

CABINET MEETING – 7 SEPTEMBER 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report: Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report 2010-2011

Author(s): Executive Director of Children's Services

Purpose of Report:

The Children and Young People's Plan is an Article 4 plan which requires full Council approval.

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 2010-2011.

Description of Decision:

Cabinet is recommended to consider the content of the Annual Report and provide comments as part of the consultation process.

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes

If not, Council approval is required to change the Budget/Policy Framework

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

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.

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

The alternative option is not to submit the CYPP Annual Report to full Council. This would result in progress not being reported against the actions set in the CYPP.

Is this a "Key Decision" as defined in the Constitution? Yes

Is it included in the Forward Plan?
Yes

Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

Children, Young People and Learning

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011**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 2010-2011.

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.

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 2010-2011 recognises the changing face of service delivery since the CYPP was published, including the change of Government, the Comprehensive Spending Review and the number of policy reviews and reforms which affect children and young people.
- 4.2 It also reports progress against the actions and targets in the outcome areas identified, by setting out:
 - What actions were planned for the three-year period 2010-13
 - What achievements have been made since April 2010
 - What still needs to be done
 - Performance information, where relevant, to show the direction of travel of the outcome area.
- 4.3 Some of the key achievements that have been made in 2010/11 are set out below:

4.3.1 Schools and Learning

Early Years

- The Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Capital Project is now fully complete and invested in 65 schools and settings to improve their outdoor play areas
- Training has been provided to 10 Lead Managers of Good and Outstanding daycare settings to develop a support network between themselves, with the intention that they will then role out their learning and provide support other daycare settings to achieve a Good or Outstanding result from Ofsted
- Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) results have improved significantly over the last three years. Children are measured in terms of their Personal, Social, Emotional Development, Language and Literacy skills. 77% of children attained Level 6+ in Personal, Social, Emotional Development, in Sunderland the figure is 81%. Communication and Language and Literacy Skills – 63% of Sunderland children achieved Level 6+ compared to 59% of children nationally. This means that more children are better prepared for school.

Key Stage 2

- Through the National Strategies programme, the support provided to schools brought about continued improvements in primary schools, resulting in four schools in Ofsted categories making significant improvements.
- 2010 results for pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in English increased by two percentage points to 85% and in mathematics remained at 82%. The result for progress in English was particularly pleasing because it was one percentage point above the national average.
- 2010 results for English and mathematics combined for the 49 schools that took SATs increased by 1 percentage point from 2009 to 71%.
- In 2010 in KS2 the Teacher Assessments which were carried out by all schools showed that improvements were made at level 4 and level 5.
- In each of the 11 schools involved in development activity to increase the proportion of pupils making two levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and 2 in either English or mathematics, standards were raised successfully as a result of their work.
- The percentage of looked after children achieving level 4 in English increased from 42% in 2009/10 to 61.5% in 2010/11. In mathematics this increased from 47% to 61.5%.
- Key stage 2 attainment for young people from BME communities rose from 58% to 62.2%.
- In 2011 the (unvalidated) scores for children achieving Level 4 for English and maths has increased to 74% bringing us in line with the unvalidated national result which is also 74%

Key Stage 4

- In the 2009/10 academic year, all local authority maintained schools' combined results exceeded the local authority target for 5A*-C, i.e. the gold standard
- Key Stage 4 results (GCSE and equivalent) for pupils at the end of statutory school age are the highest achieved in Sunderland, continuing a strong upward trend over the last five years.
- 5+A*-Cs including English and Maths has improved from 45% in 2009 to 52.6% in 2010.
- Achievements at Key Stage 4 for young people from BME groups rose from 28% in 2009/10 to 54.1% in 2010/11.
- The unvalidated 2011 5+ A*-C including English and maths has further improved to 55%

Post 16

- Sunderland achieved its highest ever A-level results in 2010, with an average points score per candidate of 813.6, which is higher than the regional average of 717.7 and national 744.8. In terms of APS per entry Sunderland achieved 214.7, with regional figure at 209.9 and national 214.4. Again, unvalidated results for 2011 have shown further progress particularly in higher grades.
- Successful bid was made to the European Social Fund to engage vulnerable young people. The funding of £1,347,042, will provide tailored packages of support to assist the engagement of young people in education and training.
- Excellent progress in NEET, with the figure dropping from 13.2% in 2009, to 8.5% in 2010.

4.3.2 Safeguarding

- The unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment procedures was carried out in June 2010. It was a positive inspection, with many areas highlighted as doing well. Only four areas for development were identified, and the service was aware of these issues and has addressed them.
- Over the last year there has been significant progress in stabilising our social worker workforce. A number of experienced and newly qualified social workers have been appointed, including the appointment of 10 experienced social workers from the USA. Vacancies are also at a very low level.
- A Child in Need team has been established to ensure of equality of provision for all users of social work services.
- A Foster Care fee scheme has been introduced. Through the reinvestment of savings made in relation to external placements and planned closure of a children's home, the aim is to recruit 10 additional foster carers per year over the next 4 years.
- Three children's homes were extended in October 2010 to provide a more homely environment with greater privacy and more space for recreational and homework activities.
- Through a partnership approach to tackling domestic violence, repeat incidents of domestic violence presented to the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Board has fallen from 34% in 2008/09 to 20% in 2010/11.
- The Anti-Bullying CharterMark has been reviewed and is being well received, with 28 settings registering their interest, of which eight have achieved Silver award or above.
- Young people report that they feel safer in the city. In 2010, 61.5% of children and young people said they felt safe in Sunderland. This is 17.6 percentage points higher than in 2008 (52.3%).
- First time entrants reduced by 48.7% at the end of 2010/11 against a national target of 1.9% (257 FTEs in 2010/11 compared with 501 in 2009/10).
- Youth re-offending reduced by 17.3% at the end of 2010/11 against a three year (2008-2011) target of 10% reduction (rate of re-offences 0.98 compared with 1.18 in 2005).
- The Family Intervention Project supported 56 families, working with up to 246 individuals from the most vulnerable and complex families in the city with excellent results.

4.3.3 Health and Well-being

- Year on year school meal uptake has increased. The percentage uptake figure for schools meals in Sunderland is 54.6% in primary schools (national uptake is 44%). In secondary schools 58/5% of young people take up school meals compared to national figure of 37.6%. Based on schools who have their meals provided by the Council's school meal service, there has been an extra 210,960 schools meals served in 2010-2011.
- A major review of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH) Services has been successfully completed and service providers commissioned for Tier 2, 3 and 4 services.

- The Lifestyle, Activity and Food Programme (LAF), a weight management programme for children and young people has been commissioned. In the first year, 281 referrals were received with 116 families starting the programme.
- The Healthy Schools Programme offers an Enhancement Programme. Twenty-one schools are engaged in the 'Healthy Weight' element and six in the teenage pregnancy element. Each school has evaluated a variety of data and information to form local and school priorities.
- The Youth Drug and Alcohol Project (YDAP), funded and monitored by National Treatment Agency (NTA), is regarded as a high performing service. The NTA Performance Report for the last quarter of 2010/11, showed that 100% of those young people assessed as requiring a specialist substance misuse treatment, commenced that treatment within 15 working days of referral.

4.3.4 Early Intervention and Locality Services

Locality based working is being embraced, with more and more professionals basing their services in the five areas across the city including:

- Answers, a dedicated contraception and sexual health service for young people under the age of 25.
- Connexions Personal Advisors with responsibility for teenage mums
- YDAP practitioners will be fully operational in all five localities in September 2011 delivering specific targeted programmes in schools and children's homes to support prevention and early intervention work
- Challenge and Support Team and the Family Intervention Project workers (part of Youth Offending Service) provide group work with those children and young people who present a risk of perpetrating anti-social behaviour and work intensively with the highest risk families to prevent re-offending.
- The social work service has also been restructured so that social workers are based in localities; this will enhance professional relationships with other partners and reduce travelling time.

4.4 Whilst there has been some excellent progress made over the year, there is still a lot of work to do to continuously improve outcomes for children and young people. Some of the key actions for the Children's Trust over the next two years are set out below:

4.4.1 Schools and Learning

Early Years

- Sunderland is one of 15 pilot areas and has received £365,803 from the Early Intervention Grant to trial new approaches for the early education of 2 years olds. Sunderland is committed to providing 15 hours of early education for this younger cohort by 2014. This will support the Narrowing the Gap programme in that young people should enter into primary education at higher levels than currently. The pilot will test what the issues are, and this is likely to include availability of spaces. To support this we will:
 - encourage schools in the North and Coalfields areas of the city to provide additional childcare as this is where there is currently a shortage
 - establish additional accredited networks of childminders to increase this demand among parents
 - lead the work to improve the quality of settings currently rated "satisfactory" using the Every Child a Talker programme, so focusing on speaking and listening.
- Implement the findings of the Tickell Review of the Early Years Foundation Stage which will reform the current framework and make it less bureaucratic. One of Dame Tickle's recommendations includes significantly reducing the number of early learning goals

children are assessed against at age five from 69 to 17. The review was reported on 30 March 2011 with a view to implementing any changes from September 2012 onwards.

Review of Sure Start, Early Years and Childcare

Funding for Children's Centres and Childcare was previously funded as part of the Early Years and Sure Start Grant. This has transferred into the non ring fenced Early Integration Grant (EIG). A whole scale review is being undertaken as to how these services are delivered in the future.

This review will consider the current network of 17 Children's Centres located in communities across Sunderland as well as other locations within communities where service delivery takes place, as well as all commissioned activity. Current service delivery reflects existing guidance and statutory duties and includes a universal service offer although identification and targeting of services to vulnerable groups is a priority.

A full needs assessment has been carried out during recent months. This has focused on current service delivery in terms of usage by target groups and on local demographics as well as unit costing of activities.

Key Stages 2 and 4

The Coalition Government through its White Paper, *The Importance of Teaching* has charged local authorities to work in new ways with schools. Whilst Sunderland must still challenge and support schools where there are concerns there is a clear direction of travel towards school improvement activity itself being carried out 'school to school'. The government aims to create a system which is self-improving, rather than using a centralised approach.

Post 16

- Implement the recommendations from the forthcoming reviews of national curriculum.
- Implement the recommendations from the Wolf Review for the reform of vocational education .
- Work with schools and partners to prepare for the increase in statutory school age
- With partners, and formulate plans to create an all-age careers service.

4.4.2 Safeguarding

- Implement the findings of the Munro Review to create more responsive social working services.
- The Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board, will produce a new Business Plan for 2011-13 which will have a more outcomes based approach, will support the SSCB to be smarter in the way it works. It will also take into account recommendations from the Munro Review. The new plan will be available for consultation in September 2011.
- Tackle domestic violence and the effects it has on young people and families. The Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy and Action Plan, developed by the Safer Sunderland Partnership and with the involvements of Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Boards, provides a clear, coordinated approach to tackling violence against women and girls and will be the major driver for improvements to this outcome across the city.
- Assess why the numbers of children and young people who are subject of a child protection plan have significantly increased recently.
- Implement the Foster Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy, in order to reduce the number of external placements the city uses.
- Implement and evaluate the action plan to reduce offending by children in care.
- Increase the number of settings achieving the Anti-bullying Chartermark, to ensure that bullying is picked up early and that 'low level' harassment is challenged

- In relation to young people who offend, create good links with CAMHS to improve health pathways. Funding from the Department of Health (£69,000 for two year) has been awarded to achieve this.

4.4.3 Health and Well-being

- Reduce the number of young people who are overweight, with a particular focus on the early years by working with parents and carers to change their lifestyles, by introducing healthy eating and exercise, to prevent their children becoming obese
- Reduce teenage pregnancy levels. The **C-card** – a condom card scheme – was launched in July 2011, with new publicity materials distributed and training held throughout the summer to promote it. The C-Card is a web-based system and offers greater choice of outlets to young people, Chlamydia screening and integrated alcohol assessments.
- Significantly reduce under 18 conceptions rate in Sunderland. Whilst some improvements have been made, with the actual number of under 18 conceptions reducing from 327 in 2007 to 290 in 2008, there is a lot more to do.
- Reduce the levels of young people under 18 who are admitted to hospital due to alcohol related primary diagnosis concerns
- Reduce the number of young people in the city who smoke by increasing the number of community/youth organisation who are trained across Sunderland in Level 2 smoking cessation work, to ensure services are young people friendly. Increase uptake of level 2 training in organisations in areas with increased need.

4.4.4 Early Intervention and Locality Services

Through the current transformation of Children's Services, the locality based working function of the service will be strengthened. This will enable the development of integrated neighbourhood models of service delivery to target preventative services to children, young people and families. This will allow services to be more responsive to the needs of local people and will particularly influence the Child and Family Poverty agenda and improve outcomes of other vulnerable groups.

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. **Relevant Considerations/Consultations**

- 7.1 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.
- 7.2 The draft Annual Report will be presented to the following groups for consideration and comment:

Joint Commissioning Board	8 July 2011
Children's Trust	12 July 2011
CYPL Scrutiny Article 4 Group	1 August 2011
Cabinet	7 September 2011
CYPL Scrutiny Committee	8 September 2011
Second presentation to Cabinet	5 October 2011
Council	5 October 2011

8. **List of Appendices**

Children and Young People's Plan Annual Report 2011

9. **Background Papers**

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

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