

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: JOINT MEETING OF THE LIFELONG LEARNING
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AND
SOCIAL AND HEALTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE

DATE: 29 MARCH 2012

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING

SUBJECT: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2011-2014
"MAKING A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE"

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform members of progress and achievements within the Children and Young People's (CYP) plan 2011 -2014 'Making a Positive Difference' which is the document which records what work needs to be done, and by whom, to achieve improved outcomes for children, young people and families in Flintshire.

2.00 BACKGROUND

The Welsh Government (WG) requires every Welsh County to develop and deliver on a plan which sets out the priority areas and actions needed to deliver improved outcomes for all children, young people and families as a part of the Children Act 2004. 'Making a Positive Difference' is for everyone aged 0 – 19 years in Flintshire, as well as to youth services, and services provided to young people leaving care up to the age of 25 years. Our vision for the 2011 -2014 plan is "All Flintshire children, young people and families will be safe, healthy and free from poverty, disadvantage and inequalities of opportunity". The Children and Young People's Plan has identified shared priorities with the Health Social Care and Well-being strategy.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

This review report contains examples of achievements relating to the seven Action Area priorities contained within the CYP Plan.

ACTION AREA ONE - examples of actions for area one 2011 - 2012

Children and young people are cared for

- Implementation of the Parenting Action Plan
- Rolling programme of Parenting support programmes delivered
- Multi agency staff achieved the National Occupational Standards in parenting to enhance workforce skills

- Updated parenting strategy to support CYPP Plan
- Further development of the Flying start programme
- Team Around the Family team recruited and programme developed.

ACTION AREA TWO – examples of actions 2011 - 2012

Children and Young People are ready able and encouraged to learn

Developed Flying Start, Surestart and Genesis projects

- Actively enabled access to formal and informal education provision for disabled children and young people to promote inclusion
- Supported Menter Iaith/Urdd Gobaith Cymru organisations to develop well attended bilingual Youth provision
- Promoted Team Around the Family referral to services training to various learning support staff

ACTION AREA THREE - examples of actions 2011 - 2012

Children and Young People have a healthy lifestyle

- Engage in the Creating an Active Flintshire programme
- Continue to support targeted programmes e.g. active 8 – 16 programme
- Support the Healthy Schools Programme delivery
- Encourage schemes to promote smoke free futures for young people
- Engage in obesity pathway prevention group(Public Health Wales led)
- Utilise Team around the Family approach to support healthy lifestyles

ACTION AREA FOUR- examples of actions 2011 - 2012

Children and Young people have time and space to play and participate in activities

- Engaged in European year of the volunteer opportunities for volunteering and accreditation.

- Delivered 'summer playschemes' and 'buddy scheme' supported by Flintshire's play unit.
- Enhanced bilingual play and youth provision via Twf, Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin, Menter Iaith and Urdd Gobaith Cymru.
- Utilised the WG 'participation strategy' to underpin all informal learning opportunities.
- Enable skills development via Genesis/Quest and Families First

ACTION AREA FIVE - examples of actions 2011 – 2012

Children and young people are respected in all areas of their lives

- Engaged young people in recruitment of the TAF Co coordinator post in September 2011
- Engaged young people in the development of the Families First plan for Flintshire service shaping and delivery.
- Delivered 'Young people say' sessions
- Developed appropriate methodology to consult with young people for the 21st century schools programme
- Continue to support Us Ultd social enterprise programme
- Bilingual students have worked with the CYPP to develop a DVD as the children and young people friendly version of the CYPP Plan. This has enabled access to the CYPP Plan message for all children, young people and families in a children and young people friendly approach.
- An updated participation strategy has been introduced in 2011 to support the CYPP Plan. The CYPP reaching out document support this.
- Develop cultural links with gypsy traveller communities to engage young people in participation agenda.

ACTION AREA SIX

Children and young people are safe - examples of actions 2011 - 2012

- Development of a multi agency approach to reduce the risk of care leavers, and other young people becoming homeless.
- Strong links with the Local Safeguarding Children Board the B.C.U.H.B. and the Children and Young People's Partnership Board to ensure communication and sharing of information.

- Support to our Looked after Children to engage in interview panels for posts and to decide upon services e.g. Advocacy provision.

ACTION AREA SEVEN - examples of actions 2011 - 2012

Children, young people and families have the resources they need to

Maximise their opportunities

- Supporting vulnerable individuals and groups in their access to services and information, including access in language of choice.
- Support to maximise the use of Direct Payments to young people aged sixteen or seventeen.
- Support young carers to maximise opportunities and utilise services
- Engage with 3rd sector and Faith sector to reduce inequalities in opportunities for our most vulnerable families.

Improve skills levels of young people and parents including young parents.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the report be accepted for information.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of publishing, monitoring, reviewing and development of the existing plan has been met from the Children and Young People's Youth Support grant known as Cymorth. The Cymorth funding will cease in March 2012 as a part of the transition to Families First approach to the delivery of services and support. The Families First funding will absorb this function and a multi agency Families First Progress monitoring group will be a sub group of the C.Y.P. Partnership.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

The agreed priorities within the plan all potentially impact positively on poverty issues. The ethos of the CYP Plan is to target support at the most vulnerable children, young people and families in Flintshire. The CYPP Plan is the recognised vehicle to deliver upon the Child Poverty Strategy for Wales (2010).

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The Welsh Assembly Government Guidance states that a commitment to sustainable development must inform the preparation and implementation of our CYP plan.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

The children and Young People's Plan is intended to address the needs of all Children and Young People in Flintshire and the remit is for ages 0 - 25 years. However, it is recognised that those Children and Young People and Families who are the most vulnerable or with the greatest or most complex needs must be given priority.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

The 2008 - 2011 plan includes a consideration of the workforce skills required to implement the actions and aspirations of this plan. The Welsh Assembly Government has given guidance on a local workforce strategy for the Children and Young People's workforce. We have worked with the sub regional Families First programme to explore and introduce a workforce development strategy for the future Families First programme delivery for 2012 – 2017. We fully recognise the need to develop appropriate bilingual provision. We have encouraged all agencies to engage in National Occupational Standards training opportunities e.g. for parenting and advocacy support.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

See consultation undertaken.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

The Mid Term Review of the 2008 – 2011 CYPP plan (October 2009) engaged all service providers/leads and stakeholders in the collation of evidence and examples of notable practice. The stakeholder engagement programme engaged with a broad stakeholder group to develop the 2011 -2014 CYPP plan. The CYPP is currently engaging with a broad stakeholder group to develop the Families First plan for Flintshire.

12.00 APPENDICES

CYPP Plan 2011 – 2014 'Making a Positive Difference'.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Planning Guidance - Shared Planning for Better Outcomes

Flintshire Children and Young People's Plan 2011 -2014 "Making a positive difference"

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