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## Refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan

Date: Wednesday 15 March 2023

Report of: Director of Children and Families

Report to: Executive Board

Will the decision be open for call in?  $\square$  Yes  $\boxtimes$  No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? ☐ Yes ☒ No

## **Brief summary**

The Children and Young People's Plan is the shared vision for everyone working with children and young people in Leeds. It is being refreshed to acknowledge the significant changes and challenges that have occurred in the last few years, and to ensure that it remains relevant and appropriate to improving outcomes for children and young people, to help them realise their potential, and to thrive, whilst offering opportunities for play and fun.

The refreshed plan includes an amended vision, a change to the three obsessions, three new priorities, and an updated set of performance measures. The Children and Young People's Plan is part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework, which requires the refreshed plan to be adopted by Full Council. This report provides the context for the Children and Young People's Plan; summarises the consultation and refresh; and requests that Executive Board approve submission of the refreshed plan for adoption at Full Council on 12 July 2023.

## Recommendations

Executive Board is asked to:

- a) Note the proposals for a refreshed Children and Young People's Plan, following a consultation exercise in late 2022 (a summary of which is in appendix two).
- b) Approve the submission of the refreshed Children and Young People's Plan 2023 to 2028 (as presented in appendix one) for adoption at Full Council on 12 July 2023.

## What is this report about?

- The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the shared vision for everyone working with children and young people in Leeds. It sets out the vision for Leeds to be the best city in the UK for children and young people to grow up in, and to be a Child Friendly city. The refresh of the CYPP has been informed by a formal consultation exercise that took place in November and December 2022. The changes will ensure that the plan remains relevant and appropriate for the coming years, will continue to improve outcomes for children and young people, and will help services to provide the support needed to keep children and young people safe from harm.
- 2 This report provides a draft version of the refreshed CYPP (found in appendix one) for Executive Board to approve for submission to Full Council on 12 July. The refreshed CYPP, which will have a graphic design applied to it, will cover the period 2023 to 2028, with a formal launch date likely to be in September 2023, to coincide with the start of the next academic year.
- 3 The main changes to the CYPP are:
  - A revised vision, recognising the importance of children living in "loving and nurturing families", and of "play and having fun", alongside improving outcomes for children and young people.
  - A change to the three obsessions, combining two ("reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training"; and "improve achievement, attainment and attendance at school") into "young people in Leeds attend school, achieve, and attain well, and continue their route of a sustained education, apprenticeship or employment destination"; and the introduction of a health-focused obsession: "Leeds is a healthy place for all children; and improve the timely access to healthcare when needed".
  - Three new priorities: "children and young people have safe spaces to play, hang out, and have fun"; "everyone takes more action to protect the environment from climate change"; and "encourage greater use of sustainable transport (eg walking, cycling, scooting, public transport) for children and young people".
  - An update to the performance measures to ensure that they remain relevant and appropriate.
- 4 The renewed CYPP retains the fundamentals of the strategy whilst responding to changes in need and approach. The CYPP will be delivered in the context of pandemic recovery and cost of living challenges. Bringing TeamLeeds together around our shared ambitions is essential for how we understand and respond to the evolving impacts on service demand, on participation and on child wellbeing and outcomes. Our vision and shared commitment will support successful engagement and responses to national policy changes; these include the government's recently published *Stable Homes, Built on Love*<sup>1</sup> consultation on social care reform, and the related *SEND and alternative provision improvement plan*<sup>2</sup>.

## What impact will this proposal have?

The CYPP is the shared vision for everyone working with children and young people in Leeds and has shaped the work of the children's partnership in Leeds for almost 15 years. The refreshed plan takes account of changes in the local and national landscape in recent years and incorporates feedback received from a consultation exercise in late 2022. It sets out the key

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/childrens-social-care-stable-homes-built-on-love

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-and-alternative-provision-improvement-plan

priorities for both the Council and the partnership over the next five years and will help to improve outcomes for children and young people living in Leeds, with a specific focus on vulnerable children and young people who require the most support and intervention.

6 An Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration screening exercise was carried out as part of the initial stages of the CYPP refresh. A copy of this document is included in appendix three.

How does this r	proposal im	pact the three	pillars of the Be	st City Ambition?
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- 7 The current CYPP has priorities and measures that align to two of the three pillars. Part of the consultation asked how the CYPP could contribute to the Zero Carbon pillar, by considering a climate emergency priority; this was strongly supported in the feedback and comments, leading to a new priority being added to the CYPP.
- The CYPP is a supporting plan for the three pillars of our Best City Ambition, ensuring a focus on delivery for Leeds' children and young people. TeamLeeds will support Leeds families to ensure children in all areas of the city have the best start in life and enjoying a healthy, happy, and friendly childhood. As a city, we will focus on young people having the skills that enable them to realise their potential and to thrive. Work to deliver the CYPP will be as part of TeamLeeds, ensuring collective effort and consistency: as an example, the CYPP is supportive of, and will be supported by, the Future Talent Plan for Leeds.
- Two CYPP measures are also Best City Ambition measures: pupils achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Health and Wellbeing); and pupils achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Inclusive Growth). Children in care is a Council organisational performance measure for keeping children safe; this organisational measure supports our best city ambitions. Safely reducing the need for children to be in care ('looked after') remains a CYPP obsession for ensuring that children are safe, and for measuring the effectiveness of the Council's collective support for parents and families.

## What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected: This is a city-wide partne	rship plan		
Have ward members been consulted?	⊠ Yes	□ No	

- 10 A formal public consultation exercise ran from 07 November 2022 to 12 December 2022, with all elected members receiving a link to the survey. 142 responses were received from people living in 31 of Leeds' 33 political wards. Each question saw at least two-thirds of respondents 'strongly agree', or 'agree' with the proposed changes, with one question seeing a 90 per cent combined agree rate. A summary of the consultation is provided in appendix two.
- 11 In accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework, the views of the relevant Scrutiny Board have also been sought. The Children and Families Scrutiny Board discussed the refresh of the CYPP on three occasions: 06 July 2022, 07 September 2022, and 25 January 2023. Early

discussions with the Scrutiny Board during July and September 2022 helped to inform the development of the CYPP, including the proposed changes that formed the basis of the formal public consultation exercise. The Scrutiny Board then received a summary of the consultation findings in January 2023, which included the information presented in appendix 2 of this report. In acknowledging the positive feedback arising from the consultation, the Scrutiny Board gave its support to the proposed changes to the CYPP, including specific support for the inclusion of a climate emergency priority that links with the new priority on encouraging the greater use of sustainable transport, and for this to be progressed through the Council's relevant approval processes.

- 12 Feedback was obtained from several partnership meetings, where the consultation questions were discussed in addition to questions specific to each meeting; school governors were encouraged to complete the questionnaire and share with their peers; and a child-friendly 'session plan' was provided to practitioners who work with young people's groups, to ensure that the consultation exercise reached as many young people as possible. 67 young people contributed through these sessions.
- 13 The 12 Child Friendly Wishes were originally developed in 2012 and were refreshed for the tenth birthday of Child Friendly Leeds in July 2022. Three years' worth of consultation captured the voice of 80,000 children and young people in Leeds, with some of the most important issues being safe and clean places; spaces to play and to have fun; young people's voices to be heard and listened to; a focus on mental health and wellbeing; and a growing concern about climate change.
- 14 The views of young people from the Wishes consultation exercise have been incorporated into feedback from the CYPP-specific consultation and have helped shape the refreshed CYPP. Future updates of the Wishes and the CYPP will be aligned so that young people's voices remain central to the CYPP and to create a lasting synergy between the Wishes and the CYPP. We will report on the Wishes as part of our monitoring of the impact of the CYPP.
- 15 The outputs from the above consultation exercises have helped shape the development of the refreshed CYPP. The wording of the vision was altered based on the feedback received, and the positive response to the suggestion to add a climate emergency priority (including aligning the wording to one of the 12 Child Friendly Wishes) confirmed that this priority should be introduced.

## What are the resource implications?

16 There are no direct resource implications from this report. The effective delivery of the CYPP will support Leeds families, help mitigate the impacts of poverty, and help manage demand on services for children and young people.

## What are the key risks and how are they being managed?

17 There are no inherent risks in the CYPP. Regular reporting is key to ensuring that outcomes are improving and that challenges are swiftly identified, and remedial action is taken to mitigate the negative impact of those challenges.

18 The CYPP is linked to the Safeguarding Children corporate risk and is one of the key controls that helps the authority manage this risk. A significant failure in the Safeguarding Children risk would derail the achievement of the CYPP.

## What are the legal implications?

19 The CYPP forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework. The formal adoption of plans and strategies within the framework fall to full Council. Executive and Decision Making Procedure Rule 5.1.2 states that the power to call in decisions does not extend to decisions made in accordance with the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules. The recommendations being made to the Board in this report are in accordance with those rules, and as such, the resolutions arising from this report are not eligible for Call In.

## Options, timescales and measuring success

## What other options were considered?

- 20 The CYPP was last refreshed in 2018; both the local and national context have significantly altered in the intervening period. The refresh acknowledges the significant changes that have affected children and young people in recent years, as well as establishing the partnership's response to those issues. The CYPP has guided the children's partnership over the last decade and has worked in parallel with Child Friendly Leeds to improve outcomes and opportunities for children and young people in Leeds. For these reasons, a sympathetic refresh was deemed to be most appropriate compared to no refresh, or a radical design of the CYPP.
- 21 Discontinuing, or not refreshing, the CYPP would reduce the effectiveness of the work of the children's partnership in Leeds and increase the risk that children and young people are not kept safe from harm and do not achieve their potential. Conversely, refreshing and reinvigorating the CYPP, aligning with the 12 Child Friendly Wishes, supporting the Best City Ambition, and acknowledging the climate emergency, ensures that the CYPP remains an important and relevant strategic plan that drives the work of the children's partnership in Leeds, helping to keep children and young people safe from harm, and to improve outcomes for children and young people to help them to realise their potential and to thrive.

## How will success be measured?

- 22 Regular reports will be presented to both the Leeds Children and Young People Partnership Meeting, and to the Children and Families Scrutiny Board. These reports will provide an update on the three obsessions and the latest data for the CYPP measures. Additionally, two of the CYPP measures feature in the Best City Ambition.
- 23 The CYPP is the overarching strategy that guides the work of the children's partnership in Leeds, with reporting against the plan focused on strategic messages. More detailed, granular, reporting will take place through linked strategies and plans, for example the 3As Strategy, the Annual Standards Report, and the SEND and Inclusion Strategy.

### What is the timetable and who will be responsible for implementation?

24 The refreshed CYPP will cover the period 2023 to 2028. Regular updates will be provided by or on behalf of the Director of Children and Families to the Leeds Children and Young People

Partnership Meeting, which is part of the Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership, and to the Children and Families Scrutiny Board.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix one: the Children and Young People's Plan 2023 to 2028.
- Appendix two: a summary of consultation responses received, with a representative sample of comments.
- Appendix three: refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan EDCI screening document.

## **Background papers**

None.

## Appendix one: the Children and Young People's Plan 2023 to 2028

## The way we work

#### Making connections

Developing quality connections, conversations, and relationships with children, families, and professionals is how we work in Leeds

Valuing families Children live in families Families create communities Communities create cities

Three mindsets
Always remember...
Do the simple things better
The child is the client
Safeguard and promote the welfare of children

Equality, diversity, and inclusion
We want Leeds to be a city of equal opportunity,
an inclusive city where everyone has a fair
chance, and people from all backgrounds take
part in community life, creating a society that is
varied, vibrant and proud. The CYPP will help
reduce the impact of poverty and reduce
inequalities and discrimination that still exist
within some of our communities within Leeds

And a relentless focus on the question... What is it like to be a child or young person growing up in Leeds and how do we make it better?

## Our city

#### About Leeds

Total population: 809,036

Including 170,571 children and young people aged up to 18 (263,392

aged under 25)

280 state-funded schools

191 different languages spoken in Leeds schools Figures correct at February 2023

#### The 12 Child Friendly Wishes 2023-28

The Child Friendly Leeds Wishes were developed in partnership with children and young people. Top issues and priorities were identified following the review of local and citywide consultations, surveys, and ballots, capturing the views of over 80,000 children and young people. The Wishes highlight what young people think is important and what they think would make Leeds an even better city for children and young people to grow up in. The Wishes have influenced the priorities in the CYPP and a wishes action plan has been developed to ensure children, young people, and families are kept up to date on what actions are being taken to address the wishes. Updates on the 12 Wishes will be part of monitoring the impact of our CYPP. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds/cfl-the-story/12-wishes">https://www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds/cfl-the-story/12-wishes</a>

### Working together

The ambition of the Child Friendly initiative is to make Leeds the best city in the UK for children and young people to grow up in. To help us make this happen, we have a Leeds Children and Young People's Partnership, which brings together leaders from the main organisations working with children and young people, to make sure the work we do keeps children safe from harm, and has a positive impact on improving outcomes

We work with all partners to help make a difference to the lives of children and young people who live in Leeds. The CYPP is part of the strategic framework that supports the Best City Ambition, which is our overall vision for the future of Leeds. At its heart is our mission to tackle poverty and inequality, and to improve quality of life for everyone who calls Leeds home





# Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2023 to 2028

The priorities that guide our work have been developed through consultation across the city, including the views of children and young people

Ensuring that our Best City Ambition delivers for Leeds' children and young people, we will focus on:

- children in all areas of the city having the best start in life and enjoying a healthy, happy, and friendly childhood
- young people having the skills that enable them to realise their potential and to thrive

#### Find out more

Follow us on Twitter, <u>@Child\_Leeds</u>, or visit <u>www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds</u> for more information about our work

To understand how we work together to keep children and young people safe, visit www.leedsscp.org.uk

To see our one minute guides on all aspects of children's services, please visit www.leeds.gov.uk and search for 'one minute guides'

To become a Child Friendly Leeds supporter, ambassador, or partner, e-mail childfriendlyleeds@leeds.gov.uk

## What we'll do

#### One vision

Our vision is for Leeds to be the best city in the UK and the best city for children and young people to grow up in, to thrive from early years into adulthood. We want Leeds to be an inclusive and welcoming child friendly city where children live in loving and nurturing families. We invest in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city by improving outcomes and providing young people with the skills for life, as well as opportunities for play and having fun. In ensuring our children are starting well, we recognise the need for outcomes to improve faster for children and young people from vulnerable and deprived backgrounds

#### Five outcomes

All children and young people:

- Are safe from harm
- Do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life 2.
- 3. Enjoy healthy lives
- Have fun growing up
- 5. Are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence

#### Fourteen priorities

- 1. Help children and parents to live in safe, supportive, and loving families
- Ensure that the most vulnerable children and young 10. Support young people to make people are protected
- Support families to give
- Increase the number of children and young people participating and engaging in 12. Everyone takes more action to learning
- Improve achievement and attainment for all pupils
- Improve at a faster rate educational progress for pupils vulnerable to poorer learning 14. Encourage greater use of
- Improve social, emotional, and mental health and wellbeing of children and young people

- 8. Children and young people have safe spaces to play, hang out, and have fun Promote and enable physical
- activity and healthy eating good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours children the best start in life 11. Help young people into adulthood, to develop life skills, and be ready for work

protect the environment from

13. Improve access to affordable, safe, and reliable connected transport for young people sustainable transport (eg walking, cycling, scooting, public transport) for children and young people

climate change

#### Three obsessions

- 1. Safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after
- Young people in Leeds attend school, achieve, and attain well, and continue their route
- of a sustained education. apprenticeship or employment destination
- Leeds is a healthy place for all children: and improve the timely access to healthcare when needed

Helping deliver the mission at the heart of our Best City Ambition to tackle poverty and inequality and to improve the quality of life for the children and young people who call Leeds home

## How we'll do it

#### Think Family Work Family

We will consider family relationships, the role of adult behaviour, and the wider context such as friends and the local community, and how these impact on outcomes for children and young people

#### Outstanding social work and support

Continuing our journey as an Ofsted-rated 'outstanding' local authority, our Families First programme, and our investment in social work. we will ensure consistent quality across all our work with vulnerable children and young people

Behaviours that underpin everything we do

We listen and respond to the voice of the child

Use Outcome Based Accountability and ask the question: is anyone better off?

We support and prioritise children and young people to have fun growing up

Our work aims to eliminate discrimination and ensure equity, equality, and inclusion

Use restorative practice to work with people, not do to or for them

### The best start in life for all children

will support parents and babies to create the conditions where stress is reduced, positive bonds and attachments can form, and language and communications skills develop

## poverty

In acknowledging the scale and impact of poverty on families, we will work with communities and families on children's outcomes, and support children's journeys into secure adulthood in a

## Improving the health and wellbeing of all children and young

Leeds is a healthy place for all children and young people, where they live supports them to be mentally and physically healthy and have timely support when needed

## Before and after birth, we

## Challenging child

prosperous city

# people

within an environment that access to the right care and

#### Learning underpins wellbeing; so we will place a sharp focus on supporting learning, and children's readiness for learning, in order to support all children and young people to be our

future talent, particularly those learners who are vulnerable to noorer outcomes, to realise their potential, and narrow any

Attaining and achieving

Early help - the right conversations in the right place at the right time

attainment gaps

Building on what works well, and reorganising more of our services around the Restorative Early Start approach, we will focus help to where it is needed earlier

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

- Number of children looked after
- Number of parents that have had more than one child enter care at different times
- Number of children subject to a child protection plan
- Number of children in 15.
- Pupils achieving a good 16. level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (end of reception year) Infant mortality rates 18.
- School attendance
- Fixed-term school
- suspensions Pupils reaching the
- expected standard at the end of Key Stage 2 (end of year six) Progress 8 score for
- Leeds at the end of Key Stage 4 (end of year 11)
- Destinations of young people with special educational needs and/ or a disability when they leave school
- Children that are obese in reception and in year

- 13. Children and young people who report being happy most days in the My Health, My School Survey Timely access to the
  - right healthcare when needed Young offenders that
  - re-offend Under-18 conception
  - Under-18 alcoholrelated hospital admissions

rates

- Students achieving a level 3 qualification at age 19
- 19. Young people not in employment, education, or training, or whose employment status is 'not known'

## Appendix two: A summary of consultation responses received, with a representative sample of comments

## 2. We are proposing to change the wording of the Vision

An	swer choices		Response per cent	Response total
1	Strongly agree		28.99%	40
2	Agree		37.68%	52
3	Neither agree nor disagree		13.77%	19
4	Disagree		13.04%	18
5	Strongly disagree		6.52%	9

- I like the vision, but I think there should be more emphasis on those who are vulnerable and have deprived backgrounds
- I am really glad to see that 'play' and 'having fun' has been included in the proposed vision. It is really important that children's well-being and not just their well-becoming (the process of turning them into 'successful' adults) is prioritised, particularly in light of the current state of children and young people's mental health. Play is crucial to our ambitions to be a child friendly city
- Is 'play' aimed at younger children, does it patronise older young people?
- Don't drop the wording around vulnerable and deprived backgrounds
  - Loving and nurturing is important to include
- 3. We will retain the children looked after obsession: safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after

We are proposing to combine improve achievement, attainment and attendance at school; and reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training into a learning destinations obsession

An	swer choices	Response per cent	Response total
1	Strongly agree	31.21%	44
2	Agree	39.72%	56
3	Neither agree nor disagree	14.18%	20
4	Disagree	10.64%	15
5	Strongly disagree	4.26%	6

- Proposal is vague and does not appear to place focus on the importance of the 3A's in contributing to lifelong learning and wellbeing. We should have precision in what we are seeking to achieve
- It is important to recognise that there are many aspects to children and young people's lives. There can't be too heavy a focus on attainment
- I agree with this but will it remove focus from younger children?
- As a parent with teenagers I support the need to highlight the multiple destinations and opportunities for learning that are not school or typical "education" based post-16
- What about education for SEND children and specialist and targeted support?
- Young people in care should have views and opinions on the placement heard more often
- Important to celebrate achievement, this is wider than academic results

4. We are proposing to introduce a health-focused obsession to reflect an increasing focus on both the physical and mental health of our children and young people: increase the number of children that are a healthy weight; and improve the timely access to healthcare when needed

An	swer choices		Response per cent	Response total
1	Strongly agree		45.39%	64
2	Agree		37.59%	53
3	Neither agree nor disagree		7.09%	10
4	Disagree		7.09%	10
5	Strongly disagree		2.84%	4

- Rather than physical and mental health it should focus on physical and emotional wellbeing, including mental health
- Agree but needs to be careful and done correctly. Parents and children
  can be affected when labelling 'healthy weights' and there can be a lot of
  pressure when parents are faced with 'healthy eating' vs what they can
  afford/what the child will eat etc
- Mental health of young people is a massive priority for the plan. I think it
  needs to be stronger in the obsession, as outcomes are much wider than
  healthy weight and access to healthcare
- Need to incorporate the principles of becoming a Marmot City
- Love the intent to improving access to health care
- Unhappiness with the focus on healthy weight too blunt

5. We will retain our five outcomes with the only proposed change to all children and young people enjoy healthy lifestyles. We are proposing to change it to all children and young people enjoy healthy lives

Answer choices		Response per cent	Response total	
1	Strongly agree		32.14%	45
2	Agree		51.43%	72
3	Neither agree nor disagree		12.86%	18
4	Disagree		2.86%	4
5	Strongly disagree		0.71%	1

- I think lifestyles is more clearly focused on the conditions and behaviours that lead to a healthy life, rather than the very general "lives" which is the whole of the life-course and includes factors we cannot change such as illnesses children may develop that are not avoidable
- I feel the word 'lives' is broader than 'lifestyle' so covers more areas which I agree is better
- Lives is better, more holistic. Lifestyles could suggest a transient choice that ebbs and flows over time. Lives is all encompassing
- Not disabled children have healthy lives though do they, by the nature of their disability and health needs. This excludes those who can't be healthy
- There's no mention of inclusivity for disabled children

## 6. Most of the priorities will be retained without change. We are proposing to introduce a new priority on the climate emergency following comments from young people

An	swer choices	Response per cent	Response total
1	Strongly agree	55.32%	78
2	Agree	30.50%	43
3	Neither agree nor disagree	9.22%	13
4	Disagree	4.96%	7
5	Strongly disagree	 0.00%	0

- I'd be interested to know how this one manifests itself via a CYP Plan is it about what CYP can do to contribute to the climate emergency?
- Really good idea to include what young people have commented they want
- Agree in principle but it would depend on the exact wording
- This is much needed and reflects the 12 wishes
- Whilst climate change is an issue for us all and clearly young people feel strongly about it - I am not sure how this fits with a CYP plan? Although not adverse to it either
- We must recognise the disadvantage experienced by children from ethnic monitory heritage in the education and youth justice system
- Align with the wording from the 12 Wishes

# 7. We are proposing to retain the existing transport priority (improve access to affordable, safe, and reliable connected transport for young people) and add a new priority, which will focus on sustainable transport: encourage the greater use of sustainable transport, such as walking, cycling, scooting, and public transport

An	swer choices		Response per cent	Response total	
1	Strongly agree		45.71%	64	
2	Agree		44.29%	62	
3	Neither agree nor disagree		6.43%	9	
4	Disagree		2.86%	4	
5	Strongly disagree		0.71%	1	

- I do agree with this change however the emphasis should be on affordable sustainable transport
- Disabled accessibility to transport still has huge gaps which impact on quality of life
- It's not always safe or attainable for children to work/cycle when the are they live isn't a safe environment and parents have to get to work
- Good transport links essential to allow CYP to access education and further careers. Also need to look at protecting and enabling those vulnerable CYP access to transport systems safely
- I don't understand why sustainable travel isn't part of the climate emergency priority
- Key is cost we should have free transport like young people in London, free for groups like care leavers

# Appendix three: Refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan EDCI screening document

# Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration (EDCI) screening



As a public authority we need to ensure that all our strategies, policies, service and functions, both current and proposed have given proper consideration to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

A **screening** process can help judge relevance and provides a record of both the **process** and **decision.** Screening should be a short, sharp exercise that determines relevance for all new and revised strategies, policies, services and functions. Completed at the earliest opportunity it will help to determine:

- the relevance of proposals and decisions to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.
- whether or not equality, diversity, cohesion and integration is being or has already been considered, and
- whether or not it is necessary to carry out an impact assessment.

Directorate: Children and Families	Service area: Resources and Strategy
Lead person: Chris Hudson	Contact number: 0113 37 85515
1. Title: Refresh of the Children and Yo	oung People's Plan
Is this a:  x Strategy / Policy Serv	vice / Function Other
If other, please specify	

## 2. Please provide a brief description of what you are screening

The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the strategic document that guides the work of the children's partnership in Leeds. Through its vision, outcomes, priorities, obsessions, and performance measures it provides a framework to: keep children safe from harm; do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life; enjoy healthy lifestyles; have fun growing up; and have a voice and influence in the services that are provided for them. These five priorities - or conditions of wellbeing - focus on all children and young people living and growing up in Leeds.

The CYPP was last refreshed in 2017, with that iteration of the plan covering the period 2018 to 2023. The current refresh acknowledges the increased focus on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing following the Covid-19 pandemic, greater advocacy for action on the climate emergency, and the cost-of-living crisis. The proposed areas of change have been identified through conversations across the children's partnership, with senior officers and leaders of the Council, and elected members through Scrutiny (Children and Families).

A six-week public consultation on the proposed areas of change will take place to establish the level of support for the proposed changes. Scrutiny considered the outputs from that consultation in January 2023. The refreshed plan will be approved at Full Council in summer 2023 and will cover the period 2023 to 2028.

## 3. Relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

All the council's strategies and policies, service and functions affect service users, employees or the wider community – city wide or more local. These will also have a greater or lesser relevance to equality, diversity, cohesion and integration.

The following questions will help you to identify how relevant your proposals are. When considering these questions think about age, carers, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Also those areas that impact on or relate to equality: tackling poverty and improving health and well-being.

Questions	Yes	No
Is there an existing or likely differential impact for the different equality characteristics?	X	
Have there been or likely to be any public concerns about the policy or proposal?		X
Could the proposal affect how our services, commissioning or procurement activities are organised, provided, located and by whom?	Х	
Could the proposal affect our workforce or employment practices?	X	
<ul> <li>Does the proposal involve or will it have an impact on</li> <li>Eliminating unlawful discrimination, victimisation and harassment</li> <li>Advancing equality of opportunity</li> <li>Fostering good relations</li> </ul>	х	

If you have answered **no** to the questions above please complete **sections 6 and 7** 

If you have answered **yes** to any of the above and;

- Believe you have already considered the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 4.**
- Are not already considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration within your proposal please go to **section 5.**

## 4. Considering the impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration

If you can demonstrate you have considered how your proposals impact on equality, diversity, cohesion and integration you have carried out an impact assessment.

Please provide specific details for all three areas below (use the prompts for guidance).

• How have you considered equality, diversity, cohesion and integration?

The CYPP is the strategic plan for improving outcomes for children, young people, and their families in the city, and supports the overarching Best City Ambition. Specific proposals for the way services are delivered and designed are covered in separate reports by the council and its partner organisations as and when they emerge. This includes specific equality, diversity, cohesion and integration impact assessments. The CYPP covers all children and young people living and growing up in Leeds by asking the question: what is it like to be a child or young person growing up in Leeds and how do we make it better? As the strategic plan for improving outcomes for children, young people, and their families in the city, the CYPP is the document to which other plans and strategies must align. The SEND and Inclusion Strategy, and the 3As Strategy, for example support (large) sub-cohorts that the CYPP is focused on. It is not the purpose of the CYPP to address all issues for children and young people living and growing up in Leeds, but it sets the tone and direction for other strategies and plans, which have a more

specific focus than the CYPP. These strategies and action plans will address areas of concern and will have a specific focus on a range of protected characteristics.

Each update to the CYPP addresses emerging issues since the last refresh. The proposed changes that will be consulted acknowledge the increased focus on children and young people's mental health and wellbeing following the Covid-19 pandemic, greater advocacy for action on the climate emergency, and the cost-of-living crisis. The proposed introduction of a health obsession will bring greater prominence to health and wellbeing issues within the CYPP; introducing a climate change priority, and a sustainable transport priority acknowledges the growing calls and actions from young people for these areas to be addressed.

The CYPP is likely to reference Leeds working towards becoming a Marmot City. The Marmot Review into health inequalities in England (2010) proposes an evidence-based strategy to address the social determinants of health, the conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age and which can lead to health inequalities. The first policy objective of the Marmot review is "giving every child the best start in life", a concept already embedded within the CYPP.

The proposed changes to the CYPP have been developed following discussions with Scrutiny (Children and Families), Corporate Leadership Team, the Children and Families Leadership and extended leadership forum, the LSCP Bi-Annual Network meeting, and children and young people through consultation over the last year on the updating of the 12 Wishes. The proposed changes will now be shared publicly as part of the formal consultation process. Young people were consulted during the formal consultation process through existing forums and groups. This was done in conjunction with the Voice, Influence, and Change Team, who have significant experience working with children and young people.

## Key findings

The CYPP has existed in its current form since 2011. Its previous refreshes (in 2014/15 and 2017/18) have been accompanied by an EDCI screening form. Each refresh has also evolved the plan rather than radically redesigning it. Consequently, the CYPP is well-established and understood across the partnership, with each refresh acknowledging its potential impact on different groups and communities.

Scrutiny (Children and Families) receive regular updates on progress being made against the priorities in the CYPP. Increasingly, the Board has been focused on the different life chances of children and young people across Leeds depending on where they are living. This focus has fed into the proposed changes, with challenging child poverty remaining central to the CYPP.

There is no single overarching report which brings together an overview of EDCI issues. Attainment information, for example, is reported in detail through the Annual Standards report, and is referenced in existing reports provided to various accountability meetings.

### Actions

The CYPP is based on OBA principles: how much have we done, how well have we done it, and what difference have we made. The reporting on the outcomes and priorities focuses on these three questions. Scrutiny (Children and Families) provides high support and high challenge when updates are provided (every six months). The Board monitors and evaluates EDCI issues and suggests work programmes to address these issues and improve the way services respond to need and vulnerability.

5. If you are <b>not</b> already considering the impact on e you <b>will need to carry out an impact assessment</b> .	quality, diversity, cohesion and integration
Date to scope and plan your impact assessment:	
Date to complete your impact assessment	
Lead person for your impact assessment	

(Include name and job title)				
6. Governance, ownership	and approval			
Please state here who has a	approved the actions and	outc	comes of the screening	
Name	Job title		Date	
Julie Longworth	Director of Children and Families			
Date screening completed				
7. Publishing				
			to equality the council <b>only</b> publishes legated Decisions or a Significant	
<ul> <li>A copy of this equality screening should be attached as an appendix to the decision making report:</li> <li>Governance Services will publish those relating to Executive Board and Full Council.</li> <li>The appropriate directorate will publish those relating to Delegated Decisions and Significant Operational Decisions.</li> <li>A copy of all other equality screenings that are not to be published should be sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk for record.</li> </ul>				
Complete the appropriate section below with the date the report and attached screening was sent:				
For Executive Board or Full Council – sent to Governance Services			e sent:	
For Delegated Decisions or Significant Operational Decisions – sent to appropriate <b>Directorate</b>			e sent:	

Date sent:

All other decisions – sent to equalityteam@leeds.gov.uk