

Committee/Meeting: Cabinet	Date: 7 April 2010	Classification: Unrestricted	Report No: CAB 138/090
Report of: Corporate Director Children, Schools and Families Originating officer(s) Layla Richards, Service Manager Strategy		Title: Children and Young People's Plan Refresh 2010-11 Wards Affected: All	

Lead Member	Cllr Abdul Asad, Lead Member Children, Schools and Families
Community Plan Theme	All Community Plan themes
Strategic Priority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.1: Reduce inequalities and foster strong community cohesion • 1.2: Working efficiently and effectively as One Council • 2.2: Strengthen and connect communities • 2.4: Improve the environment and tackle climate change • 3.1: Support lifelong learning opportunities for all • 3.2: Reduce worklessness • 4.1: Empower older and vulnerable people and support families • 4.2: Tackle and prevent crime • 4.3: Focus on early intervention • 5.1: Reduce differences in people's health and promote healthy lifestyles • 5.2: Support mental health services to improve mental health

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 In 2009 a three-year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) was agreed by all partners in the Children and Families' Trust. This report presents the 'refresh' of the CYPP actions for the second year of the plan, 2010-11. The draft actions can be found at appendix 1.

2. DECISIONS REQUIRED

Cabinet is recommended to:-

- 2.1 Agree the revised CYPP actions at appendix 1;
- 2.2 Authorise the Corporate Director Children, Schools and Families, after consultation with the Lead Member for Children, Schools and Families and Children and Families' Trust, to make appropriate amendments to the CYPP ahead of publication.

3. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 3.1 The CYPP is an important element of the reforms underpinned by the Children Act 2004 which states that local authorities should produce a single,

strategic, overarching plan for all services affecting children and young people every three years. Alongside this, the 2009 guidance issued by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) states that the CYPP should be reviewed each year unless the local authority is publishing a new plan.

- 3.2 In 2009 Tower Hamlets produced a three-year CYPP to 2012. We are therefore required to review the plan as it moves into its second year of implementation.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 As set out above, there is a requirement on local authorities to produce a single, strategic overarching plan for all services affecting children and young people and to review this annually. As addressed in paragraph 6.4 of the report, the new set of priorities selected for the second year of the plan reflect the areas where the Council still needs to make progress, fulfil its statutory duties and deliver on Community Plan objectives.

5. BACKGROUND

- 5.1 Tower Hamlets' CYPP sets out a vision that partners in the Tower Hamlets Partnership want to achieve for children, young people and families in the borough. The borough's second three-year plan was approved by Cabinet on 11 March 2009 and by full Council on 22 April 2009 – this replaced the first three year plan (2006-2009) and was much more focused on areas where greater improvement was still needed to improve outcomes across the Every Child Matters (ECM) themes.

- 5.2 The CYPP is 'owned' by the Children and Families' Trust, one of the borough's Community Plan Delivery Groups (CPDG). The CYPP is monitored and delivered through the Children and Families' Trust and sets the commissioning framework within which partners will work to ensure delivery of services to improve outcomes for children, young people and families in Tower Hamlets. Monitoring of activities and indicators is undertaken throughout the year by the Children and Families' Trust and the theme groups.

- 5.3 Detailed needs analysis and extensive consultation informed the development of the priorities in the current three-year CYPP. Consultation was carried out with children, young people and families as well as those who deliver services for children. The consultation fulfilled all statutory requirements as set out in The Children and Young People's Plan Regulations 2005.

6. CYPP REFRESH 2010-11

- 6.1 Like the existing three-year CYPP 2009-2012, the draft refresh for 2010-11 does not attempt to cover all the activity taking place in Children's Services and partner agencies. Instead it focuses on the areas where greater

- improvement is required to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families.
- 6.2 The three cross-cutting priorities from the three-year plan remain the same: tackling child poverty, engaging the community and supporting families. It also contains a localisation section which focuses on priorities specific to paired Local Area Partnerships.
- 6.3 The CYPP was written last year as a three-year plan taking into account analysis of need and extensive consultation. As a result, we neither want nor need to change it wholesale – instead the refresh for 2010-11 has been treated as an opportunity to review priorities and re-focus activity where appropriate.
- 6.4 In the main, priorities have remained consistent across the themes. Our cross-cutting priorities also remain as they were in the original plan. However, where changes have been made this is to ensure we are complying with statutory functions and reflecting recent developments and national policy. In some cases activities included in the original plan have now been completed and replaced with new actions. The new activities will enable the Children and Families' Trust to deliver Community Plan objectives.
- 6.5 Appendix 1 contains the proposed new actions for 2010-11 and highlights any changes from the original three year plan. However, since much of the background information in the three-year plan still applies for 2010-11 this is not contained within appendix 1.
- 6.6 All changes to actions and their associated targets for 2010-11 will be updated in the online version of the CYPP. This will be available on the Children and Families' Trust website www.childrenandfamiliestrust.co.uk.
- 6.7 The plan will continue to be delivered through the Tower Hamlets Partnership and the Children and Families' Trust. An end of year progress review for 2009-10 will also be reported to Members later this year.

7. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 7.1 The Children and Young People's Plan sets out how resources will be used to meet service needs and priorities. This report, however, is not seeking any additional resources and the plans will be implemented and managed within budget approvals.

8. CONCURRENT REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE (LEGAL SERVICES)

- 8.1 Section 17 of the Children Act 2004 enabled the secretary of state to make regulations in respect of the preparation and review by Local Authorities of children and young people's plans.

- 8.2 Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the Children and Young People's Plan Regulations 2005, a Local Authority is required to publish a Children and Young People's plan. Tower Hamlets' initial CYPP was published in 2006 for the period 2006-2009, pursuant to the regulations. The second CYPP was adopted in 2009.
- 8.3 Pursuant to paragraph 8 of the 2005 Regulations a Local Authority will review its plan in each year it is not required to publish a plan. The attached report represents the first annual review of the 2009-2012 plan being the first year of that plan and a refresh of proposed actions for the coming year.
- 8.4 The actions proposed in the 'refresh' are consistent with the Local Authority's duties and powers as set out in part 2 of the Children Act 2004.
- 8.5 As a Local Authority with a "four star" children's service, Tower Hamlets is exempted from the requirement of the 2005 Regulations to publish and review a CYPP. This does not preclude Tower Hamlets from publishing a CYPP.

9. ONE TOWER HAMLETS CONSIDERATIONS

Reduce inequalities

- 9.1 The CYPP specifically addresses how equalities will be promoted and sets out how outcomes will be improved for all children and young people. The plan considers the following groups at risk of social exclusion:
- (i) Children from BME communities
 - (ii) Children and young people in public care
 - (iii) Children with disabilities
 - (iv) Children with mental health problems
 - (v) Teenage parents
 - (vi) Underperforming groups e.g. white boys

The CYPP also identifies tackling child poverty as a cross-cutting priority and activities to both tackle and mitigate the effects of poverty run throughout the plan.

Ensure strong community cohesion

- 9.2 The CYPP contains a number of activities to promote community cohesion. A specific priority and actions to promote and support community cohesion among children and young people were included in the Make a Positive Contribution section of the plan.

Strengthen community leadership

- 9.3 The Make a Positive Contribution section of the plan contains specific activities to increase the participation of children and young people in decision-making and public life. In addition, the plan contains specific actions

to strengthen partnership working through the Children and Families' Trust infrastructure.

10. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT

- 10.1 Addressing sustainability issues through Building Schools for the Future and Primary Strategy for Change, for example, are picked up in the plan. The Excellent Children's Services section of the plan also includes a new action to implement the Carbon Management Plan and thereby reduce carbon emissions generated by the school estate.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 We have a statutory duty to publish a CYPP every three years and have therefore met our legal requirements in producing a plan to 2012. A robust programme management approach has been adopted to ensure risks to delivering actions are identified and addressed early by the theme groups.

12. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 The Make a Positive Contribution section of the CYPP makes specific reference to activities to reduce crime while one of the priorities in Stay Safe is focused on protecting children and young people from harm and enabling them to feel safe in their local area.

13. EFFICIENCY STATEMENT

- 13.1 Through clearer prioritisation in the CYPP, we are able to better align resources against the delivery of priorities therefore maximising their impact. Performance data and progress monitoring is used by theme groups in developing their priorities.

14. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Draft Children and Young People's Plan Refresh 2010-11

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended) List of "Background Papers" used in the preparation of this report

Brief description of "background papers"	Name and telephone number of holder and address where open to inspection.
None	N/A