



Provider of services on behalf of the NHS



Working Together Better for
Children and Young People –

A Transformation Strategy for
Children and Young People's
Services 2011-2014

Consultation Document

Foreword

'Working Together Better for Children and Young People: A transformation strategy 2011-2014' has been developed with the specific intention of describing a new framework of community based healthcare services for children and young people in Plymouth. This new framework of services is expected to provide the basis for improvements in the health and wellbeing of children and young people across the city.

As the provider of these services, Plymouth Community Healthcare (PCH) recognises that it has a duty in developing this strategy to share and debate the contents with a wide range of stakeholders including, but in no way limited to, our major partners in the delivery of services for children and young people and those that come together to form the Plymouth Children and Young People's Trust Board.

No less important is the requirement to actively engage, consult, and seek the views of children and young people across the city. In an age where the government seeks for health services to ensure they make "no decision about me without me" in relation to the patient's they serve, it is particularly important to ensure the privilege is extended to children and young people, whose experience is often of being overlooked or of service planning being led by, and for the benefit of, adults who do not understand their needs.

It is vitally important for our organisation, and the children and young people living in the city, that we put in place the best, most robust, evidence based new framework of services to meet their needs. We believe *Working Together Better for Children and Young People* describes just that. We want you to tell us what you like about the strategy and why you think it will be the first step towards designing and delivering services for children and young people that, over the next three years, will begin to impact on health and wellbeing outcomes by supporting the strategic priorities described in the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014.

However, we are not complacent – we also want your views about what needs to be changed, reconsidered, or removed. We want the input of everyone who has a vested interest in safeguarding community based healthcare services for children and young people to lend us their expertise and help us embrace this unique opportunity to shape future service delivery.

To enable that process to start, this document poses a series of consultation questions that we want you to answer. The questions should be read and considered in conjunction with *Working Together Better for Children and Young People*. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your involvement and your feedback.

Stephen Waite
Chief Executive
Plymouth Community Healthcare

Cate Simmons
Interim Head of Children's Services
Plymouth Community Healthcare

1. Introduction

In order to ensure that the feedback on *Working Together Better for Children and Young People* can be effectively translated into changes to the current draft of the strategy, a series of questions has been devised to seek feedback on the areas that we think are the most important to test.

However, we know that our partners may have feedback to give us that will support the development of the strategy but cannot be captured in response to the questions that we have included below. As a result, this consultation document invites all those reviewing *Working Together Better for Children and Young People* to offer these views in addition to responding to the consultation questions.

2. Consultation Questions

The consultation questions have been described in relation to sections of *Working Together Better for Children and Young People*; this is to help make sure that each element of the strategy will meet the scrutiny that it will inevitably be placed under as part of the review and approvals process.

Strategic context

1. The strategic context makes reference to the impact of parents/carers health and wellbeing on the outcomes of children and young people. How can stronger links be forged between services for children and young people and those that respond to the needs of their parents/carers?
2. Do you think the new framework of services described in the strategy will support the achievement of the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014? If yes, why? If not, what could be changed to ensure that this happens?
3. Do you think the local context described in the strategy accurately describes all those things that need to be taken into account when planning the transformation of services for children and young people? Is there anything more that needs to be considered?
4. What networks do you think PCH should tap into to seek the views of children and young people on the proposals in the strategy?
5. Do you think the new framework of services will allow PCH to make progress in engaging 'hard to reach' children, young people and families? If yes, why? If not, what more do you think we need to do to make this happen?

Early years service

1. The intention is for 'feeder' GPs to be linked to their local Children's Centres as part of the plan to develop a robust early years service that cuts across organisational and professional boundaries. What mechanisms could be put in place to support this?
2. How do you think the parental and infant mental health team could be developed to provide direct support for children but also work with their parents within a framework of flexible and tailored support? What about the current system would need to be changed in order to enable this?
3. How can the early years service establish strong links with acute or specialist services for children aged 0-5 (for example, children who attend the Child Development Centre)? What practical arrangements need to be put into place to support joint working and sharing of information?
4. Should the Family Nurse Partnership be aligned with the early years service or be managed separately as one of the specialist, citywide services?
5. What quality measures do you think need to be put in place to demonstrate whether the early years service is improving outcomes for children?

Locality based teams

1. The plans for provision of adult locality based community healthcare teams are different from those for the wider children and young people's system. How can community based healthcare services for children and young people achieve the 'both and' position described in the strategy? What practical and commissioning support will be needed to make this happen?
2. How can locality based teams respond to the needs of school age children by aligning themselves with education – as the key universal service provider for this age group – and maintain appropriately robust links with primary care?
3. How should the planned Single Point of Access (SPOA) be aligned with existing referral management processes for children and young people?
4. How can the SPOA operate as a 'system control function' and also function with the sharing of information and signposting to services as an integral feature?

5. What quality measures do you think need to be put in place to demonstrate whether locality based teams are improving outcomes for children and young people?

Specialist citywide services

1. Managing a good transition is identified as one of the key challenges faced by specialist services that deliver to children and young people. What shared processes could be adopted by services for children and young people and those for adults that would help to overcome the problems arising at transition?
2. What mechanisms could be adopted by commissioners to enable improved transitions for young people?
3. What approach should be taken to ensuring that specialist, citywide community based healthcare services work effectively with other specialist services in the city?
4. How will the proposed SPOA interface with existing single points of contact within the city (for example, the Children's Integrated Disability Service)? Should these be consolidated into one SPOA? What do you think would make the most sense for children, young people and their families?
5. Do you think the plans for a Children in Care health team will lead to improved outcomes and a more responsive service for children and young people in the care of the Local Authority? If yes, why? If not, what changes need to be made to the proposal set out in the strategy?

Resource plans

1. How could we support professionals working with children and young people to find "the most appropriate way of giving expression to all six areas" of the Common Core of Skills and Knowledge?
2. What mechanisms could be put into place to re-engage professionals working with children and young people in order to advance the interests of children and young people in the city?
3. How can we improve on existing partnership working to build strong links between practitioners regardless of professional boundaries?
4. What are the key enablers (e.g. shared records, IM&T etc) that we need to take into account when we begin to remodel the existing workforce in line with the strategy proposals?

Governance, leadership and management

1. Do you think the proposed management structure is the right one to deliver high quality services to children and young people?
2. What processes need to be put in place to support the achievement of clinical governance and compliance with CQC standards for those staff working as part of the integrated locality based teams?
3. What input do you think services for children and families should have to PCH's Clinical Cabinet? Should this be limited to the medical workforce?
4. Will the new framework of services support effective safeguarding children practices? If yes, why? If not, what needs to be changed to ensure that this happens?

3. Process for responding to the consultation

Responses to the consultation questions should be recorded on the consultation response sheet attached below. Responses can be returned electronically to briony.cowan@nhs.net or, alternatively, they can be posted to the following address:

Briony Cowan
Interim Directorate Manager for Children and Families
Children and Families Directorate
Administration Block
Mount Gould Hospital
Mount Gould Road
Plymouth
PL4 7QD

4. Further information

If you have any questions about the consultation or would like any further information about the proposed strategy for the transformation of community based healthcare services for children and young people, please contact Briony Cowan, Interim Directorate Manager for Children and Families, on email at briony.cowan@nhs.net or on (01752) 434304.

Name:	
Title:	
Organisation:	
Date consultation response completed:	
Consultation response no: (office use only)	

Strategic Context	
<p>1. The strategic context makes reference to the impact of parents/carers health and wellbeing on the outcomes of children and young people.</p> <p>How can stronger links be forged between services for children and young people and those that respond to the needs of their parents/carers?</p>	
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Strategic Context

3. Do you think the local context described in the strategy accurately describes all those things that need to be taken into account when planning the transformation of services for children and young people?

Is there anything more that needs to be considered?

4. What networks do you think PCH should tap into to seek the views of children and young people on the proposals in the strategy?

5. Do you think the new framework of services will allow PCH to make progress in engaging 'hard to reach' children, young people and families?

If yes, why? If not, what more do you think we need to do to make this happen?

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Do you have any other comments that you would like to make about the strategy? If yes, please include them below:

Empty rectangular box for providing comments.