

10 September 2012

Agenda Item: 7

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND
CULTURAL SERVICES**

REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES PLAN

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval of the 2012-13 annual review of Nottinghamshire's Children, Young People and Families Plan 2011-14 **(attached for Committee Members only)**.
2. Subject to approval by the Committee, the updated Plan will be published in September 2012.

Information and Advice

3. The Children, Young People and Families Plan 2011-14 (CYPF Plan) is the joint strategic plan of Nottinghamshire Children's Trust. Nottinghamshire Children's Trust is a partnership of organisations that provide services to children, young people or families in Nottinghamshire, enabling the planning and delivery of joint working and co-operative arrangements. Although there is no longer a statutory requirement to produce such a plan, the Children's Trust has taken the view that a plan is needed to provide clarity about activities and responsibilities and manage performance improvement for the Trust.
4. The Plan was approved by the County Council in September 2011 and is included in the Policy Framework of the County Council. Approval was also given to the intention to review the Plan annually.
5. The Plan sets out the strategy for the Council with specified partners in relation to the services for children and young people aged 0-19 years, young people aged 20 years and over leaving care and young people up to the age of 25 years with learning difficulties. It describes how the Children's Trust will deliver its statutory responsibility, as defined in the Children Act 2004, to co-operate to safeguard children and to promote their well-being. It also outlines joint commissioning priorities for Nottinghamshire Children's Trust, reporting to the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board for Nottinghamshire.
6. The Plan is the single overarching strategic plan covering services for children and young people in Nottinghamshire, as represented on the Children's Trust Board. It does not detail all the services of the agencies within the Children's Trust but focuses on co-

ordinated planning or commissioning to improve outcomes for children and young people.

7. The CYPF Plan identifies seven priorities for action, which describe specific activities that partners will undertake. The Children's Trust has reviewed these priorities to ensure that they remain current and that they continue to reflect the local or national situation and the policies of the County Council and partner agencies. Following this review, the overall priorities remain unchanged, with minor amendments to nomenclature to clarify their intention. The action plans supporting with these priorities have been updated to set out the Children's Trust planned activities for 2012-13.
8. The seven priorities for action within the CYPF Plan are :
 - Continue to improve our early intervention services to ensure that children, young people and families in the greatest need receive appropriate support
 - Sustain and build on improvements made in safeguarding
 - Improve effectiveness of services for disabled children
 - Implement the Child and Family Poverty Strategy for Nottinghamshire
 - Reduce achievement gap at all key stages
 - Raise achievement at age 16-19 and promote the employment of young people aged 18- 24
 - Improve children and young people's emotional well-being.
9. The CYPF Plan 2011-14 was developed by the County Council and partner agencies through the Children's Trust, and in consultation with Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB). The main evidence base for the planning was a detailed refresh of the children's chapter of Nottinghamshire's Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA), which was undertaken in 2010, and which included demographic analyses and consultation with service users. Evaluation of the performance of the County Council's services, and that of partner organisations, as well as inspection findings, also informed planning activities. This 2012-13 annual review of this Plan has been developed in consultation with Children's Trust partner agencies.

Other Options Considered

10. The intention to review the CYPF Plan annually was approved by the County Council in September 2012. At that time, the possibility of operating without a joint strategic plan was considered, but it was considered that this would have created the risk that co-operative working would be unco-ordinated and ineffective.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

11. The CYPF Plan 2011-14 has been devised on the basis of a rigorous needs analysis and with extensive consultation across the Children's Trust and has been approved by the County Council. This process included agreement to an annual review of this Plan.

Statutory and Policy Implications

12. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, equal opportunities, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the

safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Implications for Service Users

13. The principal service users affected are children, young people and their families, as the CYPF Plan identifies the over-arching strategy and associated action plans for the delivery of services to them in 2011-14. The detail of this is set out in the plan document.

Financial Implications

14. Activities identified within the 2012-13 review of the CYPF Plan will be financed by existing budget allocations for 2012-13.

Equalities Implications

15. The development of the CYPF Plan included an Equality Impact Assessment. This concluded that the plan was likely to have a positive impact for service users, as it aims to reduce inequality across all protected groups, by identifying need and working together to address this, within available resources.

Crime and Disorder Implications

16. The CYPF Plan identifies the Children's Trust commitment to supporting work to address crime and disorder, while recognising that responsibility for this work rests with the Safer Nottinghamshire Board.

Safeguarding of Children Implications

17. The CYPF Plan identifies how partner organisations within the Children's Trust will work together to safeguard children and promote their welfare. The detail of this is set out in the plan document.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the revised and updated version of Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14 be approved.

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Constitutional Comments (LM 13/08/12)

18. The proposed changes do not constitute a change to the agreed priorities within the Plan and therefore do not require approval by Policy Committee. The Children and Young People's Committee has delegated authority to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (NDR 09/08/12)

19. The financial implications are considered in paragraph 14 of the report.

Background Papers

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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