



Every Parent Matters

Family support and parenting strategy

Children Leeds



Children Leeds

Children Leeds

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the Leeds Initiative

Local partnerships making things happen

Contents

Foreword	5
Who is the family support and parenting strategy for?	6
Vision	7
- principles	7
- aims	8
Parent participation	8
Supporting parents at different levels of need	9
Needs analysis	10
What we need to do next	11
Strategic implementation	13
Monitoring and evaluation	15
Conclusion	15
Implementation plan	16

Appendices

A single document containing the six appendices to this strategy can be found on the Children Leeds website, www.childrenleeds.org.uk. It contains the following appendices:

Appendix 1 - National context

Appendix 2 - Steering group membership

Appendix 3 - Leeds City Council needs analysis

Appendix 4 - Analysis of parent questionnaires

Appendix 5 - Leeds' universal offer

Appendix 6 - Consultation response

‘How you work
with parents
is as important
as what you do’

Foreword

Parents and carers are the single most important factor in making sure that children and young people are happy, healthy, safe, successful and free from the effects of poverty.

We know that vast majority of parents want the very best for their children; and we know that every parent needs help and support from time to time. This document sets out how the Children Leeds partnership will work together, with parents and each other to make sure that services in Leeds go further to recognise and respond to every parent's needs.

We are clear about how vitally important it is to involve parents in shaping services for themselves and their children. And we want to thank the parents and carers who have been involved in many different ways in developing this strategy. Not only have they shared their insights but also some very personal experiences. We want to thank them for their honesty, time and effort. It is truly appreciated.

Working together with parents and carers is an exciting expanding area of work for the Children Leeds partnership to take forward; only together can we get the very best for our children and young people.

Richard Brett

Councillor Richard Brett
Lead Executive Member for Children's Services

Rosemary K Archer

Rosemary Archer
Director of Children's Services
Chair of Children Leeds

Who is the family support and parenting strategy for?

This strategy is for the benefit of parents and families, for service providers and for commissioners of new services. It has been developed in line with national requirements and local initiatives (see Appendix 1). It accepts parenting as part of the overall provision for family support, an approach which is endorsed in the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) guidance where the terms ‘family support’ and ‘parenting’ are used interchangeably throughout.

For the purposes of the strategy, we have used the following definitions:

- **Parent** is used throughout the strategy, to include anyone with parental responsibility for a child or young person. It is used to refer to all carers of children and young people, including expectant parents, foster-carers, grandparents and anyone else acting in a parenting role.
- **Family support** is about the creation and enhancement of local services, activities, facilities and networks that support parents. Access to these services will have outcomes such as alleviated stress, increased self esteem, and increased capacity to nurture and protect the children.

Supporting families requires workers to respond to their needs as a whole. They will take responsibility either for offering direct support themselves, or for signposting parents on to other agencies, ensuring that work is followed through and needs are addressed.

- **Parent support** services are any activity or facility aimed at providing information, advice and support to parents and carers to help them bring up their children.
- **Early intervention** is about providing an appropriate and respectful response as soon as a need has been recognised, regardless of a child’s or young person’s age, in order to prevent problems becoming more serious.

Vision

In Leeds we want children and young people to be happy, healthy, safe, successful and free from the effects of poverty.

Parents are the main providers of the love, care and stimulation that promote the well being of children. We want each parent to have the necessary confidence, skills, self-belief and strength to be a good parent and an effective role model for their children. We want all services in Leeds for adults and children to work with parents to make this a reality.

We want:

- to personalise our provision around need and circumstance and to do this in a participative way.
- high quality universal services for all, with targeted and specialist responses that are appropriate and proportionate.
- to wrap services around the family to ensure that we have an overall preventative approach.
- evidence of partnership so that the right people and services respond to need, locally where possible.
- safeguarding to be something that everyone does – in both the workplace and the community.

Principles

Effective parenting is one of the strongest protective factors for a child. Good parenting is essential if children are to stay safe, be healthy, make a positive contribution, enjoy and achieve and be free from the effects of poverty. In almost all cases parents want and know what is best for their children.

In Leeds, we think positive parenting is provided by those who:

- provide love and care to their children.
- look after their physical needs.
- support them in their development and education.
- ensure their health needs are met, including any special needs.
- help them to develop socially.
- support their growth towards independence and achieving economic well being.
- encourage them to grow up with respect for others’ values, beliefs and background.

To help them in their role, all parents should:

- be valued and respected, involved and consulted about their child’s welfare.
- have good information about the services available to them.
- have access to parenting information, advice and support that is non-judgmental and promptly offered.
- be supported, empowered and challenged to meet their responsibilities.

All agencies working with parents should:

- offer services that parents want to use, delivered by a well qualified and well supported workforce.
- promote choices and be respectful and responsive to the wishes of parents.
- be respectful of the diverse cultural needs of parents when planning and providing support.
- offer a range of appropriate and proportionate interventions in response to family circumstances and needs.
- deliver services that show evidence of good outcomes.
- work together and communicate well in order to avoid duplication and make sure that services are accessible to everyone who needs them.

Aims

At present, family support and parenting services in Leeds are delivered in a variety of ways across the city, by a range of providers from the statutory, voluntary and private sectors. Provision varies in different geographical areas, resulting in 'inequality of access' to services. In addition, although universal services are available to all, gaps exist, for example in services provided for those with more complex needs.

- This strategy will address these issues and will:
- show how we can think about different levels of need.
 - explain how different services, from across all sectors, might work together to address these needs.

- provide a framework for service delivery.
- provide a means of identifying gaps in services, both locally and city-wide to assist in service commissioning.
- embed shared values, culture and principles around family support and parenting.

The strategy has been developed by a multi-agency steering group, with broad representation from parents, statutory and voluntary sectors. The steering group has been supported by a project board. Membership of both these groups is presented in Appendix 2.

Parent participation

The views of parents and families about the services they currently receive, or would like to receive in the future, must drive the range and scope of services that are developed as a result of this strategy. Targeted groups of parents have been interviewed and parents have been widely consulted via schools, local communities and children's centres. The outcomes of this consultation have informed the writing of the strategy.

Parents' knowledge and experience are essential to understanding how to improve services. In order to have transparent decision-making processes that treat parents as partners we need to:

- provide them with information at the first point of contact with children's services.
- ensure that all parents' views are actively sought, listened to and respectfully considered.
- give regular feedback and updates to parents.
- establish ways that parents can be part of the processes of planning and reviewing of services for children and young people.
- support parent representatives to carry out their role effectively.

- promote an environment in which parental involvement is a routine expectation.
- develop staff skills to work in a participatory way with parents.
- ensure that we have appropriate resources to support parent participation.
- recognise and address barriers to effective parent participation.

Current position

Within its children's trust arrangements, Leeds already has a number of groups and forums for working with parents as partners at both city-wide and local level. Some of these are:

- Children Leeds parent participation sub-group.
- Every parent matters group.
- Disabled children and young people's inter-agency group.
- Parents with voices.
- Specialist inclusive learning centre (SILC) parent forums.

In addition, parents are involved in a number of other ways, for example, through school governing bodies and early years' settings.

In order to embed parents' participation more effectively, we must develop mechanisms that make clear links between parents' groups, the Children Leeds partnership, local partnerships, the integrated strategic commissioning board, and the local safeguarding children board.

Supporting parents at different levels of need

In Leeds, we want to work together in a more integrated way to support families. We will respond to their needs in ways that they want us to. We will work within a framework of national policy. We will learn and develop best practice locally, regionally and nationally. We will provide a range of services to tackle all the issues and problems families face from the most straightforward to the complex and profound.

	Level of need	Definition of need	Level of service delivery	Type of support
1	Universal	All parent, carer and family needs met through universal provision	Universal core offer	Readily available support services such as self-help, information and signposting. Please see the universal offer as outlined in Appendix 5
2	Additional needs	A parent, carer or family needing some additional support, at a particular time. Parents can self-refer or may be directed to services	Early intervention and other targeted responses	Early intervention such as an informal drop-in, a 7-day response, a parenting course, or a Common Assessment Framework (CAF). Support may include a lead professional
3	Multiple additional needs	A family that has complex or multiple needs, requiring a targeted response from more than one service	Multiple targeted response	Longer-term support where a lead professional brings together a range of services working to a multi-agency plan
4	Specialist needs	Parents are not offering effective support to their children and are putting them at risk	Specialist	Intensive support delivered on a statutory basis

Needs analysis

a) Leeds profile

Leeds is the second largest metropolitan authority in England with a population of 715,000 people. In the last decade there has been significant growth, investment and rising prosperity in the city. However, not all families have benefited from living in the prosperous and vibrant city Leeds has become and there a number of areas of poverty and disadvantage. The local authority and its partners have made narrowing the gap between these communities a priority. For a more detailed profile of Leeds see Appendix 3.

b) Consultation with parents

The vast majority of parents are the best source of information about their children and their needs. In 2007, we consulted widely with parents through schools and children's centres and also undertook some focused discussions with target groups including parents of looked after children; homeless parents; parents of children with disabilities; Asian mothers and young African-Caribbean fathers. 335 questionnaires were completed and the responses informed this strategy.

What parents said:

- a high percentage of parents chose to approach family or friends for support in the first instance.
- a significant number of parents sought advice and support from GPs, health visitors and community centres.
- bullying, challenging behaviour in over 12's, drugs, alcohol and emotional problems in children and teenagers were the areas most noted where parents wanted and needed help.

- schools were the most popular place for support to be available, followed by GP surgeries.
- support in the home; at a community centre; via a telephone helpline; and in children's centres or nurseries was also popular.
- fathers in particular wanted family support to be available in the home.
- 22% of parents wanted support to be available in the evenings.
- fathers showed a preference for weekend support.
- leaflets, followed by face to face contact or word of mouth were the preferred means of communication. Parents from ethnic minority backgrounds preferred this form of communication.
- web sites were particularly favoured by fathers.
- behavioural issues were noted as the most challenging aspect of being a parent.
- seeing their children growing up happy, healthy and taking pleasure in their achievements provided parents with their greatest rewards.
- many parents commented on the significance and need for play and leisure opportunities for their children. They felt there were too few opportunities available at a cost they could afford.
- parents of children with disabilities identified the need for support from the moment a child was born or diagnosed, and for links into informal parent support networks, to offset potential isolation and loneliness.
- many parents made reference to their own unmet emotional needs and how they could be met by addressing support needs for families as a whole.

Further detail about the consultation with parents is in Appendix 4.

What we need to do next

We want to ensure that we deliver family support and parenting services in a consistent way across the whole of Leeds. We must ensure that this reflects our diverse population and that services and resources are accessible to all.

Universal services

We are committed to the 'universal offer' as outlined in the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2006/7 (see Appendix 5) and, in particular, to the following:

- developing a city-wide strategic approach to the provision of information for parents and carers, building on the Leeds Family Hub directory, to ensure that all parents, including those of children with disabilities, know what help is available.
- co-ordinating the production and dissemination of leaflets covering issues around parenting, such as bullying, behavioural issues and parenting teenagers. These should be made widely available in schools, children's centres, health centres, libraries and leisure centres.
- promoting the use of the 'Parentline Plus' free helpline (0808 800 2222).
- considering the development of a Leeds helpline for families.
- ensuring a range of local multi-agency drop-in services for families is developed.
- evaluating outreach support and parenting groups across the city.
- ensuring that all age ranges of children and young people are provided for. And that groups who may have particular needs, such as teenage parents and parents of children with disabilities, can access the services they need.

- ensuring that the development of skills for staff working with families and parents is included in the workforce development programme.
- ensuring that all relevant services have information about the support available.

“It's important for people to visit, to see how we live and see the situation for themselves” parent

Training

The delivery of high quality training offers the potential to act as a unifying force for those involved in the provision of services for children and families. The Children's Workforce Development Council provides one model within which training programmes can be developed. All staff involved in family support and parenting work will be brought together for training that will:

- establish shared principles and values.
- embed common core skills and knowledge.
- develop initial engagement skills.
- establish clarity about both shared and distinctive roles.
- ensure all family support work is delivered to a high standard.
- ensure all staff are trained in Common Assessment Framework procedures.

Targeted services

We are committed to providing more specialist and targeted services accessed through the universal offer and:

- delivering more early intervention and preventative services.
- delivering rapid response to families within 7 days.

“A phone line should be available to all parents, not just those known to Social Services” parent

12 “Going out to work is brilliant. I feel so much better about myself” parent

- ensuring that all staff are trained in the Common Assessment Framework and the budget-holding lead professional role.
- providing training for staff in other relevant skills.
- reviewing the availability of counselling and other advice services for families across Leeds.
- ensuring availability and consistency of formal parenting courses and programmes around the city.
- ensuring that information, advice and guidance are integrated into parenting programmes, to enable parents to explore opportunities for their own development, making links with further education, training and voluntary work, as appropriate.
- embedding integrated processes, including the Common Assessment Framework and the budget holding lead professional, within mainstream services.
- forming teams around the child and family.
- delivering specialist services in supportive and non judgmental ways.
- ensuring the consistent provision of targeted services to address identified needs for parents and children.
- securing the role of the voluntary, community and faith sector in delivering services to families with complex needs.

Some parents indicated that the progression from being a service user to becoming a volunteer and then moving into part or full-time work cannot be over-estimated. This increases self-esteem and helps families move out of poverty.

“It’s great now mum goes out to work” 13 year old son

Multiple targeted services

Families who experience significant difficulties need more coordinated interventions from a variety of agencies. It is important they do not experience delay in accessing appropriate help when they most need it.

We are committed to:

- ensuring that all families access high quality universal services.
- encouraging a ‘whole family’ approach to intervention.

Specialist services

For a variety of reasons, providing effective parenting is too difficult for some parents. In these situations, statutory measures will be put in place and children may need to be cared for away from home. Such interventions should still take place within a context of overall support for the family and children returned home if it is agreed that it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Specialist provision includes:

- supervision orders, emergency protection orders, care orders, section 8 orders and secure accommodation orders from children’s and young people’s social care.
- education supervision orders and parenting orders from the attendance strategy team in Education Leeds.
- bail supervision, referral orders, community supervision orders, intensive supervision and surveillance programme and custodial sentences by the Youth Offending Service.
- pre-court disposals, including work around final warnings and associated programmes of intervention by the Youth Offending Service.

13 “I asked for help when things were getting me down and I wasn’t coping with my children. But I had to wait till things got worse before I received any help – and then it was too late and I had to ask for the children to be taken away” parent

Strategic implementation

For successful implementation, the following framework needs to be put in place:

1. A parenting unit, established for the Children Leeds partnership, to ensure availability and consistency of parenting support throughout Leeds.

The role of the parenting unit is likely to include:

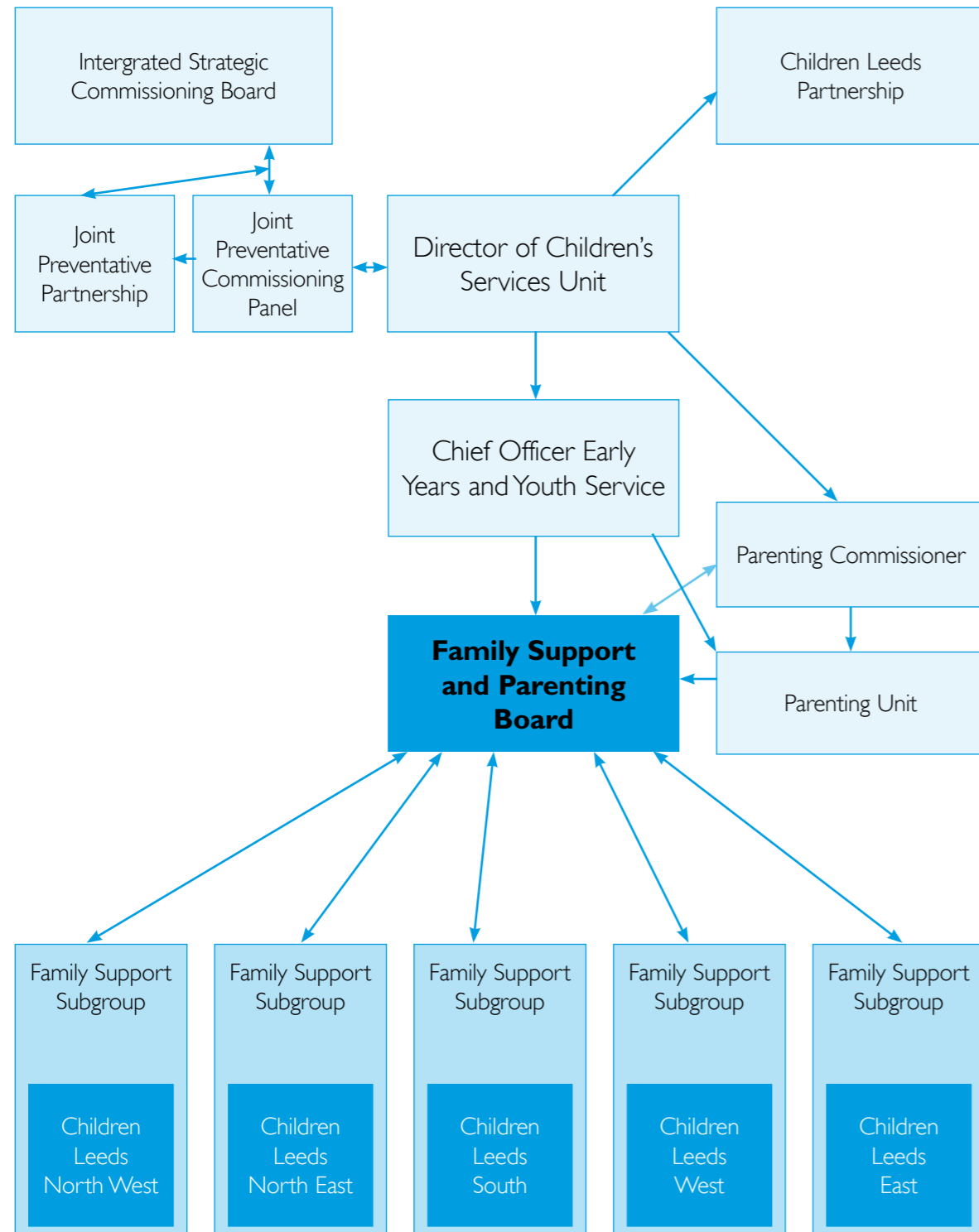
- planning and commissioning of coherent parenting support across Leeds.
- maintaining and developing the family hub as a service information point.
- taking into account the needs and wishes of parents with regard to service provision.
- quality assuring parenting provision.
- ensuring provision of appropriate professional training.
- maintaining relevant data bases.
- acting as a central reference point for all parenting programme information.
- identifying and addressing gaps and duplication in parenting provision.

2. Clear governance structures for driving the agenda forward:

- parenting commissioner identified, with dedicated time to carry out the role.
- parenting champions identified in each relevant department or agency, both statutory and voluntary.
- an inter-agency family support and parenting board established with strong representation from parents, and reporting into the children’s trust arrangements.
- a strengthened role for wedge-based family support sub-groups.

The diagram on page 14 shows the proposed governance arrangements. These will be clarified in the light of developing citywide structures.

Working diagram showing the proposed governance arrangements.



3. A commissioning plan for family support and parenting services, to be developed on behalf of the family support and parenting board, to undertake:

- a review of current expenditure on the different levels of family support and parenting activity by different agencies across the city.
- identification of resources that can be pooled to implement the family support and parenting strategy.
- robust commissioning procedures established through the integrated strategic commissioning board and the joint preventative commissioning panel.

- a robust procurement process to secure an 'approved providers' list, clarifying the quality assurance and other systems that need to be in place, before potential service providers can be commissioned.
- strategic city wide commissioning of preventative services informed by local needs analysis.
- clarity established between city-wide and local responsibilities.
- support to locality based partnerships in commissioning family support and parenting services.

It is important that all commissioning aims to be outcomes-based.

Monitoring and evaluation

- All agencies providing family support and parenting services will have appropriate quality assurance and improvement systems in place.
- All services will be subject to the monitoring and evaluation procedures put in place by the integrated strategic commissioning board or joint preventative commissioning panel.
- Parents are central to this strategy. It is therefore essential that their views are kept under constant review by those services working with them. Parents will be regularly consulted in a variety of ways about their experiences of service delivery.

Conclusion

We want this strategy to have a positive impact on the lives of parents and children in Leeds. It provides us with a platform from which we can work together to continue to improve the support offered to all families in our city.

Implementation plan

Ref	Objective 1
	Establish overall governance framework for the family support and parenting strategy
Ref	Success criteria
1.	100% of designated commissioning and delivery partners are engaged
2.	Accountability framework is clear, consistent, coherent and widely understood
Links to other plans	
Children and Young People's Plan and see Appendix 1 for links to other plans	

Activity	Performance indicator		Timescale	Resources	Outcomes	Lead
Identify commissioning and delivery partners to enable governance and accountability streams for delivery of the family support and parenting strategy	Agencies and delivery partners identify their participation		November 2007	Parenting unit	Understanding of delivery of services, city-wide	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
The family support and parenting strategy is disseminated city wide	Parents and professionals report understanding of the strategy and confidence that it will be implemented		December 2007	All relevant agencies supported by parenting unit	Strategy is widely disseminated	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Establish commissioning framework for delivery of parenting services	All agencies aware of identity, role and responsibility of the parenting commissioner and their contribution to the commissioning of parenting services		December 2007	DCSU and parenting unit	Parenting commissioner for Leeds identified and commissioning framework in place	Deputy director children's services
Key stakeholders (including voluntary agencies where appropriate) identify a parenting champion within their organisation	Terms of reference in place for identified parenting champions		December 2007	Family support and parenting project board	Parenting champions actively promoting family support and parenting services in Leeds	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Ensure that partners, both voluntary, statutory and parents are represented on the family support and parenting board	Equitable representation is evidenced		March 2008	Family support and parenting project board	Family support and parenting activity across Leeds is provided with effective accountability and governance	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Provide a clear and consistent communication mechanism to enable efficient delivery of the strategy	100% of partners involved and engaged in clear lines of communication		April 2008	Family support and parenting project board	Channels of communication established and adhered to	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Engage with parents, building capacity for parental participation in the implementation of the strategy	Parental participation is increased		January 08	Parenting unit	Parents are involved in roll out of strategy	Acting chief officer early years and youth service

Ref	Objective 2
	Establish and embed Leeds parenting unit within Children Leeds
Ref	Success criteria
1.	The parenting unit is established at a city wide level by December 2007
2.	Parenting unit is delivering functions required at a city wide level
3.	Parenting unit is supporting clusters and wedges in the delivery of parenting initiatives
Links to other plans	
Children and Young People's Plan and see Appendix I for links to other plans	

Activity	Performance indicator		Timescale	Resources	Outcomes	Lead
Establish scope and remit of the parenting unit	The terms of reference for the parenting unit are consulted upon and implemented		November 2007	DCSU	Remit is established	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Identify resources and capacity for Leeds parenting unit	The parenting unit is in place and providing coherence to the delivery of parenting programmes		November 2007 – April 2008	Family support and parenting project board	All parents are able to access parenting programmes to meet their needs	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Carry out equality impact assessment of proposed parenting unit	Assessment completed and recommendations in place		February 2008	Family support and parenting project board with support from relevant officer	Equality requirements for parenting unit are addressed	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Communicate role and function of parenting unit	Partners and stakeholders are aware of the role and function of the unit		April 2008	Parenting unit	The parenting unit provides the central reference point for parenting programmes	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Conduct an audit into current spend on universal family support and parenting services in all relevant agencies across Children Leeds	A comprehensive analysis of spending on parenting support is available for scrutiny		June 2008	Parenting champions	Spending is appropriately targeted	Acting chief officer early years and youth service

Ref	Objective 3
	Establish monitoring, evaluation and quality assurance processes for the delivery of family support and parenting services
Ref	Success criteria
1.	The percentage of families report satisfaction with services received, increases from current baseline data
2.	100% of services delivering family support and parenting services have a quality assurance framework in place
Links to other plans	
Children and Young People's Plan and see Appendix 1 for links to other plans	

Activity	Performance indicator		Timescale	Resources	Outcomes	Lead
Ensure a quality assurance framework is established for the delivery of family and parenting support	Established framework is in place		April 2008	Family support and parenting project board and parenting unit	City wide cohesive quality assurance mechanisms are in place	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Work in partnership with voluntary sector organisations to enable them to establish collaborative quality assurance frameworks	Established framework is in place		April 2008	Family support and parenting project board and parenting unit	City wide cohesive quality assurance mechanisms are in place	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Ensure that systems are in place to monitor and evaluate parental satisfaction	Systems are in place		July 2008	Family support and parenting project board and parenting unit	Parental satisfaction is evidenced and is available to inform service delivery	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Undertake audit of training needs of professionals	Establish training programme for professionals		June 2008	Parenting unit	Professionals engaged in family support and parenting are appropriately trained	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Conduct a longitudinal study as to the impact and outcomes for children whose parents have benefited from support	Good practice is identified and disseminated. Best value is evidenced		2009	To be agreed	The outcomes for children, young people and families improve significantly	Acting chief officer early years and youth service

Ref	Objective 4
	To provide inclusive universal family support and parenting services including targeted early intervention services across Leeds
Ref	Success criteria
1.	Family support and parenting services are provided across the city
2.	Information is readily available to all families who require it
Links to other plans	
Children and Young People's Plan and see Appendix 1 for links to other plans	

Activity	Performance indicator		Timescale	Resources	Outcomes	Lead
Audit current information provided to parents across the city	Audit tool developed and distributed to relevant agencies for completion. Results compiled and analysed		July 2008	Children's information service	All parents throughout Leeds have access to high quality, accurate and consistent information to meet their needs	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Monitor, evaluate and quality-assure content and accessibility of information available for parents	Family Hub is published, widely used and up dated		July 2008	Children's information service	Quality and consistency of information is regularly monitored and reviewed	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Audit drop-in services, formal and informal parenting groups across the city	Audit tool developed and distributed to relevant agencies for completion. Results compiled and analysed		July 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Establish baseline data to inform areas of need and compile gap analysis	Baseline data is established and resources aligned to meet need		April 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Audit need for targeted and multi targeted support across the city (wedge/cluster/locality)	Baseline data is established and resources aligned to meet need		September 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Further examine the requirement for a dedicated helpline for families or the extension of existing provision	Needs analysis is produced		September 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Undertake a skills and training audit of professionals delivering family support	Training and skills audit undertaken and analysis completed		September 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	All professionals are highly skilled and trained in crucial areas of family support and parenting	Acting chief officer early years and youth service

Ref	Objective 5
	Establish consistent delivery of targeted and multi targeted support services
Ref	Success criteria
1.	The percentage of targeted/multi-targeted support services that meet identified needs throughout Leeds increases from baseline data
2.	The percentage of families throughout Leeds able to access the services they need increases from baseline data
Links to other plans	
Children and Young People's Plan and see Appendix I for links to other plans	

Activity	Performance indicator		Timescale	Resources	Outcomes	Lead
Establish baseline data to inform areas of need and compile gap analysis	Baseline data is established and resources aligned to meet need		April 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Audit need for targeted and multi targeted support across the city (wedge/cluster/locality)	Baseline data is established and resources aligned to meet need		September 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Undertake a skills and training audit of professionals delivering family support	Training and skills audit undertaken and analysis completed		September 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	All professionals are highly skilled and trained in crucial areas of parenting and family support	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Develop robust links with all children's services and adults' services as appropriate in the delivery of targeted and multi-targeted family support and parenting services	Reduction in number of crisis interventions for families		April 2008	Parenting champions	Families across Leeds receive the advice and support required and move out of specialist interventions	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
To provide a range of effective family support and parenting including links with further education, the voluntary, community and faith sectors	Range of appropriate services in place		July 2008	Parenting champions	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service

Ref	Objective 6
	Establish consistent delivery of specialist family support and parenting services
Ref	Success criteria
1.	Reduction in the level of requirement for statutory parenting support
2.	Reduction in the need for higher level statutory intervention
Links to other plans	
Children and Young People's Plan and see Appendix I for links to other plans	

Activity	Performance indicator		Timescale	Resources	Outcomes	Lead
Establish baseline data to inform areas of need and compile gap analysis	Baseline data is established and resources aligned to meet need		April 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	Reportable information available to inform the commissioning process	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Undertake a skills and training audit of professionals undertaking family support	Training and skills audit undertaken and analysis completed		September 2008	Parenting unit to co-ordinate resources from across Children Leeds	All professionals are highly skilled and trained in crucial areas of family support and parenting	Acting chief officer early years and youth service
Develop cohesive statutory monitoring systems for implementation of statutory contracts and orders	Government office is in possession of statutory information		To be confirmed	Parenting champions	Statutory contracts and orders implemented	Acting chief officer early years and youth service

Family support and parenting strategy appendices

A single document containing the six appendices to this strategy can be found on the Children Leeds website. www.childrenleeds.org.uk

You can also get this information in large print, in Braille or on audio tape. Please phone the number below for advice.

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the Leeds Initiative

Local partnerships making things happen