

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL



UPDATE ON LOCALITY WORKING FOR EARLY INTERVENTION IN SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL – DECEMBER 2011

BACKGROUND

Vision

Children, young people and their families have consistently told us they want locally delivered services that are provided in a timely and integrated way that avoids duplication.

Locality working is about providing universal and targeted services to local people in their area with a focus on early intervention, prevention and collaboration between services. This approach places children, young people and their families at the heart of delivery.

Locality working will enable delivery of the vision within the Children and Young People's Plan – **we want all our children to live, grow, achieve and exceed in their hopes for the future** – for vulnerable children, young people and their families.

National Drivers

Over the last decade, a range of key national documents and strategies have promoted the benefits of closer working practice between services to deliver better outcomes. The investment in early intervention; promotion of resilience factors; improved school attendance and attainment; together with the development of an integrated workforce, will improve outcomes for our children and young people, and facilitate the targeting of greater resources to the most vulnerable.

Some of the key national policy drivers that have influenced this agenda are:

- Children's Act 2004
- Child Poverty Act 2010
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (Statutory Guidance updated 2010)
- Munro Review of Child Protection (2010)
- Early Intervention: The Next Steps (Graham Allen 2011)
- SEN Green Paper 2011
- The Children's Plan: Building Brighter Futures 2007: Vision for 21st Century Children's Services
- Aiming High for Children 2007
- Reaching Out: Think Family (2008) Families at Risk Agenda: DCSF March 2009
- Importance of Teaching (2010)

Local Drivers

Plymouth 2020 Partnership (LSP) is committed to the development of neighbourhood and locality service delivery across all sectors.

Plymouth Children and Young People's Plan 2011 – 14

- Equip young people with skills, knowledge and opportunities to make a successful transition to adulthood.
- Improve levels of achievement for all children and young people.
- Tackle child poverty.
- Provide all children with the best possible start in life.
- Tackle risk-taking behaviour through locality delivered services.

Guiding principles in improving outcomes for children and young people:

- The right help at the right time.
- Integrated working for efficient and effective support around children, young people and families.
- Collaborative advantage.

Where are we now?

Phase 1: May to September 2011

- Locality Commissioning Groups in place in each locality.
- Locality groupings based on need data and demographics (in
 - North West
 - South West
 - Central and North East and Plympton
 - South East and Plymstock.
- Established locality implementation team and refocused roles of senior managers to develop integrated teams with operational and professional management functions.
- Reorganisation of teams into an integrated model 0-11 age group and 11-19 age group.

Phase 2: September 2011-

- Further development of integrated teams to recruit social workers and CAF officers.
- Development of models of integrated service delivery through common processes including Common Assessment Framework.
- Development of single point of referral.
- Collocation of teams with locality bases for delivery in communities.
- Development of a performance and outcomes framework.
- Refresh of governance including relationship with Children's Trust, refresh of citywide Locality Board and Locality Groups.
- Collaboration with other providers of services for children and young people, eg –
 - Excellence Cluster
 - Plymouth Community Healthcare
- Consultation with schools representatives as we develop the model.

We believe that through collaboration and integrated working we can deliver a better service for children and young people, support their families, schools and primary care providers to prevent escalation into specialist services. That commitment continues as we move towards the development of a new Directorate of People.

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