

Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2015-19 -from Good to Great-

“Children’s Services in Leeds benefit from outstanding, inspirational and confident operational and political leadership. The Child Friendly Leeds ambition has cross-party political support,”
“professionals across the city put children and young people at the heart of their work,”
*“partners work effectively together to safeguard children and young people” (Ofsted report
March 2015)*





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Welcome to the Children and Young People's Plan 2015-19

Our vision for a child friendly city is our ambition for how we will make a difference to the lives of over 183,000 children and young people. **We always start with a simple question: What is it like to be a child or young person growing up in Leeds, and how do we make it better?**

We adopt a partnership approach because addressing these issues is the responsibility of everyone who works with and cares about children and young people. Our aspiration to become a child friendly city is at the heart of our Vision because if we all do what we can to ensure our children and young people are safe, healthy, successful, heard, involved and respected at home, at school, in their communities - and whenever decisions affect them – it sends the right message about how important their welfare is to us and how important they are to our future.

We have consulted widely about our 2015-19 plan. **Our partners and Ofsted say that there are many examples of how we have made good and sometimes outstanding progress**, using the framework of obsessions, outcomes and priorities set out in the CYPP 2011-15. Examples of the impact we have made are included in the new plan. **However, we know there is a lot more to do.**

During the consultation the workforce, children and young people, our partnership boards, Council officers, elected members, our local, national and international adviser networks and our performance data told us that an enhanced focus on some areas will help us **go further and faster**. Our new plan sets out the detail of these issues and how we will tackle them.

The overall effectiveness of children's services in Leeds is rated as good by Ofsted who published their "Inspection of services for children in need of help and , children looked after and care leavers and Review of the effectiveness of the local safeguarding children board" in March 2015. Within the overall judgment services for children who need help and protection are rated good; services for Children Looked After and achieving permanence are rated as good; adoption performance is rated as good; the experiences and progress of care leavers is rated as good; and, leadership, management and governance is rated as outstanding. The Leeds Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is also rated good.

This is an outstanding milestone in the Leeds improvement journey, arising from all the hard work done across the city in the last 5 years. It reflects a remarkable transformation in a relatively short period of time and is a fitting tribute to the dedication, commitment and professionalism of the Children's Services workforce and partners. **However, we are not complacent. Leeds is a big and complex city facing significant and stubborn challenges. Outcomes are not always good enough and are not always consistent across the city and across different groups and communities.**

The core of our vision and framework of obsessions, outcomes, priorities and key indicators is little changed from that set out in the 2011-15 plan. We have updated the framework to better reflect the current position. This includes areas highlighted as vitally important by the data and our consultees, including children and young people. for example,

- best start in life
- narrowing gaps in learning outcomes



- the importance of social, emotional and mental health and well being outcomes, including positive behaviour in learning settings,
- outcomes for those with special educational needs or disability.

Our vision and framework is well understood across the city. Our relentless focus on these areas, and the way our partners have applied them on a day to day basis, and in a wide range of services, agencies, settings and interactions with children, young people and their families, has been the key to our success to date. The **“development of a clear and ambitious vision has fostered a relentless focus on continuous improvement.”** (Ofsted report, March 2015)

We know need to refresh the collective determination across the city to use the updated vision and framework to unpick the issues facing some of our children, young people and families, particularly those who are most vulnerable to poor outcomes or who face significant challenges. To help us do this we have identified 7 improvement programmes highlighted during the consultation on the 2015-19 plan. A summary of our approach is set out on page 21 of the plan.

The CYPP is the ambition, the intention, the framework; the commitment; the guide; the script. It is made real and translated into sustainable changes in outcomes for children, young people, families and their communities by our partners. Our partners pick up and run with the vision and framework every day of the year.

Through the application of our vision and framework and our shared behaviours and methods, we are confident that our partners, led by *the Children and Families Trust Board (CFTB)*, can build on the progress made to date.

Our CYPP is central to the growth strategy for the city. An investment in safe, healthier, skilled, confident, successful and more resilient children, young people, families and communities lays the foundation for an increasingly prosperous city where the social and economic benefits of growth are enjoyed by all.

The social and economic “payback” from investment in children’s services, particularly early intervention and preventative work, is healthy and flourishing communities and a thriving city where more people reach their potential. The scale and range of the potential gains of the “invest to save” approach is documented in study after study. Our challenge is to deliver these on the ground in Leeds.

Councillor Lucinda Yeadon
Deputy Leader and Executive Member for
Children and Families

Nigel Richardson
Director of Children’s Services



Our vision

Leeds has a bold, exciting ambition to become the 'best city' and the best council in the UK. We will only achieve this if we become the best city for children and young people to grow up in. Our vision is for Leeds to be recognised as 'child friendly city.'

Through our vision we invest in children and young people, their families and their communities to help build a more prosperous and successful city. In a child friendly city

- ✓ *All children and young people are safe from harm*
- ✓ *All children and young people do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life*
- ✓ *All children and young people choose healthy lifestyles*
- ✓ *All children and young people are happy and have fun growing up*
- ✓ *All children and young people are active citizens*

A child friendly city is also a city where the affects of child poverty are minimised and where the social and economic benefits of growth are enjoyed by all.

A Restorative City

We want to create a new **social contract** between the state and our citizens so that the emphasis of all our practice is on working **with** children and families, rather than doing things **to** them or **for** them. Working restoratively involves high support and high challenge so that families find their own lasting solutions to the challenges they face, and are equipped with the resilience to move forward successfully.

We are working towards a position where a restorative approach is the default option. A basic entitlement for all children, young people and families who come into contact with our services, with the child at the heart of decisions that affect them.

Underpinning this approach are the 4 principles agreed by the CFTB and adopted as council policy statements:

- *The default behaviour of children's services in all its dealings with local citizens/partners and organisations will be a restorative one-high support with high challenge*
- *Children's Services in Leeds will ensure that families, whose children might otherwise be removed from their homes, are supported to meet and develop an alternative plan before such action is taken*
- *For all families where a plan or decision needs to be made to help safeguard and promote the welfare of a child or children, the family will be supported to help decide what needs to happen*
- *Children's Trust and Local government partners must see all local schools as community assets and have a clear role in holding those institutions - no matter what the governance arrangements - to account for the contribution they make to the well being of the local population.*

Building a Child Friendly City- Our Obsessions, outcomes, priorities and key indicators

3 Obsessions

- safely and appropriately reducing the number of Children Looked After
- reducing the number of young people not in education, employment and training
- improving school attendance

5 outcomes	14 priorities	20 Key indicators		
All CYP are safe from harm	1. Help children to live in safe and supportive families 2. Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected	1. Number of Children Looked After		
		2. Number of children and young people with child protection plans		
All CYP do well at all levels of learning and have the skills for life	3. Improve achievement and close achievement gaps 4. Increase numbers participating and engaging 5. Improve outcomes for CYP with special educational needs and disability 6. Support children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning 7. Support schools and settings to improve attendance and develop positive behaviour	3. % with good achievement at the end of primary school		
		4. % gaining 5 good GCSEs including English and maths		
		5. Level 3 qualifications at 19.		
		6. Achievement gaps at 5, 11, 16, 19		
		7. Primary and secondary school attendance		
		8. Young people NEET/not known		
		9. Number of school places created in good or outstanding schools		
		10. Destinations of CYP with send after they leave school		
		11. % with good level of development in Early Years		
		12. Number of school exclusions		
		All CYP enjoy healthy lifestyles	8. Encourage physical activity and healthy eating. 9. Promote sexual health 10. Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol & tobacco	13. Obesity levels at age 11
				14. Free school meal uptake- primary; secondary
15. Teenage pregnancy rates				
16. Rates of under 18s alcohol related hospital admissions				
All CYP have fun growing up	11. Provide play, leisure, culture and sporting opportunities. 12. Improve social, emotional and mental health and well being	17. Surveys of CYP perceptions		
		18. CYP and parent satisfaction with mental health services		
All CYP are active citizens who feel they have voice & influence	13. Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour 14. Increase participation, voice and influence	19. Proportion of 10-17 year olds offending		
		20. Percentage of C&YP who report influence in a) school b) the community		

A relentless focus on continuous improvement

Our 3 obsessions were identified in the CYPP 2011-15. These along with our outcomes, priorities and key indicators were chosen because they are powerful starting points that provide a way to tackle the complex issues affecting the most vulnerable. Our rationale is that rapid progress on the obsessions has a “knock on” effect in other areas; helping us go further and faster on the improvement journey.

We have made no radical changes to the obsessions, outcomes and priorities in the 2015-19 plan. We do this not because nothing has changed or because issues have not moved on, but because they provide an essential framework to guide the partners in their improvement work. Starting points that take us to the complex issues and patterns of behaviour that lie beneath the headline words and numbers. Starting points that challenge us to identify the range of needs, and deliver the best mix of universal, specialist and targeted services, in the right way at the right time, through the right mix of practitioners.

Starting points that lead us “everywhere.” We know, for example, that improving attendance will improve attainment and that tackling those with poor attendance will often lead us to disengagement, low attainment, family behaviour patterns, domestic violence, child or parental substance misuse, child or parental mental health and learning disability. We know that poor attendance is often linked to NEET, engagement in the social care system and youth offending.

We know that focusing on pupil groups with lower attendance and higher persistent absence will often lead us to those living in deprived areas, Children Looked After, pupils with special education needs and some ethnic minority groups.

We know that starting with a different focus, a different point in the framework, will lead us into these same areas and link us in to other issues such as family orientated social care systems. And so on- any starting point in the framework leads to the key issues and underlying patterns.

We have updated the framework to better reflect the current position. This includes areas highlighted as vitally important by the data and our consultees, for example,

- best start in life
- narrowing gaps in learning outcomes,
- the importance of social, emotional and mental health and well being outcomes, including positive behaviour in learning settings,
- outcomes for those with special educational needs or disability.

Our vision and framework is well understood across the city. Our relentless focus on these areas, and the way our partners have applied them on a day to day basis, and in a wide range of services, agencies, settings and interactions with children, young people and their families, has been the key to our success to date.

We know need to refresh the collective determination across the city to use the vision and framework to unpick the issues facing some of our children, young people and families, particularly those who are most vulnerable to poor outcomes. To help us do this we have identified 7 improvement programmes highlighted during the consultation on the 2015-19 plan. A summary of our approach is set out on page 21 of the plan.



Working in partnership

The CYPP is the ambition. The shared framework of starting points. It is made real and translated into sustainable changes in outcomes for children, young people, families and their communities by our partners. Our partners pick up and run with the vision and framework every day of the year. Our partners translate the CYPP into improved outcomes for our children and young people, and their families and their communities.

There are an estimated **75,000 people** in Leeds whose daily work touches children, young people and their families. They work in a vast array of services, agencies and settings and come together in a diverse range of formal and informal partnerships.

The Young Lives Leeds Forum (YLL) is the strategy and development partnership for **third sector** organisations. Over 250 organisations are members. YLL represents third sector organisations on the CFTB. It is hosted by Voluntary Action Leeds (VAL), the Council for Voluntary Service in Leeds. VAL provides support services and specialist advice to third sector organisations, helping them to carry out their work and ensuring they are represented in partnership work.

We engage many of our **183,000 children and young people** in services and they get involved through the Youth Council, the Student LSCB, and the Children's mayor. Over 6,000 took part in the last elections and over 19,000 completed the make your mark survey.

Our 25 clusters are local partnerships that include the Children's Social Work Service, schools, governors, Police, Leeds City Council youth service, Youth Offending Service, Children's Centres, Housing services, third sector, health, local elected members. Local clusters:

- enable local settings and services to work together effectively to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families
- build capacity to improve the delivery of preventative and targeted services to meet local needs, and provide early help and additional support
- promote the CYPP and the ambition of a child friendly city across the locality

The **Children and Families Trust Board (CFTB)** is the formal partnership between all those agencies who play a part in improving outcomes for children and young people and who have a shared commitment to our CYPP. The Board is chaired by Councillor Judith Blake. The Board brings together NHS Leeds, Leeds Youth Offending Service, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Probation, Job Centre Plus, local schools, colleges and children's centres, the voluntary sector, and Leeds City Council services such as children and young people's social care, housing, early years, public health and education and learning.

The **Leeds Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)** has a statutory responsibility for holding those agencies responsible for promoting children's welfare, and protecting them from abuse and neglect, to account. The LSCB has representatives on the CFTB and vice versa.

The LSCB is responsible for coordinating our work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring the work is effective. It develops policies and procedures, contributes to service planning, takes a leadership role in sharing learning and understanding practice, and providing workforce development and training, and monitors and performance manages



safeguarding practice. **“Our vision is for Leeds to be a child friendly city in which children and young people are safe from harm in their families, their communities and their neighbourhoods.”** The LSCB agrees and accepts that legally anyone is required to share information as necessary when a child is ‘at risk of harm.’ The CTB fully supports this principle.

“People in Leeds are safe and feel safe in their homes, in the streets, and places they go” is the desired outcome of the work of the Safer Leeds Executive. (SLE) The SLE is a community safety partnership involving Leeds City Council, West Yorkshire Police and other partners such as Clinical Commissioning groups, the Fire and Rescue Service, the Probation Trust, Youth Offending services and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The CTB and LSCB are also partners. The shared focus is reflected in the key priorities for the SLE, for example:

- partnership working to reduce domestic violence
- tackling and reducing anti-social behaviour in our communities
- improving our response to Child Sexual Exploitation and human trafficking
- reducing re-offending
- dealing with the increased use of legal highs and cannabis in the city
- Safer Schools initiative and hate incident monitoring

The Health & Well Being Board & Joint Health & Well Being Strategy address the shared outcomes and priorities of those working in the National Health Service, Public Health and Social Care services, and in a range of Council services for children and adults. The Chair of the CFTB and the Director of Children’s Services sit on both Boards and Health organisations are well represented on the CTFB. Joint working also takes place through forums such as the Best Start in Life Strategy group and the Child Poverty Outcomes Group. Shared concerns are:

- healthy lifestyles and choices
- emotional and mental health
- everyone has the best start in life
- people have a voice and are involved in and can influence decision making
- everyone achieves their full potential through education and learning
- people are supported into work and employment
- people are provided with advice and support on debt and income
- narrowing the gap for those who experience relatively poor outcomes

As well as formal partner boards there is **broad cross-party political support for our programmes. We are supported and helped by local businesses, sports organisations such as the Leeds Rugby Foundation, the local newspapers, West Yorkshire Police, NHS Leeds and Leeds Community Healthcare, schools, the third sector, and a range of regional, national and international academic and practitioner partners.**

Ways of working

Our vision of a child friendly city and relentless focus on using our obsessions and priorities to drive continuous improvement is underpinned by 3 behaviours. Through the behaviours we put the child at the centre of everything we do, and seek to listen to the voice of children and young people and promote their welfare.

3 behaviours

In all our work **Outcomes based accountability** helps us move from “talk to action” by focusing on a clear and simple process for review and planning:

- What are the outcomes for children and young people?
- What are the key indicators of how well we are achieving outcomes?
- What are the issues lying behind the trends- the forces and causes at work-the story behind the baseline?
- Who are the key partners?
- What works? What are the best ideas for improvement, how can we “turn the curve”?

OBA also keeps a relentless focus on outcomes by posing 3 questions:

- **How much did we do?**
- **How well did we do it?**
- **Is anyone better off?**

A commitment to **restorative practice** informs all our work. This means that the emphasis of all our practice is on working **with** children and families, rather than doing things **to** them or **for** them. Service providers become the facilitators who work restoratively, providing high support and challenge to enable families to find their own sustainable solutions to the challenges they face, and to equip them with the resilience to move forward successfully. The approach is underpinned by 4 statements of intent agreed by the CFTB and adopted as council policy.

- *The default behaviour of children’s services in all its dealings with local citizens/partners and organisations will be a restorative one-high support with high challenge*
- *Children’s Services in Leeds will ensure that families, whose children might otherwise be removed from their homes, are supported to meet and develop an alternative plan before such action is taken*
- *For all families where a plan or decision needs to be made to help safeguard and promote the welfare of a child or children, the family will be supported to help decide what needs to happen*
- *Children’s Trust and Local government partners must see all local schools as community assets and have a clear role in holding those institutions - no matter what the governance arrangements - to account for the contribution they make to the well being of the local population.*

We are working towards a position where a restorative approach is the default option for all our contact with children, young people and their families with the child at the heart of decisions that affect them. The further roll out of restorative practice and family group conferencing across the Children’s Services workforce, using the £4.85m worth of funding secured from the national

innovation fund, is one of the programmes we have identified to help us build momentum and go further and faster on our improvement journey.

Listening to and responding to the voice of the child in all that we do is the third underpinning behaviour. In all work, practice and behaviour we see the child as the client, put children and young people at the heart of everything we do, and seek to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. This includes consideration of the transition to adulthood and the role of the family- see below- “think family-work family.”

We are also fully committed in all our work to the LSCB’s statement that legally anyone is required to share information as necessary when a child is ‘at risk of harm.’ **“partners work effectively together to safeguard children and young people”** (Ofsted report, March 2015)

As well as the 3 behaviours which we both use and strive to embed in services and agencies across the city, there are a number of other important aspects to our ways of working. **Early help-** Extra support may be needed at any point in a child or young person’s life. We seek to offer support quickly to reduce the impact of problems. We aim to make sure that practitioners have **“the right conversations, with the right people, at the right time”** so that they can identify needs and the right response.

Early help is delivered through **25 clusters of services**, based around groups of schools. They identify those needing additional support and organise the right mix of specialist and targeted services. **“A well-coordinated locality and cluster approach results in early identification and extensive work with families according to need.”** (Ofsted report, March 2015)

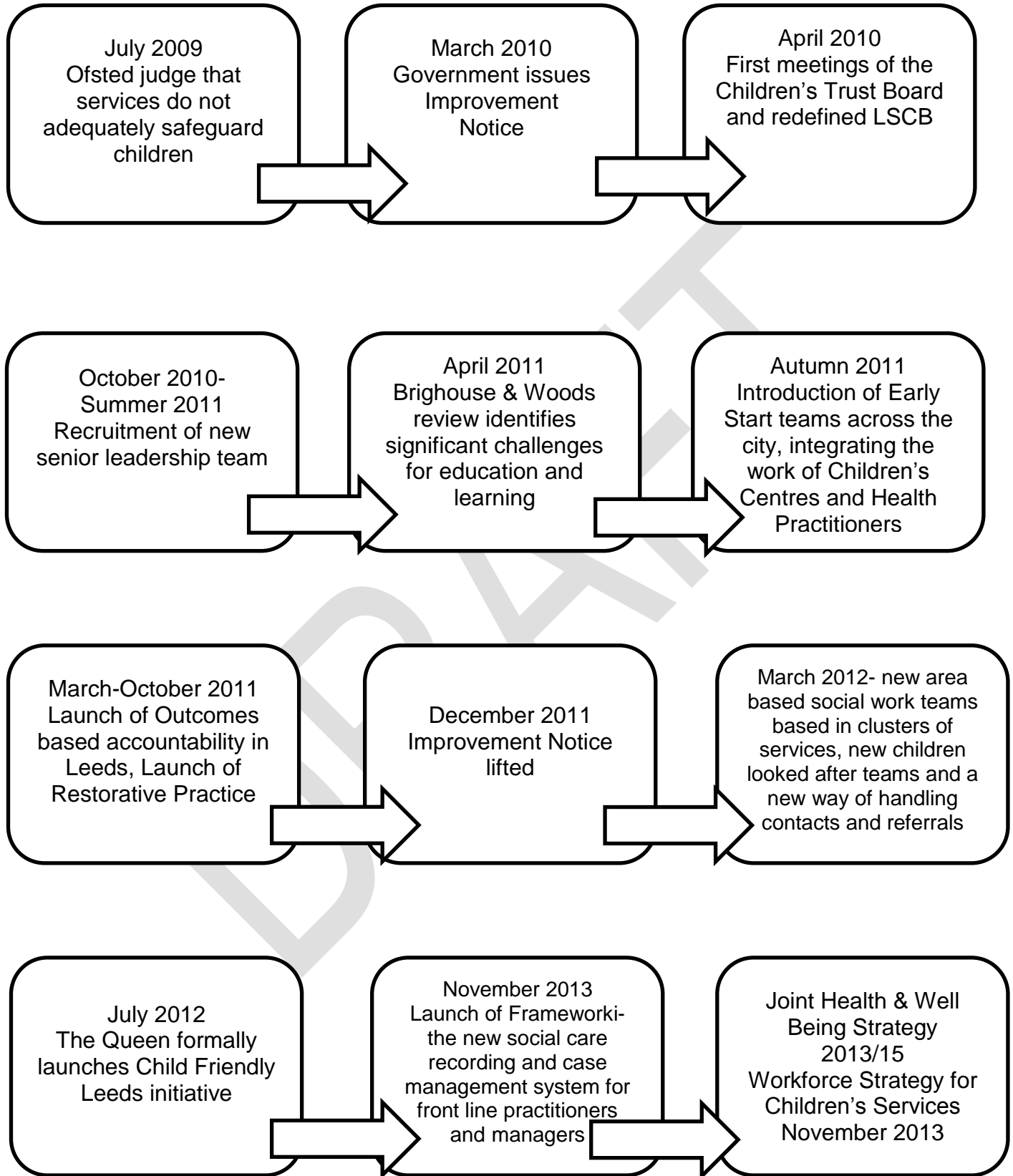
A **family approach** is an essential way of working because of the prevalence of domestic violence, parental substance misuse, parental mental health and parental learning disability. The Leeds **“think family work family”** protocol emphasises that when working with a child or young person, practitioners should consider the relationships they have with their family, the role of adult behaviour and the wider context such as friends and the local community.

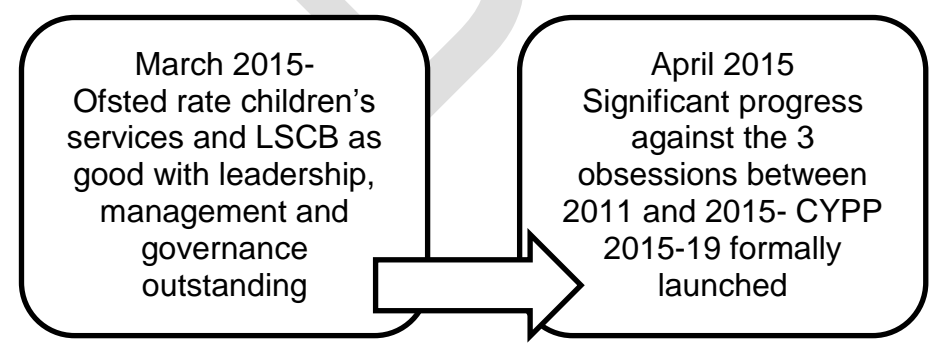
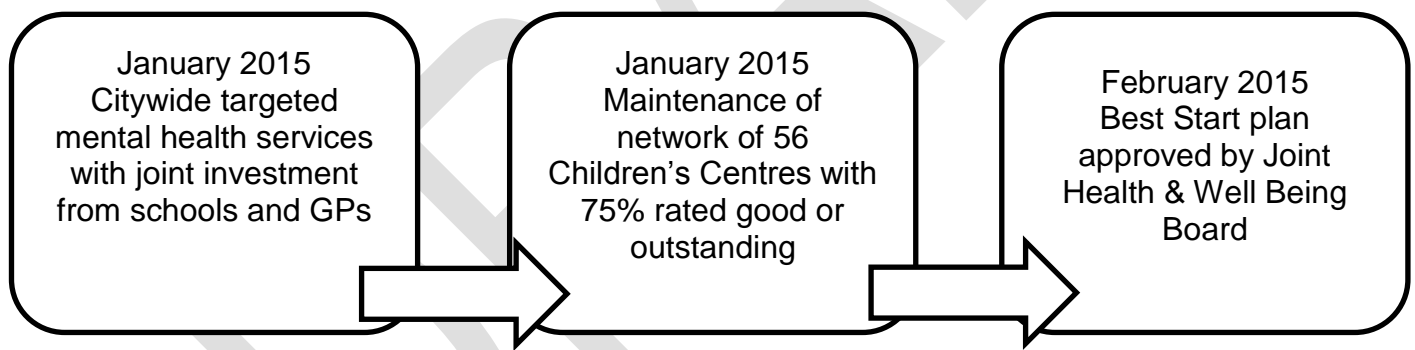
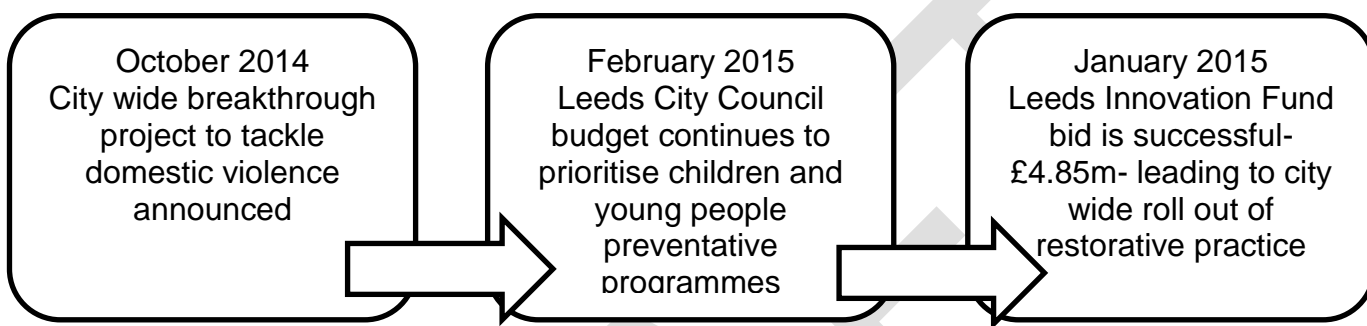
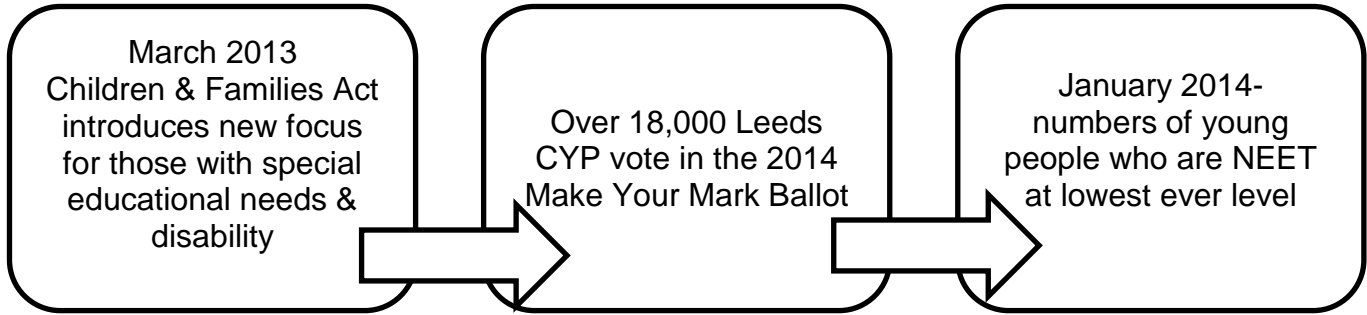
Investing to save, city wide growth strategy. Making changes to underlying patterns of behaviour by investing in early, preventative work is key to making lasting improvements in outcomes, reducing demand and reducing the cost base of services. **Investing to save** is also part of the growth strategy for the city. **An investment in safe, healthier, skilled, confident, successful and more resilient children, young people, families and communities lays the foundation for an increasingly prosperous city where the social and economic benefits of growth are enjoyed by all. Resilient and successful children and families lead to resilient and successful communities which in turn drive city wide social and economic growth and prosperity.** As part of this there is a need to explore the options for deploying partner budgets across the city in a more integrated and focused way.

We also seek with partners to embed CYPP issues in the seven city wide breakthrough projects

- *Cutting carbon in Leeds City Council*
- *Domestic violence and abuse*
- *Hosting world class events*
- *Housing growth and jobs for young people*
- *Making Leeds the best place to grow old*
- *Reducing health inequalities through healthy lifestyles*
- *Rethinking the city centre*

Leeds Children's Services Improvement Journey 2009-15





Building momentum- going further and faster- from good to great

The 2015 Ofsted report is a key milestone but we are not complacent. ***Leeds is a big and complex city facing significant and stubborn challenges. Outcomes are not always good enough and are not always consistent across the city and across different groups and communities.***

During the consultation on the CYPP2015-19 the workforce, children and young people, our partnership boards, partnership services and agencies, Council officers, elected members, our local, national and international adviser networks, our performance data and our Ofsted inspection, told us that a focus on some specific areas and programmes will us further improve progress against our obsessions, outcomes and priorities.

Tackling these is central to improving outcomes and ensuring they are more consistently embedded across all areas and communities, particularly those who are most vulnerable to poor outcomes.

The main 7 areas identified to **help us move from good to great by accelerating progress on the obsessions and a range of outcomes and priorities** are listed below. A brief introduction to each is provided on page 15, and they are put in the wider context of Children's Services in Leeds in the diagram on page 16, and shown in relation to the 3 obsessions, five outcomes and 14 priorities on page 21.

- ***The best start plan***
- ***The review of social, emotional and mental health and well being***
- ***A life ready for learning strategy***
- ***The “think family work family” protocol***
- ***A city wide breakthrough project on domestic violence***
- ***Early help***
- ***Outstanding social work & support for vulnerable children and young people***

The role of the CYPP is to articulate and restate the importance of working in partnership across the city. It highlights the behaviours, ways of working and improvement programmes that will help us make further and faster progress against the obsessions, outcomes and priorities. Through this work and by investing to save in early help and preventative work we are laying the foundations for an increasingly prosperous city. An investment in safe, healthier, skilled, confident, successful and more resilient children, young people, families and communities helps build a city where the social and economic benefits of growth increasingly are enjoyed by all.

The detailed planning and delivery of services within the overarching framework provided by the CYPP is the job of the 75,000 people in the city who work with children and young people on a daily basis. The combination of their dedication, commitment and professionalism and our relentless focus on a simple framework of obsessions, outcomes, priorities and improvement work has been the key to our success to date.

We now need to refresh our collective determination to using our people and framework to make a bigger difference to more children, young people and families.

How will we make faster and further progress- 7 key city wide improvement programmes

We will review the whole system of support for **social, emotional and mental health and well being**. This review will focus on enabling children and young people to access services quickly, easily and effectively through simple entry points.

The **Leeds Best Start Plan** is preventative programme from conception to age 2 years which aims to ensure a good start for every baby, with early identification and targeted support for vulnerable families. Bests start impacts on all outcomes and priorities.

Think family work family protocol. When working with a child or young person we will always consider their relationships with their family, the role of adult behaviour, and the wider context such as friends and the local community.

A Life Ready for Learning focuses on readiness to learn at all ages, closing the achievement gaps between Leeds and national performance, and closing the gaps between outcomes for vulnerable groups and the average for Leeds and for their peers nationally

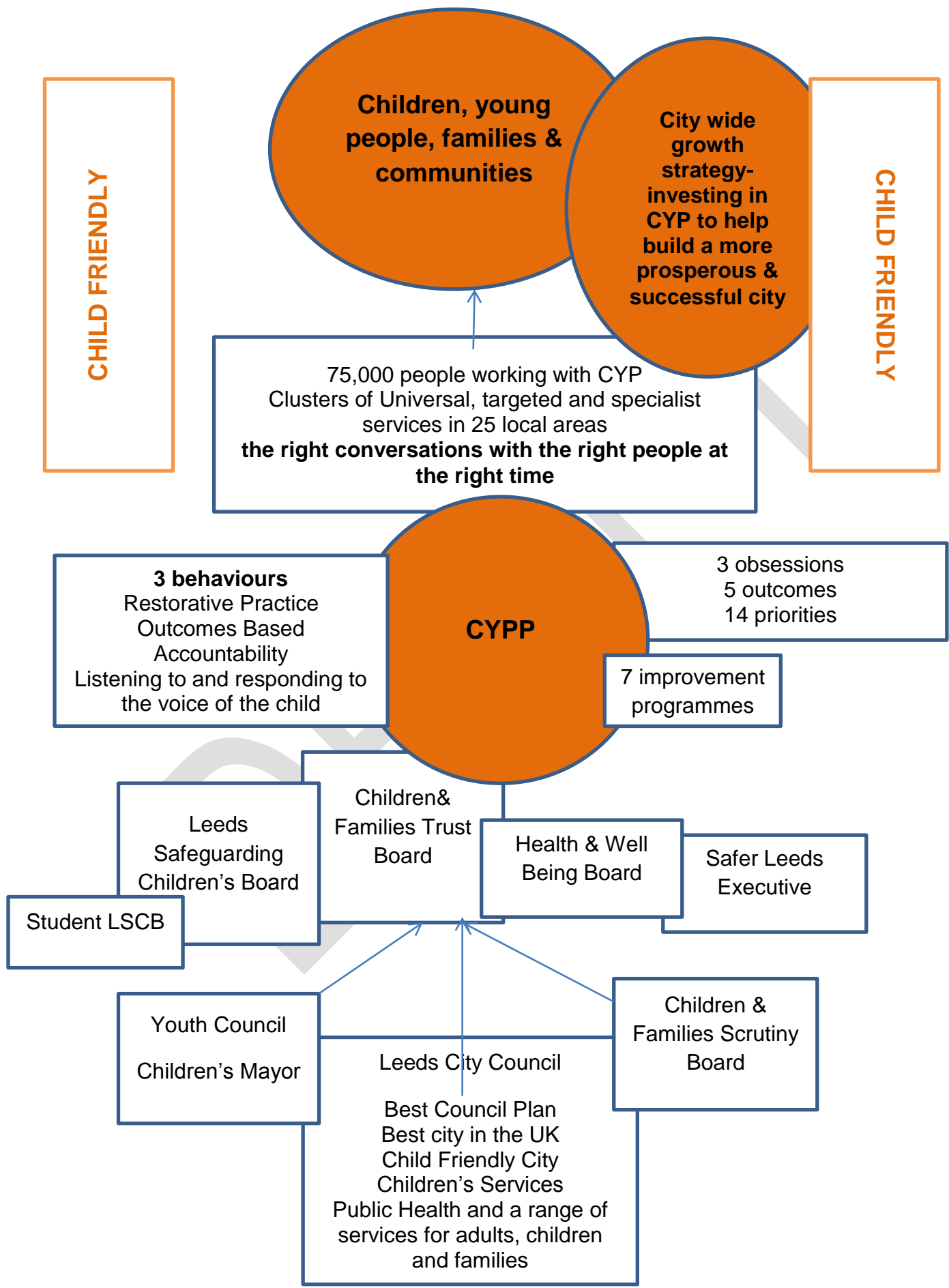
Early help is delivered through **25** clusters of services and agencies. Early help identifies those who need additional support and organises an early response. Practitioners will have **“the right conversations, with the right people, at the right time.”** We need to make sure our locality structures and processes maximise early help

A city-wide breakthrough on tackling domestic violence. DV underpins a range of poor outcomes for children, young people and families. Leeds will not tolerate domestic violence and will work restoratively with victims and perpetrators to address the causes and consequences.

Outstanding social work & support for vulnerable children and young people. Building on our Ofsted inspection, our families- first programme and our investment in social work, we will ensure consistent quality and outcomes across all work with vulnerable children and young people



Children's Services in Leeds





Is anyone better off? Impact 2011-15

Safe reduction in children looked after children numbers

1290 children were looked after in January 2015, down 155 (10.7%) since March 2011



More days in school with best ever school attendance

Around 400,000 extra days in school in 2013-14 compared to 2010-11.

Reduction in the number of young people NEET

Between June 2011 and December 2014 the number of young people not in education employment or training reduced from 2,099 to 1,449 a reduction of 650 (31 per cent).



Improvement in monitoring of EET involvement

EET "not known" was 5.8% (Dec 2014) down from 7.6% (Dec 2011). At the end of the last academic year it was 2.4%. We have an improved understanding of the young people who are available for EET and of those who are sustained NEET.

More primary schools are rated good or better

In December 2014 87% of primary schools were good or outstanding, an increase of 19% points since August 2011.



Effective early help assessment and intervention

2013-14 saw a 32% increase in early help assessments with 1185 undertaken. 1700 cases stepped down from the social care duty and advice team. 550 practitioners were trained to do EHAs.

High rate of children's centres good or better

As at March 2014 75% of children's centres were good or outstanding (the national average was 67%).



Learning Improvements at Key Stage 1

In 2010, an average of 83.2% of pupils achieved Level 2+ across all subject areas. In 2014, this had risen to 87.3%. In the same period, the percentage of pupils achieving Level 3+ rose from 11.5% to 18.7%.





More secondary schools are rated good or better

In December 2014 65% of secondary schools are good or outstanding 4 points since August 2011.



Gradual reduction in numbers on child protection plans

The number of June children on plan at the end of December 2014 was 642 a reduction of 419 (39.5%) since June 2011. The number of children subject to a plan for two years or more reduced to 8 (1.2%) in December 2014 from 38 (6.8%) in March 2011.



Commitment to care leavers

The number of care leavers in education, employment and training in Leeds is 55% (Eng. 45%) and the number in suitable accommodation is 84.7% (Eng. 77.8%)

Learning Improvements at Key Stage 2

In 2010, an average of 73.2% of pupils achieved Level 4+ across all subject areas. In 2014, this had risen to 80.8%.



Multi systemic therapy working in Leeds

MST is part of our targeted family intervention. Capacity has increased from a single team to 3 area teams, plus one of 3 MST-CAN pilots which supports the most complex families. Leeds is one of 2 authorities part of MST FIT working to support reunification.



Successful Families First (Troubled Families) Programme

Leeds can demonstrate 100% compliance with the national payment by results programme by evidencing “turn around” of 2190 families. Families First has a national reputation for its approach to developing Think Family and restorative approaches.



More live births

The 2013 infant mortality rate has reduced to 3.8 per 1,000 births and the rate in deprived areas has fallen to 4.71.

Reduction in Young Offending

The number of children and young people offending and receiving a formal legal outcome continues to fall. Between April 2009 and March 2010 there were 1,928 offenders, in April 2013 to March 2014 there were 910 equating to a 53.2% reduction.





Early Start

Around 3500 parents every quarter are offered a level of additional early start support.. There has been an increase in the number of antenatal face to face contacts with health visitors to 98%.

Reduced Teenage Conceptions

There has been a steady decline in Leeds' teenage conception *rates* since 2006, a reduction of 45%. There has been a longer term fall in the *number* of teenage conceptions. In 1998 there were 641 teenage conceptions compared to 471 in 2012.



Increased in children and young people's participation in citywide consultations and campaigns

18,261 young people completed the Make Your Mark Ballot equating to 29% of the population of 11 to 18 year-olds in Leeds. The top issue voted for by young people was 'votes at 16'.



Leeds awarded UNICEF Baby friendly Initiative Award

Leeds has been awarded the prestigious UNICEF Baby friendly Initiative Award (BFI accreditation). This is the result of seven years' work to ensure new mothers get the best support from health care services to enable them to breast feed.



Launch of Leeds Local Offer

Leeds Local Offer was launched in September 2014. The website uses a specialist search engine that provides information about the support and services available in Leeds for children and young people. Users are able to search headings that reflect the 'journey of the child' from birth to 25 years.



Successful Innovation Bid

Leeds City Council secured £4.85 million from the Department for Education's Innovation Programme. The money will be used to transform the whole children's social care system in the city, implementing a restorative, family-centred model that works with families to build the skills, support and resilience so that they can find their own solutions to the challenges they face.



Leeds City Council's commitment to Child Friendly City

The Child Friendly Leeds ambition has cross-party political support. This is reflected in the significant ongoing investment of 23%* of the council's budget in children's services, despite the challenging financial context.

Child Friendly Leeds

Our whole city approach is reflected in the commitment of 300 Child Friendly City ambassadors and in the more than 550 nominations for over 250 organisations and individuals for the 2014 Child Friendly City Awards.



What is it like to be a child, or young person growing up in Leeds- some key facts?

- over 183,000 children and young people live in Leeds & there have been over 10,000 new births each of the last 5 years
- 16% of school children have English as an additional language; 24% are from Black or minority ethnic groups; 20% are eligible for Free School Meals; 18% have special educational needs
- 37% of children live in the 20% most-deprived areas of Leeds; 26% of Leeds children live in the 10% most deprived areas in the country. Over 90% of children in some schools live in the 20% most deprived areas of Leeds
- in some areas of the city the proportion of children on Child Protection Plans is up to three times higher than the Leeds average, low birth weight is twice as high as the average, and obesity rates are 50% higher than average
- in some areas of the city emergency hospital admissions for 0-4 year olds are twice as frequent as the Leeds average
- 21% of children of Leeds children- 33,175 are classed as living in child poverty by the government. In some areas of the city over 40% of children are in poverty. Over 26,000 children in over 13,000 families have been affected by reduced council tax support
- school attendance is at record levels but over 1,000 primary school children and over 2,200 secondary school children still miss over 15% of school time
- any of the 40+ % of young people not getting 5 good GCSEs has a 1 in four chance of being not in education, employment or training two years later
- every day in Leeds social workers follow up 10-12 contacts where domestic abuse is a significant factor
- 55% of care leavers are in education, employment or training. Only 26% of all those NEET intend to vote at the next general election
- 76% of our children attend learning settings which are rated as good or better
- A range of learning outcomes are improving, but vulnerable groups continue to experience relatively poor outcomes, eg. those with special educational needs and disability, some ethnic minority groups, those in receipt of free school meals, Children Looked After and Care Leavers, those with English as an additional language and those living in deprived communities.

Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2019- Executive Summary- Plan on a Page

What we'll do

One Vision

Our vision is for Leeds to be the best city in the UK and as part of this the best city for children and young people to grow up in. We want Leeds to be a child friendly city.

Through our vision and obsessions we invest in CYP to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city.

3 obsessions

Safely and appropriately reduce the number of Children Looked After
 Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training
 Improve school attendance

Five outcomes

Conditions of well-being we want for all our children and young people

- All CYP are safe from harm
- All CYP do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life
- All CYP enjoy healthy lifestyles
- All CYP have fun growing up
- All CYP are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence

Fourteen priorities

1. Help children to live in safe and supportive families
2. Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected
3. Improve achievement and close achievement gaps
4. Increase numbers participating and engaging
5. Improve outcomes for CYP with special educational needs and/or disability
6. Support children to have the best start in life and be ready for learning
7. Support schools and settings to improve attendance and develop positive behaviour
8. Encourage physical activity and healthy eating
9. Promote sexual health
10. Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol & tobacco
11. Provide play, leisure, culture and sporting opportunities.
12. Improve social, emotional and mental health and well being
13. Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
14. Increase participation, voice and influence

How we'll do it



Three behaviours that underpin everything

Listening & responding to the voice of the child

Restorative Practice: doing with, not for or to

Outcomes based accountability: is anyone better off?

How we'll know if we've made a difference

1. Number of Children who need to be Looked After
2. Number of children and young people with child protection plans
3. % with good achievement at the end of primary school
4. % gaining 5 good GCSEs including English and maths
5. Level 3 qualifications at 19.
6. Achievement gaps at 5, 11, 16 and 19
7. Primary and secondary school attendance
8. % of Young people NEET/not known
9. Percentage of new school places in good and outstanding schools
10. Destinations of CYP with Send
11. % with good level of development in Early Years
12. Number of exclusions from school
13. Obesity levels at age 11
14. Free school meal uptake- primary; secondary
15. Teenage pregnancy rates
16. Rates of under 18s alcohol related hospital admissions
17. Surveys of CYPs views of fun growing up
18. CYP and parent satisfaction with mental health services
19. Proportion of 10-17 year olds offending
20. Percentage of CYP who report influence in a) school b) the community