people how they have influenced decisions**.
- We need to **develop strategies** for children and young people who do not engage in mainstream activities.
- As corporate parents, it is essential that we fulfil our responsibilities by developing a range of mechanisms to **listen to the voice of children in care** so that their rights as a child are upheld and their well-being is improved.
- Our young people have identified '**sex and relationships**' as a continuing issue that they wish to see better addressed.
- The 'Tellus Survey' 2008 indicated that, compared to their peers across London, **far fewer Haringey children participated in activities with an adult after school**.
- The Youth Council have identified as a **key priority "improving understanding and unity between different groups of young people."**
- The Tellus Survey indicated that a higher proportion of children and young people than the national average were **worried about crime**.

e) Some may find it harder to achieve economic well being

- 29 Haringey Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) (approx 20%) are amongst the 10% most deprived in the country
- Young people aged 16-24 account for 14% of all people in the borough claiming out of work benefits
- There are 6,460 lone parents claiming Income Support, which accounts for 4.1% of the working age population.
- 631 people with dependant children are claiming Job Seekers Allowance.
- 36.4% of children live in families who are in receipt of out of work benefits
- Approximately 7,500 children are homeless and living in Temporary Accommodation.
- 70% of households accepted as being unintentionally homeless and in priority need have dependent child living with them.
- Young people, aged 16 – 24, account for just over a third of the single homeless people living in Temporary Accommodation.

Key Issues:

- **Worklessness** remains a persistent problem in Haringey
- The **recession** is beginning to have a major impact on the labour market - From May 2008 to February 2009 the number of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Haringey increased by 1,244 (31.8 per cent). Some 42 per cent of this increase can be attributed to young people aged 16-24.
- In the year to June 2008, 66.5 per cent of Haringey's working age population was in employment, lower than both the London and England averages of 70.6 per cent and 74.5 per cent respectively. This **employment rate** ranks Haringey amongst the bottom 10 per cent local authority areas in England.
- Young people aged 16-24 account for 14 per cent of all people in the borough claiming **out of work benefits**.
- **Low skills and low educational attainment** in Haringey are a significant barrier facing young people accessing sustainable employment
- The current economic climate will make it more challenging for young people to access employment opportunities due to **increasing unemployment and falling vacancies**.
- The recession will cause a rise in the number of **children living in poverty**.
- There are 54,000 children in Haringey of which 43,500 belong to a **family in receipt of Tax Credits**. 37% of children in Haringey belong to a family which receives Child Tax Credit where the claimant is Out of Work. A further 36% belong to a family receiving more than the basic rate of Child Tax Credit, meaning that someone in the family is working, but has a low income. This is a clear indication of poverty in Haringey, as these families are unable to fully support themselves.
- There is a need to **address child care issues** in the borough.
- There is a large **unmet demand for cycling at Primary School level** with almost 30% of young people in this age range expressing a desire to cycle to school.
- There is a need to **tackle homelessness** and reduce the number of **households in temporary accommodation**.

