
**Meeting of Executive Members and Children's
Services Advisory Panel**

16 October 2006

Report of the Director of Learning, Culture and Children's Services

Children's and Young People's Plan 2007 – 2010: Consultation

Summary

1. This report seeks views from the Executive Member for Children's Services and Advisory Panel on the priorities for the Children and Young People's Plan 2007 - 2010.

Background

2. The Children and Young People's Plan is a partnership plan, produced every two or three years, which covers all of the services that are provided for children and young people in the city.
3. Responsibility for the plan rests with the Children's Trust (YorOK) which produced the first Children and Young People's Plan for York in 2005. The plan was organised around the five outcomes for children identified as national priorities by the Department for Education and Skills (DfES), and established a clear direction of travel for the city. It has, for example, exerted an important influence on the policies adopted by the new directorate of Learning, Culture and Children's Services.
4. Although the current plan covers the period from 2005 – 2008, the pace of change over the last 2 years has been so rapid that it was felt there was a need to review the plan twelve months earlier than was originally anticipated. This decision had the additional advantage of allowing planning for Children's Services to conform to the same timetable as other plans for the city, including the Local Area Agreement (LAA), which links together all the plans for the area.
5. The plan itself will be produced in draft form shortly before Christmas, approved by the Children's Trust in the new year and recommended to partners for implementation from April 2007. The document attached at Annex A has been produced in order to gather views in advance of work on the first draft which will start in November.

Analysis

6. The Children and Young People's Plan for 2007 – 2010 will be a wide-ranging and comprehensive document, based on reliable statistical data and informed feedback from all interested partners. In the consultation document, a number of important issues have been identified about which further advice and guidance is being sought.
7. These issues have emerged as particularly important for one or more of a number of reasons:
 - They are what children and young people have been saying is important to them,
 - They are what the data we collect is saying about where there is room for improvement,
 - They are what has been identified as needing further attention in the Annual Performance Assessment.
8. The consultation document outlines the nine most important issues where fresh ideas and additional help might make a difference.

Corporate Priorities

9. The Children and Young People's Plan is a Partnership Plan which is produced by the YorOK (Children's Trust) Board. In the Council Plan, the authority identifies a number of corporate improvement statements, four of which are about 'improving our organisational effectiveness'. Of particular relevance to this report is Improvement Statement 12 which commits the council to 'improve the way the council and its partners work together to deliver better services for the people'.

Implications

10. This report invites members to comment on a consultation document. Any implications arising from the consultation will be identified in strategic and service plans.
 - **Finance** – no implications
 - **Human Resources (HR)** – no implications
 - **Equalities** – no implications
 - **Legal** – no implications
 - **Crime and Disorder** – no implications
 - **Information Technology (IT)** – no implications
 - **Property** – no implications

Risk Management

11. The Children Act 2004 requires Children's Services Authorities to prepare and publish a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). It repealed seven statutory planning requirements, including the School Organisation Plan (SOP), and removed requirements for a number of non-statutory plans. Failure to produce a plan that is compliant with the guidance issued by the DfES could prejudice the outcome of the Joint Area Review (JAR) undertaken by Ofsted.

Recommendations

12. The Executive Member is recommended to comment on the priorities in the attached consultation document.

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Report Approved **Date** 26/9/06

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All

For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex 1: Children and Young People's Plan – Consultation document