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# Complex Adolescent Strategy

# Vision

Every child and young person in the city should achieve their full potential, be emotionally & physically well, and safe.

They should not be exploited or discriminated against.

They should be able to live crime free lives and have the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the society they live in.



# Principles



**We care about young people, families and communities, putting their wellbeing at the forefront of service delivery**

**We take an actively anti-racist position**

**We work to address all inequalities**

**Our goal is to never give up on children / young people and families**

**We respect the views of children & young people and their carers & families**

**We remain kind, curious and compassionate in our work**

**We work in partnership with children, families, local services and communities**

**We have a culture of learning, progression and continuous practice improvement shared across multi-agency partners**

**We learn from lived experience**

# What we have achieved



The Adolescent Service is a creative, innovative & flexible service that provides a holistic approach to meeting children's needs.

We have helped children and young people develop & increase their safety by using the best relationship in the network.

Improved our multi-agency vulnerability and risk panel, which safeguards children from exploitation.

Established pilot arrangements for local decision-making for young people open to Modern Slavery (exploitation) enquiries

Developed new approaches to support children experiencing harm in the community.

Families have been provided with therapy to help repair family relationships and improve resilience

Families have been supported to remain together

Successfully supported children and young people to establish stable living arrangements.

Families and professionals have been skilled up to identify and support young people affected by exploitation

Provided trauma/ neurodiversity informed consultations to Adolescent practitioners to best meet individual needs.

Provided mental health support in the community as part of discharge from hospital.

Provided a drug and alcohol service that has achieved a higher than national average rate of self- referrals.

Funding secured to provide more community support for children and families experiencing substance misuse.

Practitioners have taught and supported learning of students at Local Universities.

Created a Gender & Sexuality equality learning culture

Achieved ongoing commitment to Anti-racist work with professionals, young people & families.

Prevented children from being criminalised

Reduced re-offending by children in the city

Kept children out of custody

Established projects to prevent crime in the city, including knife crime, Turnaround & Immediate Justice.

The Youth Justice Service & partnership assessed as being outstanding by the HMIP inspection.

Developed strong partnerships, for example Team around the City Child to prevent exclusions.

Established effective projects in the city to support adolescents, for example, Brighton Streets, Girls and Young Women's project and Hospital youth worker and Audio Active Shift.



# Priorities

(agreed by the Strategic Adolescent Management Board):

To continue to embed Contextual Safeguarding practice to best meet the needs of these children

Increase participation and the voice of the child

To continue the anti-racist journey and address issues of disproportionality



# How are we planning to do this

To continue to embed Contextual Safeguarding practice to best meet the needs of these children:

Continue to review and improve effectiveness of arrangements in place to address children being exploited in the city.

Provide consultation and training across services to share knowledge and expertise around exploitation.

Embed local decision-making panel in relation to Modern Slavery (including exploitation) and raise awareness and knowledge of this process.

Use research in practice to further develop the contextual safeguarding model.



# How are we planning to do this

Increase participation and the Voice of the child:

Ru-ok participation worker to engage young people in co-design and co-production.

Young people given opportunity to express their views and involved in recruitment of staff.

Work in partnership with experts by experience.

Listen and learn from young people's feedback.





# How are we planning to do this

To continue the anti-racist journey and address disproportionality:

379 Continue to develop an environment in which to challenge all forms of discrimination and continue to encourage and support uncomfortable conversations.

Ensure identity and the impact of racism and discrimination is always part of the conversation.

Young people and families will be supported to challenge racism and discrimination in families, communities and agencies.

Develop work with partner agencies to challenge Racism in all its forms.



