

CABINET

21 May 2009

HAMPSHIRE'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009 – 2012 –  
FORMAL SIGN UP BY WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

REPORT OF HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNICATION AND  
IMPROVEMENT

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RECENT REFERENCES:

CAB1725 'Winchester District Children and Young People's Partnership – Progress and Action Plan' – 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides details of the new Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012 and, in accordance with the Council's statutory duty to co-operate with the lead authority, asks Cabinet to confirm formal sign up by Winchester City Council to achievement of the key outcomes set out in the plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 That Cabinet confirms formal sign up by Winchester City Council to the Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012.
- 2 That the Head of Partnerships, Communication and Improvement, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Safety, be authorised to agree the City Council's input into the Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan 2009 - 2012 on the basis set out in this report.

## CABINET

21 May 2009

### HAMPSHIRE'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009 – 2012 – FORMAL SIGN UP BY WINCHESTER CITY COUNCIL

### REPORT OF HEAD OF PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNICATION AND IMPROVEMENT

#### DETAIL:

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 A new Children and Young People's Plan for Hampshire was officially launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Covering the three year period 2009 – 2012, it sets the direction and priorities for services for children, young people and families across the County. A link to the full plan and a range of useful supporting information is given below:-

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/about-cs/cypp.htm>

A quick read version of the plan is shown at Appendix A. Hard copies of the plan will be placed in the Members Room when received from the County Council.

- 1.2 In order to foster ownership of the priorities and co-operation in helping to achieve the outcomes within the plan, Cabinet is asked to confirm formal sign up to the plan by the City Council. The legislative framework for the provision of services to children, young people and their families was provided in a report to Cabinet in 2008 – report CAB1725 'Winchester District Children and Young People's Partnership – Progress Report and Action Plan' 15<sup>th</sup> October 2008. In particular, Members will recall that district and borough councils have a statutory duty under the terms of the Children Act 2004, to co-operate with the lead authority and to work with a range of other partners in their respective areas to achieve better outcomes for children.
- 1.3 In line with our statutory responsibilities, Cabinet is being asked to confirm the City Council's support for the principles of the Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan with our own contribution either already in divisional Business Plans or to be developed over the three year period covered by the plan.
- 1.4 Members will recall that the Winchester District has robust partnership arrangements in place clearly aligned to the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement (LAA) targets, and embedded within the Local Strategic Partnership structure.

- 1.5 At a local level the Winchester District Children and Young People Partnership (WDCYPP) takes the lead role in implementation of the plan. It does this by translating the countywide priorities into a district Children and Young People's Plan which outlines specific actions and targets to meet local needs. The priorities set out in the district action plan 2008 – 2011, which was presented to Cabinet in CAB1725, will be refreshed and updated by the WDCYPP over the next month or so. The structure of the plan will also be amended to ensure a clear alignment with the Hampshire Improvement Plan which can be accessed via the web link shown in paragraph 1.1 above. A very early draft of the district plan will be considered by the partnership at its next meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> May. In headline terms the key provisional priorities include:-

- (1) Intergenerational work
- (2) Addressing teenage pregnancy
- (3) Targeted multi agency work with Children in Care in the district
- (4) Mini UNICEF research project
- (5) Play - refresh of the District Play Strategy, delivering Year 2 of 'It's OK to Play'
- (6) Transport
- (7) Domestic Abuse – awareness raising in schools
- (8) Children's Centres – supporting phase 3 roll out
- (9) Extended Services – support the development of extended services in schools throughout the district
- (10) Local Democracy project

The City Council has a pivotal role on the partnership and as such will be involved with each priority to an extent. However, it is anticipated that it will take a leading role in priority numbers 1, 4, 5, and 10. External funding is already in place to support priority numbers 1, 4 and 5. The Community Wellbeing Manager is currently pursuing appropriate funding streams to support the local democracy project which is being planned for Thursday October 15<sup>th</sup> as part of Local Democracy Week. Detailed project plans will be developed through the WDCYPP in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

- 1.6 Cabinet is asked to delegate authority to agree the City Council's input into the plan to the Head of Partnerships, Communication and Improvement in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Safety.

## 2 Consultation Process

- 2.1 In order to ensure 'top down' and 'bottom up' ownership of the HCYPP at all levels, it was imperative that all partners were involved in the drafting of the plan at an early stage. The plan has been subject to a rigorous consultation process beginning in September 2008 with a number of small focus groups, including one specifically for children and young people. The main consultation period from November 2008 – January 2009 included online questionnaires, and partner and stakeholder events. Consultations focussed on testing out and challenging draft outcomes and priorities for the plan.
- 2.2 Where possible partner feedback has been incorporated into the final plan. In addition, a series of amendments were made to the plan in direct response to the consultation exercise:-
- A section making a series of 'promises' to children and young people was removed and replaced by a section translating the priorities into actions.
  - The layout of the plan was restructured to improve the flow.
  - A quick read summary version and a children and young people's version have been produced. A fourth version for children and young people with learning disabilities is also planned.

## 3 Vision and Priorities

- 3.1 The Vision set out in the HCYPP states that:-
- "Every child and young person in Hampshire has the best possible start in life and develops to their full potential."**
- 3.2 The plan also promotes an agreed set of priorities:-
1. Reducing the incidence and impact of poverty on the achievement and life chances of children and young people.
  2. Securing children and young people's physical, spiritual, social, emotional and mental health, promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing inequalities.
  3. Providing opportunities to learn that raise children and young people's aspirations, encouraging excellence and enable them to achieve beyond their expectations.
  4. Ensuring that children and young people are safe and feel safe, enabling them to build resilience and personal confidence.
  5. Providing vocational, leisure and recreational activities that provide positive opportunities to experience success and build resilience.

6. Removing barriers to access, participation and achievement and not tolerating discrimination and abuse.

- 3.3 In terms of monitoring progress the full version of the HCYPP contains a detailed improvement plan setting out how performance against targets will be measured. It also maps priorities against national Children's Plan goals, the five Every Child Matters (ECM) outcomes and any relevant national indicators.

#### 4 Children's Trusts

- 4.1 The Hampshire Children's Trust (formerly the Hampshire Children and Young People's Management Board) 'owns' the HCYPP and is the body responsible for delivery of the plan. Essentially it brings together in a partnership setting all organisations responsible for services for children, young people and their families in Hampshire. The County Council, through the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services, leads the Trust and is ultimately responsible by statute for its performance. Currently, district and borough councils in Hampshire have two seats on the Trust.
- 4.2 The term 'Children's Trust' applies to the whole system of children's services and covers the work of all partner agencies at every level. The WDCYPP effectively acts as a 'Children's Trust' operating at district level.
- 4.3 In 2008 the Government published new statutory guidance on Children's Trust arrangements. In addition, the recent 'Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Bill' extends the statutory relevant partners with a 'duty to co-operate' to maintained schools (and Academies), Sixth Form and Further Education Colleges and Job Centre Plus.
- 4.4 Discussions are already underway regarding the future structure of Children's Trust arrangements in Hampshire. The City Council is currently actively engaged with the debate with a view to ensuring that any new proposals preserve and build on existing good practice, and also enables the Council to fulfil its community leadership role and statutory obligations.

#### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

##### 5 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY & CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN (RELEVANCE TO):

- 5.1 The City Council works in partnership with others to 'promote the wellbeing of every child and young person in the Winchester District, whatever their background or circumstances, by delivering the five Every Child Matters key outcomes – be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic wellbeing'. Sustainable Community Strategy 2009 – 2014.

## 6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 There are no direct resource implications arising immediately out of this report over and above the level of officer support currently provided to this area of work. As mentioned in paragraph 1.4 above external funding is already in place to support priorities 1, 4, and 5. Appropriate funding streams will be sought for other projects as detailed action plans are developed.

## 7 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 7.1 Failure to sign up to the HCYPP could compromise the City Council's statutory responsibilities as defined by the Children Act 2004.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

Copies of any plans and background documents mentioned in this report are available from the Community Wellbeing Manager.

## APPENDICES:

Appendix A Hampshire Children & Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012 – quick read version

# Hampshire's Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 12

Quick-read version



**Hampshire**  
County Council

## Quick-read version



**This booklet provides an overview of Hampshire's Children and Young People's Plan for 2009-12.**

### **Every Hampshire child *really does matter***

This Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) identifies six priorities for all those working with children and young people in Hampshire. These have been developed through an analysis of need and consultation with children, young people, their parents/carers and all Children's Trust partners. Furthermore, all priorities align to the *Every Child Matters* outcomes and national Children's Plan 2020 goals ([www.dcsf.gov.uk/childrensplan](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/childrensplan)).

### **Vision and priorities**

#### **The vision**

Making Hampshire a better place for children and young people, where all of them, including those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged, have the best possible start in life and are supported by the whole community to reach their potential.

Hampshire Children's Trust is committed to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and to the Declaration on Child Well-being in the UK, which aims to improve the well-being of all children and young people.

#### **The priorities**

The CYPP identifies six priorities for all those working with children and young people in Hampshire:

1. Reducing the incidence and impact of poverty on the achievement and life chances of children and young people.
2. Securing children and young people's physical, spiritual, social, emotional and mental health, promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing inequalities.
3. Providing opportunities to learn that raise children and young people's aspirations, encourage excellence and enable them to enjoy and achieve beyond their expectations.
4. Ensuring that children and young people are safe and feel safe, enabling them to build resilience and personal confidence.
5. Providing vocational, leisure and recreational activities that provide opportunities for children and young people to experience success and make a positive contribution.
6. Removing barriers to access, participation and achievement, and not tolerating discrimination and abuse.

## Making it happen

To deliver this CYPP, Hampshire Children's Trust will strive to further improve the way services for children and young people are planned and delivered. These improvements will emerge from a range of processes, including:

- engaging children, young people and their families in the planning, delivery and evaluation of services;
- building strong and inclusive Children's Trust arrangements;
- strengthening of early intervention and prevention strategies, including closer working between all partners;
- rigorous and robust local safeguarding arrangements;
- professional development opportunities to build the skills, expertise and capacity of the children's workforce in Hampshire.



## Working together

This CYPP represents a shared commitment to unlocking the potential of every child and young person, to providing the support that enables success in their adult lives and making Hampshire a better place in which to enjoy childhood.

Children's Trust partners and other stakeholders all have a part to play in improving the lives of children and young people, by working together and accepting responsibility for specific actions within this Plan.

The CYPP includes an improvement plan that establishes a series of key actions for delivery of the six priorities. Divided into clear sub-sections for each priority, the Improvement Plan identifies the lead partners responsible for supporting targets under each area ([www.hants.gov.uk/cypp](http://www.hants.gov.uk/cypp)).

## Making the priorities a reality

The success of this plan will be demonstrated by how well the priorities are met and the extent to which they are shared and understood by children and young people, and by partners. To enable this, the priorities have been translated into actions for all children and young people, parents and carers, local communities and vulnerable children and young people.

### What the priorities mean for all children and young people

- Working with you to ensure that you receive an excellent education and enjoy opportunities for learning and play in school and the wider community.

- Involving you in decision making so that services are relevant and easy to access.
- Learning from, and working with, you and your parents and carers so that, together, we can do the best for you.
- Protecting you from harm and promoting your safety and well-being.
- Celebrating your achievements and responding quickly when you need support, so that you have every opportunity to be a successful learner, confident individual and responsible citizen.

#### What the priorities mean for all parents and carers

- Working with you as a key partner, based on the recognition that parents and carers bring up children and young people and that the home environment you create is the crucial influence on your children's well-being.
- Making information, advice and support available to you, including parenting courses and family learning opportunities, if and when needed.
- Engaging you fully in the planning, commissioning and monitoring of services, particularly through schools, Sure Start Children's Centres, parent groups, parenting services and practitioners.
- Providing access to sufficient and affordable childcare that meets your needs.
- Supporting service families by addressing issues of school admission and improving access to local services and amenities.

#### What the priorities mean for local communities

- Supporting stronger, safer and healthier communities through closer working with community and voluntary organisations, recognising their role and vital contribution to community engagement and well-being.
- Protecting vulnerable people and tackling crime and anti-social behaviour to ensure that areas are safe and welcoming to people of all ages and backgrounds.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles and reducing health inequalities.
- Maximising well-being, maintaining and improving quality of life and working to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to be active in their community.
- Providing access to community based learning and services and offering support when needed.
- Working with rural communities to deliver the vision outlined in Hampshire County Council's Rural Delivery Strategy ([www3.hants.gov.uk/rh/rural](http://www3.hants.gov.uk/rh/rural)).
- Enhancing the quality of place, making Hampshire a good place to live by protecting local distinctiveness and diversity, providing excellent facilities, respecting Hampshire's heritage and proactively planning for the future.
- Developing children and young people's sense of belonging by encouraging them to contribute to, and take responsibility for, their local community.

## Vulnerable groups

The CYPP priorities are aimed at improving outcomes for all children and young people; with a focus on reducing inequalities and narrowing the gap between vulnerable groups and their peers. Vulnerable groups include children and young people who are:

- living in relative poverty;
- in care;
- disadvantaged because of learning difficulties and/or disabilities;
- young carers;
- victims of neglect or abuse;
- black, minority, ethnic, Traveller or are facing barriers to participation or experiencing prejudice and discrimination because of their ethnic background (including refugees and asylum seekers);
- at risk because of mental health problems;
- young parents;
- lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender;
- young offenders.



The CYPP aims to prevent and reduce the impact of these issues through the delivery of the priorities. In particular, Hampshire's Children's Trust will use available resources to ensure that children and young people affected by these issues are able to reach their potential, enjoy success at school and can look forward to further and higher education, training and employment. Services will work together to keep vulnerable children and young people safe from harm and take action to prevent and stop abuse, including all forms of discrimination.

## Putting their needs first

The guiding principle to improving services is to put the needs of children, young people and families first and ensure provision is both seamless and of the highest quality.

Improved outcomes depend on effective co-ordination and use of resources. As Hampshire's Children's Trust develops, it will move to align budgets and streamline the way resources are commissioned, as well as making it easier to identify partners' contribution to the delivery of the CYPP.

Unlocking the potential and securing the well-being of every child and young person can only be delivered by skilled and motivated staff. Hampshire's Children's Trust will develop an integrated workforce strategy, establishing the long term vision for joint working and professional development across a range of partners.

## Staying on track

Progress against the CYPP will be monitored twice yearly by Hampshire's Children's Trust. As part of the monitoring process, there will be an annual refresh of the needs assessment and associated outcomes and actions to ensure that the Plan remains relevant and appropriate.

Further information on the following can be accessed online:

- Children's Trusts - [www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/aims/childrenstrusts](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/aims/childrenstrusts)
- UN Convention on the Rights of the Child - [www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/uncrc](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/uncrc)
- Declaration on Child Well-being in the UK - [www.childwellbeing.org.uk](http://www.childwellbeing.org.uk)
- Hampshire Local Area Agreement - [www.hants.gov.uk/localareaagreement](http://www.hants.gov.uk/localareaagreement)

You can view the full Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12 online at [www.hants.gov.uk/cypp](http://www.hants.gov.uk/cypp) or request a hard copy by contacting [childrens.services.enquiries@hants.gov.uk](mailto:childrens.services.enquiries@hants.gov.uk) or 01962 845375

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