



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**COUNCIL CABINET**  
**8 July 2008**

Report of the Corporate Director for Children  
and Young People

# ITEM 15

## **Post-inspection action plan of the Joint Area Review of Children and Young People's Services**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

- 1.1 To note the positive outcome of the Joint Area Review - JAR - and the supporting action plan to implement inspection recommendations.
- 1.2 To request retrospective approval for the JAR post-inspection action plan. Due to submission deadlines required by Ofsted that are not coterminous with recent political processes, the JAR action plan has already been submitted to the DCSF.

### **REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 It is the expectation of the Audit Commission and Ofsted that the JAR report and any subsequent action plan will be presented to an 'open meeting of the relevant executive committee of the Council'.
- 2.2 It is the requirement of the inspection process that a post-inspection action plan is submitted to the Department for Children, Schools and Families – DCSF, Ofsted and GOEM – outlining the LA actions in response to the inspection outcomes.

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The JAR took place during three weeks in September and October 2007. The first week of the assessments in September covered initial fact-finding, data analysis and preliminary interviews with lead officers to set the scene and shape the full inspections to be carried out over two weeks in October.
- 3.2 A published copy of the Joint Area Review Report can be downloaded at:  
[www.derby.gov.uk/EducationLearning/jar](http://www.derby.gov.uk/EducationLearning/jar).

#### **Joint Area Review**

- 3.3 The JAR took place at the same time as the Annual Performance Assessment – APA. The outcomes of the 2006 APA informed the focus of the 2007 JAR investigations. The outcome of the 2007 APA contributed to the findings in the JAR report and the JAR report in turn informed the final grading and outcome of the CPA.
- 3.4 Unlike the APA, which was an assessment of universal services and how well they met all aspects of the five Every Child Matters framework, the JAR was a more in-depth and focused inspection on particular vulnerable groups.

- 3.5 The JAR was based very significantly on self-evaluation, inspection and data analysis of the performance of partners. In addition to this, a large amount of documentation and data collection was also required by the inspection teams. The inspection aimed to validate and challenge our local judgements through a demanding programme of interviews, site visits and focus groups.
- 3.6 The JAR inspection assessed the contribution of local services in ensuring the needs of three particular vulnerable groups were reviewed:
- effective care for those at risk or requiring safeguarding
  - the best possible outcomes for those who are looked after
  - the best possible outcomes for those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

The effectiveness of meeting the needs of these groups is common to all JAR inspections. In addition, two focused investigations were also carried out:

- access to and the effectiveness of sexual health services for children and young people, including teenage pregnancy support
- the quality, availability and suitability of accommodation for young people.

These additional investigations and field work were identified through data analysis and performance information from partner agencies and organisations.

As a part of the focused scrutiny, the case files of ten children and young people from the Children and Young People's Department and those from partner agencies were examined in depth. The inspection team in particular sought evidence of how well agencies worked together to meet children, young people and their families' needs.

Judgements were also made on the quality of service management and capacity to improve.

- 3.7 Overall services to children, young people and their families were graded 3 – good. The following is a summary of the individual grade inspections from the report.

**4: outstanding; 3: good; 2: adequate; 1: inadequate**

Theme	Local services overall
Safeguarding	3
Looked after children	3
Learning difficulties and/or disabilities	3
Service management	3
Capacity to improve	3

3.8 The recommendations from the JAR are:

**For immediate action**

The local partnership should:

- ensure that an appropriate way is found for the successful dissemination of the findings of this report to children and young people in the area
- develop an over-arching strategy and inter-agency protocols for the identification and detection of missing children
- ensure that all action plans clearly identify responsible officers, dates of delivery, expected outcomes, resources required and risks associated with failure to achieve.

**For action over the next six months**

- Make further progress in developing recruitment initiatives to ensure that all children in care are allocated to a qualified social worker.
- Make better use of available data to evaluate progress and plan improvements in relation to children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
- Ensure that there are clear strategies to evaluate the effectiveness of all initiatives relating to reducing teenage pregnancy and improving sexual health.
- Revise the methods for collecting and analysing data, to ensure that actions to improve housing capacity for young people are targeted accurately.

**For action in the longer term**

- Increase the opportunities for more flexible college programmes and for work-based learning for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

3.9 Recommendations and detailed commentary on important weakness identified in the report have been addressed in the post-inspection action plan. Actions for improvement have also been referenced in departmental and partners' business planning for 2008 – 09 and the review of the Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011.

<b>OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED</b>
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4.1 None.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Joint Area Review Rita Silvester – <a href="mailto:rita.silvester@derby.gov.uk">rita.silvester@derby.gov.uk</a> Tel: 01332 716840
<b>Background papers:</b>	Report of Derby City Joint Area Review <a href="http://www.derby.gov.uk/EducationLearning/jar">www.derby.gov.uk/EducationLearning/jar</a>
<b>List of appendices:</b>	Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Post Inspection Action Plan

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial**

- 1      None to this report.

**Legal**

- 2      The statutory processes relating to the JAR are noted in the report.

**Personnel**

- 3      None.

**Equalities impact**

- 4      None.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 5      The JAR assessed performance across the range of services for children and young people and the five outcomes in the Every Child Matters framework. These can be seen to relate to all six of the priorities in the current Corporate Plan, given the all-embracing nature of the children and young people's agenda.



# DERBY JOINT AREA REVIEW POST INSPECTION ACTION PLAN

May 2008

***Derby City Partnership***



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## Introduction

The Joint Area Review (JAR) of services to children and young people in Derby took place in October 2007, at the same time as the Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) and the Annual Performance Assessment of the Children and Young People's Department. The reports were published in February 2008 and gave much cause for celebration in what has been achieved. Inspectors recognised the significant achievements of the Council and formally rated it as a four-star, excellent authority.

As in all concurrent JAR inspections, the three core areas of safeguarding, looked after children and children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities were assessed. All three areas were rated as good. There were many positive comments by the inspection team on these areas of work and recognition of the strength of partnership working which underpinned the successes. There were two supplementary areas for scrutiny – the effectiveness of sexual health services for children and young people, including teenage pregnancy support, and the quality, availability and suitability of accommodation for young people. Both of these supplementary areas were judged adequate.

The area of Service Management was assessed as good, with good capacity to improve. The inspection team noted the good strategic vision and planning within the Children and Young People's Partnership, and the fact that the Council has outstanding ambitions, prioritises well and, through close collaboration with partner agencies, has extended its capacity for delivery.

Finally, the Children's Trust arrangements were judged to be effective, with good inter-agency working through the Children and Young People's Partnership, the Safeguarding Children Board, the Community Safety Partnership and Youth Offending Service. The ambitions of the partnership were regarded as stretching and challenging.

The reference to the use of innovative techniques with children and young people to contribute to the development of services was particularly pleasing. As the report notes, there are excellent mechanisms for ensuring that a wide and representative range of children and young people is able to take an active and central role in the reviewing and planning of services. This was judged by the Annual Performance Assessment at the same time as outstanding.

The City for Children and Young People has already agreed a new three-year plan for 2008-2011. The plan reflects the priorities generated from a range of stakeholder events and also embraces those areas of weakness and improvement noted in both the JAR and APA inspections. Further developments have also been embedded into current business planning for the Children and Young People's Department and partner agencies.

The action plan attached sets out very clearly how we intend to achieve the improvements identified through the recent inspection programme for all children and young people in the city.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Flack". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the left of a vertical red line.

**Andrew Flack**  
**Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Services**

# Derby Joint Area Review of Children's Services

## **RECOMMENDATION 1**

The local partnership should ensure that an appropriate way is found for the successful dissemination of the findings of this report to children and young people in the area.

## **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

There are excellent mechanisms for ensuring that a wide and representative range of children and young people is able to take an active and central role in the reviewing and planning of services.

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

At the same time as the JAR inspection the Annual Performance Assessment was also taking place. The judgement for Making a Positive Contribution was grade 4 – outstanding.

The 2007 APA report noted:

*The contribution of the council's services to improving outcomes for children and young people in this aspect is outstanding.*

*There are secure mechanisms in place to ensure that children and young people have an opportunity to express their views. A strong commitment to consult widely with children and young people about key issues and ensure their voice is heard, results in excellent outcomes. A good example of this is the Youth Shadow Board, which is fully representative of young people in the area and contributes well to strategic planning.*

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

The Corporate Director for Children and Young People attended a meeting of the Youth Shadow Board, now renamed Voices in Action, to discuss how to disseminate the findings of JAR report. The group identified a number of ways in which they would like the information communicated to all children and young people in the city. These have now all been actioned.



## RECOMMENDATION 1

The local partnership should ensure that an appropriate way is found for the successful dissemination of the findings of this report to children and young people in the area.

**Timescale: immediate**

<b>Key requirements</b>	To develop an appropriate way to disseminate the findings of the inspection report to children and young people.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	To ensure that children and young people can easily access information on the outcome of the JAR inspection process and issues that are particularly relevant to them.	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	All children and young people in Derby.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In consultation with children and young people through the Youth shadow Board to determine the way in which they would like to access information on the outcome of the inspection.</li><li>• To develop a poster for children and young people containing key messages from the inspection.</li><li>• To request a children's letter from the inspection team.</li><li>• Create an area on Derby City Council (DCC) 'kidztalk' webpage with a link to JAR information where children and young people can blog their thoughts.</li></ul>	<b>Timescale / milestones</b>  March 2008  April 2008  April 2008  April 2008
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Head of Communications and Customer Support	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poster printed and distributed to all schools and settings that children and young people use.</li><li>• Children's letter received from Ofsted and posted on JAR website.</li><li>• Blog page created on 'kidztalk' web page.</li></ul>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	Through feedback at children and young people participation groups.	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Young People's Senior Consultation Officer	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	Within existing budgets.	
<b>External support</b>	None	
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	Children and Young People Participation Strategy.	

## **RECOMMENDATION 2**

The local partnership should develop an over-arching strategy and inter-agency protocols for the identification and detection of missing children.

## **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

### **Safeguarding – GOOD**

The contribution of local services to improving outcomes for children and young people at risk, or requiring safeguarding, is good. There is effective interagency and preventative work to identify, and respond, to the needs of children at risk in an appropriate and timely way, although the proportion of initial assessments completed on time has fallen. There are clear separate protocols for defined groups to identify missing children. These have not yet been brought together into an over-arching strategy.

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

Derby Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) has robust interagency procedures for the identification of children, young people and families who go missing. These procedures developed in 2006 and implemented in 2007 are fully compliant with HM Government 'Working Together' Guidance (2006). Derby has a lead officer for children missing education and procedures in place to identify and track children who go missing from school. Derby, unlike the majority of local authorities, has a dedicated service for children and young people to safeguard and support runaway and missing children. It also has a dedicated independent service responding to the needs of children and young people vulnerable to sexual exploitation.

In addition to these measures, Derby has anticipated forthcoming legislation and developed a Local Safeguarding Children Board Strategy for safeguarding runaway and missing children. The strategy has been written by the Missing Children Task Group established in September 2007 within Derby's Safeguarding Board arrangements. The strategy has two key aims:

- to reduce the number of Derby children and young people who are missing, and
- to provide appropriate services to children and young people who are or have been missing.

The strategy will support the achievement of these aims by securing a co-ordinated approach by the DSCB to the:

- collection and reporting of local data and needs analysis
- prevention, identification, recovery and support of missing children, and
- intelligence gathering to reduce risk and secure convictions.

The task group will continue to work adopting an action plan approach to ensure the strategy is fully implemented.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

The Missing Children Task Group was established in September 2007 and developed on behalf of the DSCB an overarching strategy to improve the safeguarding of children who are vulnerable to going missing or running away. The strategy was agreed by the DSCB Executive in May 2008. The Missing Children Task Group will continue to work to implement the strategy and provide regular reports to the DSCB Steering Group/Stay Safe Outcome Group and the DSCB Executive.

## RECOMMENDATION 2

The local partnership should develop an over-arching strategy and inter-agency protocols for the identification and detection of missing children.

**Timescale: immediate**

<b>Key requirements</b>	To develop an over-arching strategy and inter-agency protocol for the identification and detection of missing children.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	Reduce likelihood of significant harm to local children and young people.	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	All partners involved in Derby Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) arrangements.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Established runaways and missing children task group within the DCSB arrangements.</li><li>Established arrangements for data collection and information sharing.</li><li>Draft strategy agreed by DSCB.</li><li>Strategy disseminated to DSCB partners.</li><li>Task group develop plan to deliver strategy and monitor success.</li><li>Produce interim report to steering group.</li><li>DSCB steering group review of progress.</li></ul>	<b>Timescale / milestones</b> September 2007  March 2008  May 2008 May 2008 May/June/July 2008  September 2008 January 2009
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Assistant Director, Locality Services	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Strategy agreed.</li><li>Data collected and available to all partners.</li><li>Action plan responsive to needs analysis from data collection.</li><li>Multi-agency meetings held to share information about predatory adults.</li><li>Securing criminal convictions.</li></ul>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Through DSCB steering group using the DSCB performance monitoring framework.</li><li>Annual report to DSCB executive group.</li><li>Biannual report on CYP Plan progress.</li></ul>	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Head of Education Welfare Service.	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	Within existing budgets.	
<b>External support</b>	None	
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Business Plan for Local Safeguarding Board 2008/09.</li><li>Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011.</li><li>Linked to national work on vulnerable children (children who go missing and at risk of sexual exploitation).</li><li>CYPD business plans.</li></ul>	

### **RECOMMENDATION 3**

The local partnership should ensure that all action plans clearly identify responsible officers, dates of delivery, expected outcomes, resources required and risks associated with failure to achieve.

### **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

#### **Service Management – GOOD**

Service management is good. The council has outstanding ambitions, prioritises well, although services however, are heavily reliant on time-limited funding. Monitoring and review mechanisms are effective but action plans are not consistently detailed and best use is not always made of data. There is good capacity for further improvement.

### **POSITION STATEMENT**

The City for Children and Young People has completed intensive consultation work with all partners in Derby to agree the over-arching principles, priorities and outcomes of our 2008-11 Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) and the key actions that will deliver this.

An integral part of this process has been to clearly identify and strengthen accountability within the action plan to ensure consistency and links between key actions, performance management and improved outcomes.

The CYPP 2008-11 has a clear delivery action plan that meets the requirements of recommendation 3.

### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

A development session was held with key strategic partners in January 2008 and a wider stakeholder event was held in February 2008 with over 100 partners for the 'Children and Young People's Plan' - Next Steps event. Children, young people, parents and carers have contributed in a variety of ways including direct contact with over 500 children and young people. This involvement has produced key partnership actions for the CYPP and partnership ownership and accountability through our governance arrangements.

The Performance Management Framework provides clear accountability for actions and reporting timescales, placed within the wider context of Derby City Partnership governance arrangements.

### RECOMMENDATION 3

The local partnership should ensure that all action plans clearly identify responsible officers, dates of delivery, expected outcomes, resources required and risks associated with failure to achieve.

**Timescale: immediate**

<b>Key requirements</b>	To ensure that all action plans clearly identify responsible officers, dates of delivery, expected outcomes, resources required and risks associated with failure to achieve.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	To improve accountability and performance management of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2008-2011.	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	Statutory and non-statutory organisations, including the Third Sector, who are partners in the City for Children and Young People, involved in the planning and delivery of services to children, young people and families.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultation with partners, children, young people, parents and carers to agree the CYPP 08-09 key actions.</li><li>• Development and implementation of Partnership Performance Management Framework.</li><li>• Dissemination of CYPP including Performance Action Plan across the City for Children and Young People.</li><li>• Key actions and performance targets to be available on Performance Eye for quarter one reporting.</li><li>• CYPP to be risk assessed through equality impact assessment</li><li>• Quarterly performance monitoring to be reported to the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board as outlined in Partnership Governance arrangements.</li></ul>	<b>Timescale / milestones</b> January 2008  March 2008  May 2008  June 2008  June 2008  Quarterly intervals during 08-09
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Head of Performance and Partnerships	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Effective and timely Performance Management of key actions, targets and outcomes within the 2008-2011 CYPP.</li><li>• Partners, children, young people and families know who is strategically responsible and accountable for key actions within the CYPP.</li><li>• Improvement in outcomes for children and young people.</li><li>• Narrowing of gap in outcomes between the most vulnerable groups in Derby and all children and young people.</li></ul>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	Evaluation of Performance Management Framework by Chairs Outcome Group meeting.	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Project Manager: Performance	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	As part of existing resource.	

<b>External support</b>	Co-operation from partners.
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CYPD Performance Framework for Accountability.</li> <li>• Children and Young People's Plan 2008-2011.</li> <li>• CYPD Departmental Business Plan.</li> <li>• LAA target monitoring.</li> <li>• Partner agency plans.</li> </ul>

#### **RECOMMENDATION 4**

The local partnership should make further progress in developing recruitment initiatives to ensure that all children in care are allocated to a qualified social worker.

#### **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

##### **Looked after children and young people – GOOD**

The contribution of local services to improving outcomes for looked after children and young people is good. Strong and effective partnerships are making a discernible difference to children's lives. The care leavers' service is good and corporate parenting responsibilities are well understood and fulfilled effectively. Further progress needs to be made to ensure that all children in care are allocated to a qualified social worker.

#### **POSITION STATEMENT**

We ensure that our most challenging children in care are allocated to a qualified social worker. Managers for long-term CiC are all social work qualified and all reviews are chaired by an Independent Review Officer who is social work qualified. Due to our recruitment strategy, which was very successful, we have low vacancy rates in social care and we continue to deliver strong performance on the relevant key indicators. We will be unable to ensure every child in care is allocated a qualified social worker in the foreseeable future. We are working to improve the position.

#### **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

Following our successful recruitment and retention strategy we have been able to ensure 100% allocation of safeguarding, Children in Care and Children in need cases. We expect to maintain this position. We will ensure that our Children in care casework is scrutinised and quality assured by managers who are social work qualified. We will also ensure that our most challenging and complex children are allocated to a qualified social worker. As resources permit and through our recruitment strategy we will convert non-social work qualified posts to qualified positions. In the interim we will increase the level of joint working between non-social work qualified and qualified workers.

#### RECOMMENDATION 4

The local partnership should make further progress in developing recruitment initiatives to ensure that all children in care are allocated to a qualified social worker.

#### Timescale: for action over the next six months

<b>Key requirements</b>	Increase number of CiC allocated to a qualified social worker where possible. Ensure no CiC are unallocated.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	To ensure those CiC who require a qualified social worker allocation receive that.	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	CiC with most challenging/complex needs.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	Convert non-social work qualified posts to qualified posts as recruitment pressures and resources permit.	<b>Timescale / milestones</b>  October 2008 – percentage of CiC allocated to qualified social workers at that point.
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	
<b>Success criteria</b>	Increase percentage of CiC allocated to a qualified social worker. No CiC unallocated.	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	Through local performance indicator on a monthly basis at Children's Social Care Managers' Group.	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	None additional.	
<b>External support</b>	Personnel team.	
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	Care Matters Implementation Plan. Derby Safeguarding Children Board 2008-09.	



## **RECOMMENDATION 5**

The local partnership should make better use of available data to evaluate progress and plan improvements in relation to children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

## **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

### **Children and Young People with learning difficulties and/or disabilities – GOOD**

Local services make a good contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There is a high commitment to their inclusion in schools and in the locality. The integrated disabled children's service is a model of good practice. The services provided by the Lighthouse and the support for the hearing-impaired are also major strengths, as are the excellent recreational facilities available for those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There is insufficient collation of data to give an accurate city-wide picture of attainment and progress.

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

There is a wide range of SEN data available in Derby City at a school level relating to LDD attainment and progress. However, at city-wide level there is a lack of cohesion. It does not always provide the opportunity for strategic planning to narrow the attainment gap for vulnerable groups or for national and other local authority comparisons.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

Working with the Information Management team, the priority is to audit current data available, identify areas of strength and weakness, identify specific areas for development and develop a process for data collection and to make better use of existing evidence and evaluation methods.

## RECOMMENDATION 5

The local partnership should make better use of available data to evaluate progress and plan improvements in relation to children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

**Timescale: for action over the next six months**

<b>Key requirements</b>	Create an agreed core data set that can be used to evaluate progress and plan improvements in relation to children and young people with learning difficulties and /or disabilities at all stages of the SEN Code of Practice, linked to National Strategies data sets.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish a system to analyse data to identify strengths and areas for development in Derby.</li><li>• To use data to compare Derby to National data and other Local Authorities.</li></ul>	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meeting with CYPD information management team to audit current range of data available.</li><li>• Prepare report on what is needed with cost and resources identified.</li><li>• Implement report recommendations.</li><li>• All data is linked and accessible.</li><li>• Progress of pupils with LDD is evaluated.</li><li>• Data is used to inform planning and resource allocations.</li></ul>	<b>Timescale / milestones</b> February 2008  April 2008  April 2008 July 2008 September 2008 September 2008
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Assistant Director, Specialist Services	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current data sets identified.</li><li>• Information audits completed.</li><li>• Additional resources allocated to align existing data sets.</li><li>• Decisions at planning meetings and resource allocations to pupils with LDD clearly informed by data knowledge of outcomes.</li></ul>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	National Strategies SEN Adviser	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Head of Social Development and Inclusion	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	Within existing budgets	
<b>External support</b>	None. LA Regional hub to be established from September 2008	
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	CYPD Business plans SEN Development plan	

## **RECOMMENDATION 6**

The local partnership should ensure that there are clear strategies to evaluate the effectiveness of all initiatives relating to reducing teenage pregnancy and improving sexual health.

## **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

**The contribution of local services to the access and effectiveness of sexual health services for children and young people, including teenage pregnancy support is adequate**

Access to, and the effectiveness of, sexual health services for children and young people, including teenage pregnancy support, are adequate. A wide range of often imaginative projects has been introduced to educate young people about sexual health but their impact has not been evaluated sufficiently. The rate of teenage pregnancy remains higher than average.

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

At the time of the JAR the status for under-18 conception rates (2005) was amber red showing a reduction of -14.4% (rate 54.6/1000 female population aged 15-17 years) from the 1998 baseline. Provisional data for 2006 (ONS Feb 2008) showed an under-18 conception rate of 46.1/1000 and reduction of -27.8% fall from the 1998 baseline. This demonstrates a very positive shift from amber red to amber green status, making Derby the most improved authority in the East Midlands.

The under-18 conception rate is now at its lowest level since the strategy began. Derby is also now in the strongest position compared to its statistical neighbours. However, it is recognised that meeting the 2010 target of reducing under-18 conceptions by 55% remains very challenging. The teenage pregnancy strategy remains a high priority for key partners and the Children and Young People's Executive over the next three years. Both the reduction of the under-18 conception rate LAA NI112 and N117 EET target are included in the priority 35 indicators to reflect this.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

The priority of the Teenage Pregnancy Commissioning Board has been to create some temporary capacity to develop a process for data collection and to make better use of existing evidence and evaluation methods. This, along with completing the DCSF self-assessment outlining support for teenage parents, will inform the development of the three-year action plan to 2010. The focus of this plan will be to consolidate and embed effective initiatives and meet the unmet needs of vulnerable young people. Since the inspection teenage pregnancy has also been subject to an Overview and Scrutiny Commission review. This review, undertaken by elected members, has strengthened the commitment to actively engage in monitoring the work of the Teenage Pregnancy Commissioning Board.

## RECOMMENDATION 6

The local partnership should ensure that there are clear strategies to evaluate the effectiveness of all initiatives relating to reducing teenage pregnancy and improving sexual health.

### Timescale: for action over the next six months

<b>Key requirements</b>	Reduce the rate of under-18 conceptions to achieve national expectations by 2010.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To establish a core minimum data set based on DCSF guidance.</li><li>• Identify appropriate evaluation tools for assessing the impact of projects and training activity.</li><li>• Ensure there is appropriate analysis of the evidence and findings are applied when making commissioning decisions.</li></ul>	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	Under-18 young people, including boys and young men and young women and parents and teenage parents.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase capacity in the short term to pump prime data collection processes.</li><li>• Develop performance management system from support groups to TP Board.</li><li>• Establish a comprehensive data set for performance management.</li><li>• Establish a multi-agency 'task and finish' group to review progress and consolidate information.</li><li>• To complete national self-assessment for support for teenage parents.</li><li>• Develop new TP action plan to 2010.</li><li>• Review work with boys and young men project to establish clear outcome measures and inform future commissioning decisions.</li></ul>	<b>Timescale / milestones</b> April 2008  May 2008  May 2008  June 2008  July 2008  August 2008 October 2008
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Director of Public Health, Chair of Teenage Pregnancy Board	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Appointment of additional staff to collate data.</li><li>• Comprehensive data set established and owned by TP Partnership.</li><li>• Outcome measures agreed for boys and young men project.</li><li>• National self assessment completed to inform revised TP Action Plan.</li><li>• Action plan completed and signed off by TP Board.</li></ul>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Performance management framework of TP Board.</li><li>• Exceptions reporting to Joint Strategic Commissioning Board.</li><li>• Monitoring meetings with GOEM Regional Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator.</li><li>• LAA target N1 112 regular reporting to GOEM.</li></ul>	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Teenage Pregnancy Commissioner	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Existing department budgets.</li><li>• Teenage Pregnancy Grant.</li><li>• Additional allocation of £26,000 LAA underspend 2008.</li></ul>	

<b>External support</b>	GOEM Regional Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teenage pregnancy strategic plan</li> <li>• Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011</li> <li>• CYPD Business plan 2008/09</li> <li>• PCT Sexual Health Strategy</li> <li>• JISP - GOEM</li> </ul>

## **RECOMMENDATION 7**

The local partnership should revise the methods for collecting and analysing data, to ensure that actions to improve housing capacity for young people are targeted accurately.

## **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

### **The quality, availability and suitability of accommodation for young people are adequate**

The authority offers suitable accommodation for adequately meeting the needs of most children and young people in the local population. There are effective intervention strategies to minimise homelessness and good partnership working between the authority and other agencies. However, there is insufficient accommodation to meet the needs of some vulnerable groups and data analysis does not ensure that provision is consistently targeted on those in greatest need.

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

At the time of the JAR, Housing had already identified a need for a 'Single Point of Entry' - SPE - referral system for access into supported housing, and was in the process of developing such a service. In February 2008 a pilot was launched and, following an evaluation in April, will continue as a mainstream service, in relation to single people and childless couples over the age of 18. The SPE team will be located at the new Green Lane Assessment Centre – Milestone House, when it opens in June 2008. The SPE undertakes a comprehensive, holistic assessment of housing support and health needs and refers clients to the most suitable available housing. To make sure there is adequate space within appropriate supported housing schemes, we have also developed a move-on plan protocol – MOPP - which will ensure that each client's support needs are reviewed on a regular basis so that when they are ready for independent living, they are moved on appropriately.

A steering group has been set up to oversee the SPE. This group will be responsible for analysing accurate information on the needs of clients, including young people over the age of 18.

For 16-18 year-olds, a holistic assessment of housing and support needs is carried out by the Housing Options Centre, using the same assessment tool as the SPE, but also includes for a home visit to investigate whether or not the client can remain safely at home for the time being, and whether mediation would help. In addition, for this client group an Independent Living Assessment is also undertaken to ascertain whether or not they are capable of living independently.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

A steering group has been set up to oversee the SPE. This group will be responsible for analysing accurate information on the needs of clients including young people over 18, and making sure that relevant accommodation is provided to those in greatest need.

The MOPP has an agreed action plan to make sure that there is adequate flow through supported housing, including all young people.

We are currently researching the need for a Nightstop service for 16-25 year-olds in the city. This will provide short-term emergency accommodation within the homes of volunteers and will reduce the need for bed and breakfast.

## RECOMMENDATION 7

The local partnership should revise the methods for collecting and analysing data, to ensure that actions to improve housing capacity for young people are targeted accurately.

### Timescale: for action over the next six months

<b>Key requirements</b>	To improve the methods of collecting and analysing data in relation to the housing and support needs of young people.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide improved access to supported housing.</li><li>• Target supported housing at those in greatest need.</li><li>• Identify trends in youth homelessness.</li><li>• Measure preventative actions.</li><li>• Identify gaps in service provision.</li></ul>	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	16 – 25 year-olds in housing need.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MOPP action plan.</li><li>• Mainstream SPE service.</li><li>• Locate SPE at Milestone House.</li><li>• Develop an action plan following the planned review of the Homelessness Strategy.</li></ul>	<b>Timescale / milestones</b> <b>Annual Plan</b> May 2008 July 2008 July 2008
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Assistant Director, Housing and Advice Services	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year-on-year reduction of young people accepted as homeless.</li><li>• Reduction in the use of bed and breakfast.</li><li>• Positive outcomes measured through the Supporting People Outcomes Framework.</li></ul>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MOPP outcomes.</li><li>• Supporting People Outcomes Framework.</li><li>• Reports to the SPE Steering Group.</li></ul>	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Housing Options Manager	
<b>Resource requirement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continued SP funding for the SPE team.</li><li>• Continued SP funding for housing providers.</li><li>• Housing Options Centre budget.</li></ul>	
<b>External support</b>	All relevant supported housing providers. PCT in relation to health assessments.	
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CYP Plan</li><li>• Drugs and Alcohol Strategy</li><li>• Crime and Disorder Strategy</li><li>• Supporting People Strategy</li><li>• JISP - GOEM</li></ul>	

## **RECOMMENDATION 8**

The local partnership should increase the opportunities for more flexible college programmes and for work-based learning for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

## **JAR JUDGEMENT:**

### **Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities - GOOD**

Local services make a good contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. There is insufficient collation of data to give an accurate city-wide picture of attainment and progress. College courses lack flexibility and there are insufficient opportunities for work-based learning for these young people.

## **POSITION STATEMENT**

Since the JAR inspection, Derby College has had an OFSTED inspection in November 2007; the College was awarded a Grade 1 – Outstanding for its provision in Preparation for Life and Work. This reflects the excellent standards the College has in relation to teaching and learning, quality of provision, community and pastoral care. The judgement of outstanding includes Skills for Life, Additional Learning Support and provision for learners with LDD. The College is building on its provision to further embed realistic and sustainable supported employment opportunities specifically for around 30 young people aged 16-24 from Derby with LDD over a two-year period to December 2010. The College has also recently achieved Dyslexia Friendly Status.

In addition, there has been a European Social Fund (ESF) tendering round which has allocated money to specific projects whose aims include increasing the provision for LDD.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS**

Derby College actions:

- Realistic and sustainable supported employment opportunities specifically for around 30 young people aged 16-24 from Derby with LDD over a two year period to December 2010 will be established through Derby College
- Employability curriculum and qualifications have been introduced in Entry and Level 1 courses (Explore and Advance programmes). These offer a more flexible provision which will lead on to Level 2.
- For learners at pre-entry level transition arrangements with special schools are strong and their pupils attend College prior to enrolment and transfer.
- The College has just applied to participate in the development and delivery of progression pathways within the Foundation Learning Tier (FLT). This will include an organisational audit of all existing Entry Level and Level 1 courses and map provision under relevant Progression Pathways. This will then inform the redesign of selected curriculum and qualifications in line with FLT and relevant Progression Pathway to meet the needs of learners with LDD.

Work-based learning provider actions:

- The ESF funding is being used to fund three projects which have within their target groups learners with LDD:



- post-16 NEET activities
  - post-16 unemployed youth
  - pre-16 engagement activities.
- These projects will increase the opportunities for young people with LDD to access a work based learning route. The lifespan of the projects is June 2008 to December 2010.

## RECOMMENDATION 8

The local partnership should increase the opportunities for more flexible college programmes and for work-based learning for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

### Timescale: for action in the longer term

<b>Key requirements</b>	Increase the opportunities for more flexible college programmes and for work-based learning for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.	
<b>The purpose of the activity</b>	To increase the opportunities and progression routes for young people with LDD into appropriate learning post-16.	
<b>The target group for the activity</b>	Young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.	
<b>The action to be taken</b>	<p>All work based learning providers have access to funding for additional learning support within apprenticeships.</p> <p>Derby College to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• recruit two job coaches</li><li>• to establish a job shop based at Derby College for LDD and provide a central access point for work related opportunities</li><li>• to identify supported employment opportunities with local employers and the voluntary sector</li><li>• to support learners with work experience, work trials, job tasters, employment and volunteering</li><li>• to provide excellent support networks for the target group which will improve their self worth, self confidence, personal and social development and employability skills.</li></ul> <p>Targeted projects to be introduced using ESF funded activity.</p>	<p><b>Timescale / milestones</b></p> <p>2008/09 financial year</p> <p>Over a two-year period 2008 to 2010</p> <p>June 2008 to December 2010</p>
<b>Lead responsibility</b>	Partnership Director, Learning and Skills Council	
<b>Success criteria</b>	<p>Derby College will embed realistic and sustainable supported employment opportunities specifically for 30 young people aged 16-24 from Derby with LDD over a two-year period to December 2010.</p> <p>To establish pre-E2E provision through ESF-funded activity within the city.</p>	
<b>Monitoring and evaluation</b>	Monitoring and evaluation of these activities will be undertaken by the LSC partnership managers.	
<b>Responsibility</b>	Derby City Partnership Managers, Learning and Skills Council.	

<b>Resource requirement</b>	Additional learning support money from core LSC funding ESF funding – approximately £687,000 over the three projects.
<b>External support</b>	Derby College, Work-Based Learning providers and employers.
<b>Link to other priorities, activities, plans</b>	Reduction of NEET. LSC Annual Statement of Priorities 14 – 19 Strategic Plan