

CABINET

5 SEPTEMBER 2012

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2011-2012

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval.
- 1.2 The Annual Report informs Cabinet of progress and performance against the outcomes set out in the Children and Young People's Delivery Plan 2010-2013. This report covers the period 2011-2012.

2. Description of Decision

- 2.1 Cabinet is recommended to consider the content of the Annual Report and provide comments as part of the consultation process.
- 2.2 Cabinet is recommended to refer the Annual Report to Scrutiny Committee for their consideration and comment.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Children and Young People's Plan Strategy 2010-25 was published in 2010, together with a Delivery Plan for 2010-13.
- 3.2 The Delivery Plan provides detailed information about each of the Children's Trust priority outcomes. These outcomes are broken down into:
 - Two overarching themes that cut across the Children's Trust
 - Five priority areas for vulnerable groups
 - Seventeen specific outcomes for all young people, linked to the Every Child Matters framework.
- 3.3 Against each of these priority outcomes is an identified partnership which has a commissioning strategy and implementation plan in place.

4. Structure of the Report

- 4.1 The Annual Report 2011-2012 reflects the many changes to how public services are delivered, including new legislation, budget cuts and efficiency drives.
- 4.2 Performance information against each of the 17 specific outcomes areas is provided, together with an assessment of where progress has been made and identified areas where there is a potential risk of not achieving objectives set, with mitigating actions.

- 4.3 During the Spring of this year, the Children's Trust carried out a number of confirm and challenge sessions with partners to understand the performance for 2011-12, the progress made and actions to be taken forward are identified against priority areas.
- 4.4 The Children's Trust Board, chaired by the Lead Member for Children's Services, is now an advisory board to the Shadow Health and Well-being Board. This means that more of the Children's Trust work in the future will involve planning how integrated service delivery can address the needs of wider communities, the Strengthening Families model being an example of this.
- 4.5 Some of the key achievements that have been made in 2011/12 are set out below:
- Safeguarding and looked after children services in Sunderland were rated 'Good' by Ofsted
 - Improvements made in the numbers of children entering Reception who are obese
 - Under 18 conception rate as at March 2011 (latest data) has shown an improvement reducing to 48.6 per 1000 of the population, compared to 53.5 in March 2009
 - A single specialist Children and Young People's Service for children and young people aged 0-18 who have mental health and learning difficulties has been commissioned and will be operational from 1st April 2012
 - The numbers of young people being referred to Youth Drug and Alcohol Project have increased as has the number of young people completing treatment with YDAP. These increases are linked to the projects strengthened links with schools in delivering early intervention sessions
 - Sunderland continues to narrow the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage profile
 - Improvements continue to be made across all areas of Key Stage 2 performance
 - Young people achieving five good GCSEs including English and Maths rose again in the academic year 2010/11 continuing a strong upward trend. In the last two years, this figure has increased by 10 percentage points
 - Young people entitled to free school meals continue to make good progress in their educational achievements, with a four percentage point increase each in the rate achieving Level 4 in English and Maths at Key Stage 2, and those achieving 5+ A*-C GCSE including English and Maths
 - There was a 10 percentage point increase in the rate of Bangladeshi children achieving Level 4 at Key Stage 2 in English and Maths
 - Improvements continue to be made in reducing the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system. Between 2009/10 and 2011/12 there has been a 49% reduction
 - The percentage of care leavers in suitable accommodation remains high, at 97.6% for 2011/12
- 4.5 As well as the achievements above, there still remain some key challenges for the Children's Trust and its partners, including:

- The percentage of reception children classed as obese has improved (11% in 2009/10 to 10.2% in 2010/11) however it still remains above the national average (9.4%). The percentage of Year 6 children classed as obese continues to decline from 20.2% in 2009/10 to 21.9% in 2011/12, and is above the national average at 19%.
- Levels of smoking by women are greatest in the under 20 age category, ranging in 2011/12 between 30% and 38%, compared to rates of 20% for the over 20s.
- Achievement of a level 2 qualification at age 19 was 2% points below national in the academic year 2010/11 and 6% points below national at level 3. Sunderland has improved at both measures since the CYPP baseline.
- Sunderland NEET percentage in March 2012 was 9.1% and represents 945 young people. The March percentage of young people In Learning has also reduced from 81.3% to 81.2% over the last year using new methodology but remains above national 80.6%.
- The Department for Work and Pensions Welfare Reform Act plans to bring in a Universal Credit (UC), to be phased in between 2013 and 2017, to replace many current in-work and out-of-work benefits with a single payment. This will result in the removal of current income thresholds and will impact on the numbers of children and young people who are eligible for free school meals. Department for Education is likely to propose defining eligibility in relation to a fixed income threshold assessed within Universal Credit and will be consulting on new eligibility criteria later this year. The focus of the consultation will be on setting criteria which can be put in place for the change to Universal Credit from October 2013. This may well reduce the take up of Free School Meals.

5. Reasons for the Decision

- 5.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan under the Council's Constitution and is the primary document for Children's Trust Partnerships to set out how they will deliver improved outcomes for children and young people in the city. As an Article 4 Plan, we are required to submit an annual report to Cabinet for consideration and comment.

6. Alternative Options

- 6.1 The alternative option is not to submit the Children and Young People's Plan Annual report to full Council, however this would result in progress not being reported against the objectives and milestones within the Plan.

7. Impact Analysis

- 7.1 Equality Analysis: The Children and Young People's 15 Year Strategy and 3 Year Delivery Plan are designed to ensure that the needs of ALL children and young people are taken into account. The 17 priorities and their outcomes were developed to reflect the outcomes from the Every Child Matters Framework.

7.2 Reduction of Crime and Disorder: The following priorities within the CYPP relate directly to the reduction of Crime and Disorder:

Outcome 4: Reduce substance misuse

Outcome 5: Tackle the impact of Domestic Violence on children and young people

Outcome 11: Reduce levels of offending (re-offending first time offending)

Outcome 12: Reduce levels of anti-social behaviour (ASB)

8. **Relevant Considerations/Consultations**

8.1 This is the first draft of the Annual Report, and it is anticipated that it will be subject to amendment throughout the process to finalise the document.

8.2 The draft Annual Report will be presented to the following groups for consideration and comment:

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Children's Trust | 12 July 2012 |
| Cabinet | 5 September 2012 |
| Scrutiny Committee | 13 September 2012 |
| Second presentation to Cabinet | 10 October 2012 |
| Council | 28 November 2012 |

9. **List of Appendices**

Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report 2011-12

10. **Background Papers**

Children and Young People's Delivery Plan, 2010-2013

Children and Young People's Plan 15 Year Strategy, 2010-2025

Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report, 2010-2011