



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE MEETING 18 March 2008

Report of the Corporate Director for Children & Young People

Children and Young People's Plan 2008-2011

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To approve the development of a Children and Young People's Plan 2008 - 2011
- 1.2 To agree the overarching Principles, Priorities and Outcomes for the Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011.
- 1.3 To agree that any changes arising from the continuing work on the plan should be made in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Children Act 2004 requires all areas to produce a single, strategic, overarching plan for all services affecting children and young people. It should support integrated and effective services to secure the outcomes for children as set out in Every Child Matters, Change for Children, the Ten Year Childcare Strategy and the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity services.
- 2.2 The Children and Young People's Plan and the process of joint planning should support the local authority, and its partners, to agree clear targets and priorities for services for children and young people, identify actions and activities needed to achieve them and ensure delivery.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 There is a requirement in the Children Act 2004 for Local Authorities to produce a single strategic, over-arching plan for all services affecting children and young people. This requirement does not apply to "excellent" authorities. However, an over-arching strategic plan is necessary to guide our work and to promote integrated and effective services, as well as providing a central focus for Annual Performance Assessment and future Comprehensive Area Assessment.
- 3.2 The Children and Young People's Plan is part of the Council's budget and policy framework and therefore needs to be considered by the Children and Young People's Commission prior to returning to Cabinet and submission to full Council.

- 3.3 The Children and Young People's Plan and the process of joint planning should support the Local Authority and its partners to agree clear targets and priorities for services for children and young people, identify actions and activities needed to achieve them and ensure delivery.
- 3.4 In order to meet the statutory regulations set for local authorities in completing the Children and Young People's Plan, overarching principles, priorities and outcomes have been identified, with partners, to provide the strategic direction for the plan.
- 3.5 **Overarching Principles, Priorities and Outcomes**
The overarching Principles, Priorities and Outcomes provide a framework and vision for children and young people's services in Derby. These have been reached following a development session in January 2008 with members of the City for Children and Young People's Executive, Chairs of the Outcome Groups, representatives from the Joint Strategic Commissioning Board and over 100 stakeholders who attended the 'Children and Young People's Plan – Next Steps' Stakeholder Event in February 2008. The views of children, young people and parents have also been included.

Principles

- Equality at the forefront of everything we do
- To focus on prevention and early intervention.
- Narrowing the gap.
- To promote enjoyment for children, young people, and their families at home, in learning and in the community.

Priorities

- Parenting.
- Safety, belonging and being valued in the community.
- Enabling ambition, aspiration and achievement.
- Physical, emotional well-being and safe choices.

Outcomes

- Derby has positive, caring and responsible parents, who enable children and young people to meet the Five Outcomes.
- To ensure all children and young people in Derby are listened to and can participate in decision making in their local and self-defined communities.
- Children and young people are supported to develop and maintain positive relationships and have access to new opportunities.
- Children, young people and their families are supported to understand safe risk and how to make safe choices.

- 3.6 The key elements of the completed plan will include:

- progress overview of the work from the previous CYP Plan
- Principles, Priorities, Outcomes
- analysis of Derby's successes and needs, highlighting key messages from inspection findings and from children and young people, their parents and carers

- summary of the resources available to support our work
- narrowing the gap – our priorities, actions and targets during the next three years
- how we will deliver on our key actions, including performance management and commissioning arrangements.

3.7 Work on the detail of the plan will include significant contributions from the five Every Child Matters outcome groups.

3.8 **Five Outcome Groups**

These groups are the major vehicle for collating information from partners and for identifying priorities and actions for each outcome. The groups are in the process of agreeing, key actions and SMART targets in a format agreed by the Chairs of each group. The Outcome groups will identify evidence of current services being provided to children and young people which will help to achieve the aims of the Outcomes Framework.

3.9 It is intended to complete the plan for publication by the end of May 2008, subject to equality impact assessment and formal approval from partner agencies, including the Council's policy process.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 It is technically possible not to produce a formal Children and Young People's Plan, as an "excellent" authority. It has nevertheless been judged that a central, agreed plan is vital to coherent and effective partnership work.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 The plan must include a section on the resources that will support our actions. This will be relatively broad brush, covering those resources agreed by the Council and partner agencies as part of their normal, annual budget making process. All of the actions proposed in the plan will need to be delivered within existing resources, including any external grant opportunities, and working together to secure increased effectiveness wherever possible.
- 1.2 The Local Area Agreement with its aligned and pooled budget arrangements has a children and young people's block which relates closely to this plan and will support delivery of some of its priorities.

Legal

- 2.1 Whilst there is a relaxation for excellent authorities the overall expectation in the Children Act 2004 is that Authorities should agree with partner agencies an overarching children and young people's plan. It is clear that this will be a central focus of Annual Performance Assessment and future Comprehensive Area Assessment that will begin from self evaluation and progress on the plan.

Personnel

- 3.1 None directly to this report. However, achieving joined up action between staff in partner agencies and developing the workforce to address the children and young people's agenda are challenging but vital aspects of our work.

Equalities impact

- 4.1 Achieving equity and excellence across children and young people's services are important underlying themes of our work. Narrowing gaps and opportunities are inherent in the five outcomes for children and young people.
- 4.2 The new CYP Plan will be subject to equality impact assessment before formal approval by Cabinet and Council.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 5.1 The new plan will support and contribute towards achieving:
 - Encourage lifelong learning and achievement
 - Healthy and independent communities
 - Deliver excellent services, performance and value for money

