

Brighton & Hove City Council

Meeting: Children Families & Schools Sub-Committee

Date: Monday 14th March 2005

Report of: Director of Children, Families and Schools

Subject: Report on the proposals for a Children and Young People's Plan

Ward(s) affected: All

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 To report on the proposals for a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the timescales and actions/outcomes proposed for developing a CYPP outlined in paragraph 5.2 be agreed.

3. Information/background

3.1 The Children Act 2004 imposes a new duty on children's services authorities to plan for the provision of services for children. As a consequence of the new duty, a number of other planning obligations falling on local authorities are being dispensed with. These are the Education Development Plan, the Early Years Development and Childcare Plan, the School Organisation Plan, the Behaviour Support Plan, the Class Sizes Plan, the Children's Services Plan and the Local Authority Adoption Services Plan. It is possible that the Children's Youth Justice Plan will also be included.

3.2 Regulations (subsection 1 of the Children Act 2004) are in place to require Children's Services authorities to prepare and publish a CYPP which will set out their strategy for services for children and relevant young people.

- 3.3 The regulations (subsection 2) may make provision for the content, timescale, publication and review of the plan and what consultation should be undertaken in its preparation. National consultations are planned on these provisions but no further information is available at this time, other than they are scheduled for early 2005. In Brighton and Hove we are already consulting on a children's strategy which incorporates the requirements of the CYPP with regard to outcomes. The discussions taking place for the Local Area Agreement will also inform the outcomes.
- 3.4 Subsection 2 states that the CYPP is expected to be based on the five outcomes for children: staying safe; be healthy; enjoy and achieve; achieve economic well-being; and make a positive contribution. It should contain a statement of local vision for children and young people, key outcomes, a strategic analysis, actions (with timescales), reference to joint planning with key partners, performance management and review of children's services and to outline the consultation undertaken in its preparation.
- 3.5 The CYPP will relate to successive periods of three years. The CYPP will have to be published and reviewed annually.
- 3.6 Subsection 3 provides for the content of the plan to include arrangements made under the duty to co-operate and the strategy of key partners with whom there is co-operation for children's services. Therefore the CYPP will be consistent with plans for services for children and young people prepared by other organisations in respect of the local authority's area, eg concerning children's health services, youth justice, and services provided by the voluntary and community sector.
- 3.7 Planning is already taking place for the CYPP with colleagues in the Corporate Performance Management team.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 The consultations on the CYPP are complemented by the consultations that are taking place for the Children's Trust. However a consultation schedule will need to be developed to engage all stakeholders and key partners.
- 4.2 Dispensing with the requirement for a number of plans will mean that the groups engaged in preparing those plans are incorporated within the wider planning framework for the CYPP.

5. Timescales for actions/outcomes

- 5.1 The CYPP must be in place by April 2006. The intention is that the CYPP will replace the Directorate Development Plan and form an overarching plan for the work of CFS and wider partners. It will also incorporate any outstanding actions from the Post Ofsted/SSI Action Plan.

The Children's Trust Partnership Strategy will form the core of any CYPP. The children's strategy will incorporate the Local Area Agreement and LPSA2.

5.2 Proposed timescale and actions/outcomes

Timescale	Action/Outcome
March 2005	Consultation with DMT/CFS Officers on the required content for the CYPP, in particular with those staff for whom the CYPP will replace their existing plans.
April 2005	Discussion/consultation on the format and planning arrangements for the CYPP using the five outcomes as a framework. Agenda item for all key stakeholder groups.
May 2005	Children's Strategy Stakeholder Day
July 2005	CFS teams start to prepare early drafts using the five outcomes and a set proforma for planning content.
July/August 2005	Content shared across CFS and stakeholder groups.
August 2005	Consultation with stakeholders on the content.
October/ November 2005	First draft of the CYPP completed
December 2005	Final version of the CYPP available for comment
January 2006	Consultation with CFS Sub Committee on the final version of the CYPP
March 2006	CYPP approved by CFS Sub Committee and EO SP
April 2006	CYPP in place

6. Finance

- 6.1 The cost of preparing the CYPP will in the main be met from within existing resources, as the resources currently required for preparing numerous separate plans will be removed. There will be additional requirements

around consultation when developing the plan and new requirements to manage the performance of the plan.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The CYPP is an ambitious aspiration which is complemented by the work already being carried out in Brighton and Hove for the Children's Trust.**

Meeting/Date	Education Overview and Scrutiny Panel 8 th March
Report of	Director of Children, Families and Schools
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Wards affected	All

Financial implications

The cost of preparing the Children and Young People's Plan will be met from within current resources. There will be additional costs as a result of consultancy requirements however these have not yet been quantified.

Finance Officer consulted: Louise Hoten

Date: 23 February 2005

Legal implications

The Children Act 2004 imposes a new duty on children's services authorities to plan for the provision of services for children. Although the timescales have not yet been set, Children's Services authorities will need to prepare and publish a CYPP which will set out their strategy for services for children and relevant young people, and address the five outcomes for children in the Act: staying safe; be healthy; enjoy and achieve; achieve economic well-being; and make a positive contribution. The proposals in the report will enable the CYPP to be prepared with full consultation.

Lawyer consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 18 February 2005

Corporate/Citywide implications

The CYPP will provide an overarching plan across Brighton and Hove for services for children and young people which should provide greater coherence in planning and service delivery across all sectors.

Risk assessment

The engagement of stakeholders from schools, community and voluntary groups will be essential if the aspirations of the CYPP are to be achieved. Schools do not have a 'duty to cooperate' under the Children Act 2004.

Sustainability implications

The CYPP is a three year plan with annual reviews.

Equalities implications

The CYPP will include services for all children and young people including those who are vulnerable. Greater co-ordination across service areas should lead to a more streamlined service.

Implications for the prevention of crime and disorder

Ensuring the active engagement of children and young people in the plans for children's services could help to reduce crime and disorder incidents.

Background papers

Contact Officer

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