

An update on the refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan

Date: Wednesday 07 September 2022

Report of: Director of Children and Families

Report to: Scrutiny Board (Children and Families)

Will the decision be open for call in? Yes No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

Brief summary

The 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 Plan is being refreshed, with a formal consultation exercise planned for October.

Proposed changes include merging two obsessions and introducing a new health-focused obsession; and a change to the wording of the vision.

Recommendations

The Children and Families Scrutiny Board is recommended to offer views on the proposals for renewing the Leeds Children and Young People's Plan, relating to:

- a) The content of the plan, especially the vision and the obsession.
- b) The consultation and timetable for developing and approving the plan.
- c) The implementation and monitoring of the plan.

What is this report about?

- 1 The 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 Plan is being refreshed, with a formal consultation exercise planned for October. The results from this consultation will inform the development of the refreshed Plan, which will be approved at Full Council in the summer of 2023.
- 2 An initial discussion was held with Scrutiny in June 2022 where a request was made to provide Scrutiny with an update before the consultation questions were confirmed so that Scrutiny could offer further views. Appendix two contains a list of the proposed changes, on which the questions for the consultation will be developed. The proposed changes continue the approach taken in the refreshes of the Plan over the last ten years, with an evolution for each iteration whilst remaining true to the principles of Outcome Based Accountability, which is the framework that underpins the CYPP.

What impact will this proposal have?

- 3 The CYPP is the shared vision for everyone working with children and young people in Leeds. The refreshed plan will set out the key 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 required the most support and intervention.

How does this proposal impact the three pillars of the Best City Ambition?

Health and Wellbeing

Inclusive Growth

Zero Carbon

- 4 The current CYPP has priorities and measures that align to two of the three pillars. Part of the consultation for the refresh of the CYPP will ask how the plan can contribute to the zero carbon pillar. Currently there is accompanying work being undertaken on defining Best City ambitions for Leeds, linked to the three pillar strategies. We will ensure the CYPP is joined up with this work and the measures that represent our ambitions are consistent.

What consultation and engagement has taken place?

Wards affected:

Have ward members been consulted?

Yes

No

- 5 The CYPP is a citywide, partnership, plan and therefore affects all wards. A formal consultation exercise is planned for the autumn of 2022. This will be an online questionnaire that will be shared with all elected members, as well as children and young people, Council officers, members of the children's partnership in Leeds, and the general public.

What are the resource implications?

- 6 There are no specific resource implications from this report.

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

- 7 There are no inherent risks within the CYPP. Regular reporting is the 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.

What are the legal implications?

- 8 There is no requirement for this report, or the CYPP, to be subject to call in as it is on the financial and policy framework.

Options, timescales and measuring success

What other options were considered?

- 9 In the four years since the CYPP was last refreshed both the local and national context have significantly altered. The CYPP requires a refresh to acknowledge the significant changes that have affected children and young people in recent year as well as establishing the partnership's response to those issues. The CYPP has guided the children's partnership throughout the last ten years 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.

How will success be measured?

- 10 The current iteration of the CYPP has twenty performance measures that have been identified as some of the most important measures to monitor as progress in these areas should help drive improvements in other areas that affect children and young people. These measures will be reviewed during the refresh process to ensure that they remain relevant and focused on the most important areas.

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

- 11 The formal online consultation is planned for six weeks, starting in October. The results will be analysed and incorporated into a draft refreshed CYPP in the early weeks of 2023. The Director of Children's Services is responsible for the Plan's implementation.

Appendices

- Appendix one contains the current CYPP.
- Appendix two contains the proposed changes to the CYPP. The formal consultation questions will be based on this appendix. One of the main changes is the proposed merging of two obsessions (improve achievement, attainment, and attendance at school; reduce the number of young people no in education, employment or training) into a new learning destinations obsession, and the introduction of a health-focused obsession. The children looked after obsession will remain unchanged. There is also a proposal to change the wording of the vision, to reference 'play' and 'fun'.

Background papers

- There are no additional papers for this report.

Appendix one: the 2018-2023 Children and Young People's Plan

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

Four behaviours

Listening to the voice of the child
Working restoratively: doing things with families instead of to them, for them or doing nothing
Using outcome based accountability to measure our progress and challenge whether anyone is better off
We support and prioritise children and young people to have fun growing up

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: **781,700**
Including **189,600** children and young people aged up to 19 (269,500 aged under 25)
270 state-funded schools
195 different languages spoken in Leeds schools

Working together

The Child Friendly Leeds initiative's ambition 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 Children and Families Trust Board, and a Leeds Safeguarding Children Partnership. They bring senior people together from the main organisations working with children and young people to make sure the work we do keeps children safe, and has a positive impact on improving outcomes. We work with schools, governors, police, the youth service, the youth offending service, children's centres, housing services, third sector, health, and local councillors, amongst others, to help make a difference to the lives of children and young people who live in Leeds.

Find out more

Visit www.leeds.gov.uk/childfriendlyleeds for more information about our work
Follow us on Twitter: [@Child_Leeds](https://twitter.com/Child_Leeds)
For information about 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 help by being a Child Friendly Leeds supporter, ambassador or partner, email childfriendlyleeds@leeds.gov.uk



Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2023

we are child friendly Leeds

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



Leeds
CITY COUNCIL

Making Leeds a child friendly city

Leeds Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2023

What we'll do

1

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. We want Leeds to be a child friendly city. Through our vision and obsessions we invest in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city. We aim to improve outcomes for all our children whilst recognising the need for outcomes to improve faster for children and young people from vulnerable and deprived backgrounds.

5

Five outcomes

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

- All children and young people:
1. are safe from harm
 2. do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life
 3. enjoy healthy lifestyles
 4. have fun growing up
 5. are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence

11

Eleven priorities

1. Help children and parents to live in safe, supportive and loving families
2. Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected
3. Support families to give children the best start in life
4. Increase the number of children and young people participating and engaging in learning
5. Improve achievement and attainment for all
6. Improve at a faster rate educational progress for children and young people
7. Improve social, emotional, and mental health and wellbeing outcomes
8. Encourage physical activity and healthy eating behaviours
9. Support young people to make good choices and minimise risk-taking behaviours
10. Help young people into adulthood, to develop life skills, and be ready for work
11. Improve access to affordable, safe, and reliable connected transport for young people

3

Three obsessions

1. Safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after
2. Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training
3. Improve achievement, attainment and attendance at school

Helping deliver the Best Council Plan and our Best City ambition of a strong economy in a compassionate city

How we'll do it



Behaviours that underpin everything we do

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

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

We listen and respond to the voice of the child

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

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

1. Number of children looked after
2. Number of children subject to a child protection plan
3. Number of parents that have had more than one child enter care at different times
4. Number of children in need
5. Pupils achieving a good level of development at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (end of reception year)
6. Infant mortality rates
7. Newly created school places in good and outstanding schools
8. School attendance
9. Fixed-term exclusions from schools
10. Pupils reaching the expected standard at the end of Key Stage 2 (end of year six)
11. Progress 8 score for Leeds at the end of Key Stage 4 (end of year 11)
12. Destinations of young people with special educational needs and/or a disability when they leave school
13. Progress against measures in the Future in Mind dashboard
14. Children that are a healthy weight at age 11
15. Young offenders that re-offend
16. Under-18 conception rates
17. Under-18 alcohol-related hospital admissions
18. 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'
20. Transport for young people indicator to be developed after further discussions with young people



Appendix two: proposed changes to the CYPP

General comments	
1.	Revisit the wording to update it, accepting that much of the content is ten years old
2.	Incorporate equality, diversity, and inclusion into the plan in a meaningful way, possibly in the 'how we'll do it' section. Including being specific and supportive of the needs of LGBT+ young people.
3.	The revised CYPP will reflect how we support children and young people through the recovery from the Covid-19 Pandemic and the disruption and impact this has had on their lives.
4.	Emphasise that the CYPP is consistent with our commitment to becoming a Marmot City. Addressing the social determinates of health and tackling health inequalities. The initial focus in Leeds will be on taking a Marmot approach to supporting families to give children the best start in life.
The Vision	
5.	<p>Revisit the wording of the Vision, to incorporate play and fun:</p> <p>Current 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. We want Leeds to be a child friendly city. Through our vision and obsessions we invest in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city. We aim to improve outcomes for all our children whilst recognising the need for outcomes to improve faster for children and young people from vulnerable and deprived backgrounds</p> <p>Proposed 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. We want Leeds to be a child friendly city where children live in loving and nurturing families. Through our vision and obsessions we invest in children and young people to help build an increasingly prosperous and successful city by providing opportunities for play and for having fun, as well as improving outcomes and providing young people with the skills for life</p>
The three obsessions	
6.	Retain the children looked after obsession, no change
7.	Combine the attendance/achievement, and NEET obsessions into a new learning destinations obsession
8.	Consider the introduction of a new, health-focused obsession
The five outcomes	
9.	Retain all five priorities, with minimal changes
10.	Outcome three is all children and young people enjoy healthy lifestyles. We are proposing to change it to all children and young people enjoy healthy lives
The eleven priorities	
11.	Introduce a climate emergency priority
12.	Review priority 20 (transport for young people), expanding it to focus on sustainable transport (eg walking to school, using public transport, encouraging cycling)
The twenty measures	
13.	Does the learning destinations obsession require a measure on phonics screening?
14.	Replace measure 13 (progress against the Future In Mind dashboard) with a more appropriate measure
15.	Should a measure be introduced that indicates the impact of poverty on children and young people? What would this be?