

Towards the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2014

It is really important that everyone who wants to improve outcomes for children and young people in Leeds gets involved with the development of the Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2014 and this document explains how.

1. Summary

This page provides a brief background to inform discussion and preparation of the next Leeds Children and Young People's Plan.

This details:

- an assessment of current progress (paragraph 4);
- an overview of the changing context (paragraph 6);
- the process for how the plan will be developed (paragraph 7); and
- links to further information and contacts (paragraph 8).

2. Background

Since the Children Act, local authorities have a statutory duty to work with all their local partners to agree a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The CYPP is intended to be the single, over-arching strategy for improving outcomes for children and young people. In Leeds the first CYPP was developed in 2005 and approved in 2006. That first three year plan runs until March 2009.

It is vital that, to develop the new CYPP, **everyone** who wants outcomes for children and young people to improve contributes, including for example;

- Parents
- Young People and Children
- Carers
- Governors, Headteachers and Teachers
- Service Managers
- Frontline Staff
- Strategic Managers
- People from the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector

A **consultation/feedback form** is available by clicking [here](#) and we would urge you to complete this and to encourage your colleagues to do the same through discussion at any appropriate meetings, conferences or seminars you may attend.

3. Towards the new CYPP

Developing a new CYPP is a timely opportunity for us to take some time to reflect on where we are now, the progress we have made and the changing national and local context. We then need to use this learning to help us agree how best we can work together over the next few years to continue to improve the lives of the children and young people in Leeds. A new CYPP can then help provide a shared framework and focus for all partners in Children Leeds and help inform the work, planning and prioritisation of all.

To develop the new CYPP we will work within all parts of the Children's Trust Arrangements for example by; consulting through Open Forums and obtaining the

approval of the Partnership and Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board when key milestones are reached.

4. Where are we now?

Children and young people's outcomes are generally good and improving, and local children's services overall make a strong contribution to their success. Since the first CYPP in 2006 there has been significant progress on most of the agreed priorities and targets. Leeds has developed a distinctive local approach to children's services and has many examples of innovation and leading practice in providing support to children, young people and families. However, despite these many successes, challenges remain. The section below provides a brief overview:

More information is provided in these documents:

- [Children and Young People Plan review 2008](#)
- [Leeds Joint Area Review Report 2008](#)

<i>Outcome</i>	<i>Strengths</i>	<i>Areas for development</i>
<i>Be Healthy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy schools • Promotion of sport and activity • Improvements in breastfeeding rates • Reducing waiting times for mental health and sexual health services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing teenage conception rates • Reducing infant mortality rates
<i>Stay Safe</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some significant improvements in social care performance • Anti-Bullying strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the quality and timeliness of key assessments and reviews • Reducing the proportion of children and young people in care
<i>Enjoy and Achieve</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to GCSE results, particularly for targeted schools and groups • Improvements to learning outcomes in early years, quality of provision • Reductions in exclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising attendance in secondary schools, particularly reducing persistent absence • Reducing the proportion of pupils leaving schools with no qualifications
<i>Make a Positive Contribution</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in positive activities • Reductions in youth offending and re-offending • Arrangements for involving children and young people • Support for personal and social development in schools 	
<i>Achieve Economic Wellbeing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The range and quality of childcare support • Progress on regeneration and improving social housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising the proportion of young people in learning or work post-16 • Raising qualification levels at age 19 • Reducing child poverty
<i>Narrowing the Gap</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes and support for disabled children and young people • Improvements to GCSE results for some Black and Minority Ethnic Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving outcomes for Looked After Children and Young People • Improving outcomes for children and young people from deprived areas
<i>Service Management</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent progress in developing children's centres and extended services in schools • Good leadership and management overall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locality integration • Develop shared systems and processes

For more information see the [2008 review of the Children and Young People's Plan](#)

5. Our current priorities

ECM Outcome	Updated Priority wording: All children and young people are...
Be Healthy	Active and eat healthily
	Happy and resilient
	Able to make healthy choices about sex and relationships
Stay Safe	Safe in their families and safe in care
	Safe in their communities
Enjoy and Achieve	In school and achieving
	Able to make a good start in learning
Positive Contribution	Engaged in positive activities
Economic Wellbeing	Succeeding in learning or work
Narrowing the Gap	Able to succeed, whatever the barriers
Service Management	Supported by excellent, integrated services

For more information see the [2008 review of the Children and Young People's Plan](#)

6. The changing context

The new CYPP needs to reflect the changing local and national context for children's services in Leeds. In particular it needs to show how we will achieve the agreed local and national targets for improving outcomes in the city. These are explained in the section below:

6.1. The 'Leeds Approach'

As children's services have developed in Leeds, a clearer broad approach to how the city will develop its strategy has been developed and shared.

- *Personalisation*: making sure that services and support are tailored to the ambitions, needs and circumstances of the individual child, young person or family or the community they live in.
- *Participation*: developing services and strategy *with* children, young people and families rather than imposing a model.
- *Partnership*: working together to agree and deliver on shared aims at all levels, from citywide strategy groups to local partnerships around schools and communities to front line teams.
- *Prevention*: working to identify problems early, respond quickly and appropriately to needs as they change to avoid problems becoming severe, and more difficult and costly to resolve.
- *Safeguarding*: Fundamental to achieving our aims is the need for building a culture of safeguarding in everything we do – to ensure we all work to make children and young people safe and to promote their wellbeing. Safeguarding is an essential part of everyone's responsibility across the partnership.
- *The Universal Offer*: developing an enhanced and extended entitlement for all children, young people and families to excellent, tailored support and services. The

Universal Offer ranges from learning to advice and guidance and from family support to positive activities.

- *Narrowing the Gap*: in addition to an enhanced offer for all, it is important that services also build their capacity for providing additional support for those who need it most. Leeds' Children's Services are focused on narrowing the gap for those with the most barriers to achieving good outcomes, particularly Looked After Children and disabled children and young people.
- *Building resilience*: we know that to achieve our aims we need to build resilience – that is the ability of children and young people (as well as families and whole communities) to manage change and challenges effectively so they can thrive. Families and communities bring up children and local services can support them by “thinking family”.
- *Aspiring to excellence*: we need high expectations for what children and young people can achieve, as well as excellence in the services that work for them.
- *'Local leadership'*: local partners are central to our approach for delivering our change agenda. We want our services to be led locally, and for those staff and partners working closest with children, young people and families to have more control and lead the way forward.
- Further information is available in the [2008 review of the Children and Young People's Plan](#).

- *The National Agenda*

- Central government and the new Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) have been developing new strategies and plans at considerable pace over the past year. The main documents are the DCSF Children's Plan but there is also a wider range of new plans, policies and strategies already released or planned on issues such as safeguarding, offending and children's health. The Leeds CYPP will need to set out our local response to these new directives and directions. The key developments include:
- *Parents and family*: the government is placing new emphasis on the role of parents and families, aiming to give them more support, advice and information, particularly for those facing the most challenges.
- *Social exclusion and poverty*: there is an additional emphasis on narrowing the gap and reducing inequality, and continued commitment to eliminating child poverty
- *Happy and healthy*: the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) is placing much more importance on promoting play and wellbeing, reflecting their consultation with children and families.
- *Changes and continuity for schools*: the Children's Plan offers both a new emphasis on schools as a centre for extended services and partnership working whilst retaining a traditional focus on the standards agenda, heightened through the recent 'National Challenge' for secondary schools below floor targets.
- *'On the path to success'*: this new priority for the DCSF brings together a range of issues for teenagers, including drugs and alcohol, teenage pregnancy and anti-social behavior. The key response to this is developing targeted youth services for those most at risk.
- *Partnerships and governance*: the government remains concerned with changing the way local services work together, both within schools, in children's trusts and new regional arrangements for learning and skills.

- *Workforce development:* there is a wide national agenda aimed at supporting and changing the workforce in children's services, with a particular focus on developing common competencies and shared approaches across professions.

Further information is available in the:

- [Department of Children Schools and Families Children's Plan](#)
- [The new Every Child Matters Framework](#)
- [Next steps for the Children's Workforce Document](#)

6.2. Wider context

The new CYPP also needs to include a response to wider local and national factors, including:

- *Economic change:* the Comprehensive Spending Review in 2007 saw significant reductions in funding growth for local services. These changes, and the wider economic downturn, will require a stronger focus on efficiency and prioritisation.
- *Social and demographic change:* the population of Leeds has seen significant changes, in particular with a significant growth in the estimated overall population of the city to 750,000, and a major increase in the number of new migrant communities.

6.3. Local and national targets

The new CYPP will have to show our strategy for achieving the local and national targets set out for children's services. The Leeds Strategic Plan sets out targets for the city from 2008 to 2011 and the DCSF Children's Plan sets out ambitious 'Goals for 2020'. The main targets include:

6.4. Local targets including:

- Teenage conception
- Emotional health
- Numbers of Looked After Children and Young People
- Placements and reviews for Looked After Children
- Bullying
- Statutory Education Targets from Foundation Stage to GCSE, with additional targets for Looked After Children
- Statutory Education Targets for Persistent Absence and Attendance
- Qualifications at 19
- Availability of PE

6.5. National targets for 2020:

- 90% of young people achieving national achievement standards at Foundation Stage and Key Stage 2, 70% achieving the equivalent of A-Levels
- Child Poverty eradicated
- Obesity reduced to 2000 levels

More detail on the targets and current performance is available in the:

- [Department for Children Schools and Families Children's Plan](#)
- [2008 Review of the Children and Young People's Plan](#)

The Local Area Agreement Targets and final version of the Leeds Strategic Plan will also be available as soon as they are published.

7. Towards the new CYPP – next steps

7.1. The process for developing the new CYPP.

There will be an ongoing consultation process throughout the development of the new CYPP, this will begin in early July. As well as asking for the views of everyone across the Partnership and of children and young people, we will also draw from and build on information from a range of sources, for example the in depth work that has been done to develop the [2006 – 2009 Children and Young People's Plan](#) and it's [2008 annual review](#), the recent Joint Area Review preparation, [report](#) and action plan, the Needs Analysis, agreed targets and previous surveys and consultations.

7.2. Overall timelines

Month	Process
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The process for developing outline priorities is initiated
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with partners across the city begins
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with partners across the city continues
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First stage of the on going consultation process completed by 30th September • Consultation to develop priorities with children and young people, to be undertaken during September
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priorities agreed and consulted on through the Children Leeds Partnership • Priorities to inform budget and commissioning processes • Six Month Review of progress against 2008 CYPP review
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detail on key actions and targets developed • Draft plan published for consultation
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By mid December the consultation on the draft CYPP (2009 – 14) will be complete
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Draft of the CYPP (2009 – 14) completed
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP (2009 – 14) approved by Children Leeds Partnership and the Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CYPP approved by Leeds City Council's Executive Board.

7.3. Consultation

We would like as wide a range of people and groups from across Children Leeds to be involved in developing the new Children and Young People's Plan. Please complete the [feedback form](#) and return it to children.leeds@leeds.gov.uk by 30th September 2008.

8. Contacts

For more information please contact Leigh Walker at:

children.leeds@leeds.gov.uk

Or telephone:

(0113) 22 43965

Or go to www.childrenleeds.org.uk

**Thank you for your participation in the review process.
Your views are important.**