

Committee Overview and Scrutiny	Date: 10 June 2008	Classification Unrestricted	Report No.	Agenda Item No. 10.1
Report of: Corporate Director (Children's Services)		Title: Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) Review and 2007 Update		
Originating Officer(s): Natalie Parish (Service Head, Strategy, Partnerships and Performance)		Ward(s) All		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. This report informs Overview and Scrutiny about the review of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) which has been updated by Children's Services and partners. The CYPP 2008 review is attached at appendix A.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

Overview and Scrutiny is recommended to:

- 2.1. Consider and comment on the assessment of the second year's progress against the CYPP
- 2.2. Consider and comment on the updated strategic objectives, activities and targets
- 2.3. Forward any comments to the Cabinet meeting on 11 June 2008, which is being asked to endorse the review prior to publication.
- 2.4. Note that Cabinet endorsement will be subject to adjustments which may be made by the Corporate Director following the June Cabinet that are consistent with its spirit to respond to new performance data and information which becomes available between now and submission of the report to Ofsted in June.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 (as amended) Section 100D
LIST OF "BACKGROUND PAPERS" USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS
REPORT

Tower Hamlets Children and Young People's Plan www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

(CYPP) – *Aiming High Together* 2006 –2009

Children and Young People’s Plan
(CYPP) Workplan 2006 - 2007

www.towerhamlets.gov.uk

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1. The Tower Hamlets Children and Young People's Strategic Plan (CYPP) 2006-2009 – *Aiming Higher Together* was approved by Cabinet and subsequently approved by full Council on 1st March 2006. The CYPP sets out a vision that the partners in Tower Hamlets want to achieve for young people and their families, and an agenda for delivering this based on the five Every Child Matters (ECM) outcomes. These are being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well-being.
- 3.2. Children's Services made a commitment to review progress against the CYPP every 12 months. This is in line with a statutory requirement that all Local Authorities publish a review of their Children and Young People's Plan annually. The DfES guidance on the CYPP review, which is a statutory requirement, makes clear that the following areas should be addressed:
 - Detailed assessment of impact, progress and improvement against CYPP objectives and targets
 - Focus on analysis and evaluation rather than description
 - Focus on outcomes and impact rather than processes
 - Illustrate aspects where progress has been slower as well as more successful areas.
 - Make clear the extent and range of partnership involvement and how children and young people's views have been taken into account.
 - Draw on Annual Performance Assessment (APA), Joint Area Review (JAR), Priorities Meetings and LAA reviews
 - Address equality issues.
- 3.3. Cabinet signed off the first annual refresh of the plan in May 2007 and a progress update on the first 6 months of the 2007-8 financial year in February 2008. The February report highlighted progress against the five ECM themes, areas of concern and challenge identified through our monitoring for progress.
- 3.4. The draft CYPP 2008 Review attached at Annex A aims to achieve the requirements set out above. It also seeks to refresh the key activities and success criteria to take account of the new performance information available after the second
- 3.5. year of delivery, to ensure that we continue to focus on the real priorities.
- 3.6. The CYPP 2007 Review does not replace the original CYPP, but it provides a forward agenda for the next year that will enable Children's Services to target resources more effectively.

4. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (APA) AND THE JOINT AREA REVIEW (JAR)

- 4.1. Ofsted completed the fieldwork element of their Joint Area review of Children's Services on 11 April 2008. We are awaiting formal feedback but informal feedback is positive.
- 4.2. Because of the JAR, this year's APA will be a shorter process focussing on new data and progress since the JAR.
- 4.3. The CYPP Review has real significance in the arrangements for APA since it will be used to assess our progress, along with the APA dataset. The deadline for submission of the CYPP review to Ofsted is June 26th.

5. PROCESS TO REVIEW THE PLAN

- 5.1. Since December 2006 the work of monitoring progress and refreshing the CYPP action plan has been carried out by six ECM theme groups – Be Healthy, Be Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a Positive Contribution, Achieve Economic Well Being as well as a sixth group with a remit to look at Excellent Children's Services.
- 5.2. The six ECM theme groups, which included representatives from across the key statutory partner agencies and the third sector, have been charged with reviewing progress against our Children and Young People's plan and refreshing the objectives, activities and milestones to reflect emerging priorities identified by the data. The CYPP Review 2008 is based on their contributions.
- 5.3. The CYPP review has been shared with the CYPSPG and young people's views on key issues, collected through a range of participation events, have been used to inform the plan.
- 5.4. The CYPSPG endorsed the CYPP 2008 Review at their meeting on 19th May, and it was discussed by the PCT's Professional Executive Committee (PEC) on 24th April.

6. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. The CYPP specifically addresses how equalities will be promoted. The government has identified that the plans will need to ensure that the outcomes for all children and young people will improve and the gap will narrow between those who do well and those who do not. 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) Disabled Children
- (iv) Children with mental health problems
- (v) Teenage parents.

7. ANTI POVERTY IMPLICATIONS

7.1. There is a wide range of research which highlights the impact of poverty upon children and which shows that growing up in poverty has adverse outcomes for children. *Opportunity For All* states: "Today's poverty can translate into tomorrow's poor outcomes". The report goes on to say that unequal life chances for children damages not only the children themselves, but also society as a whole. The commissioning of effective services to children can have impacts on outcomes for children and in the longer term on poverty. These impacts include those on the individual child and their life chances and on the family who are caring for the child. One of the specific outcomes addressed in the CYPP is "Achieving Economic Well-being". The focus on this outcome will seek to address poverty within the Borough through increasing opportunity.

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

8.1. Tower Hamlets' Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) accords with the 'Every Child Matters' agenda under the Children's Act 2004. The arrangements detailed within this report to monitor the implementation and the progress of the CYPP fulfil the statutory requirements to review the plan's progress annually.

9. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

9.1. This report informs Cabinet about the review of the CYPP. At this stage, there is no identified impact on the Children's Services Revenue or Capital Budgets for the current & future years arising from this review. The costs of the implementing the updated strategic objectives, completing the activities and achieving the targets will be contained within existing resources. Any additional resource requirements to achieve the agreed priorities will be identified through the established budget preparation processes of the Tower Hamlets Partnership agencies.

10. STATEMENT OF EFFICIENCY

10.1. The CYPP seeks to bring about efficiencies in the following ways:

- (i) Establishing a clear series of priorities for improving outcomes for children and young people in the borough.
- (ii) Reinforcing the strategic approach to early identification and intervention thereby reducing the risk of high cost interventions at a later stage in the child's development

(iii) Encouraging agencies to work together to prevent duplication of effort and costs

(iv) Reinforcing our commitment to rigorous performance management and benchmarking on outcomes and financial information

11. SUSTAINABLE ACTION FOR A GREENER ENVIRONMENT (SAGE)

11.1. There are no SAGE implications arising from this paper

12. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

12.1. The Governance arrangements have been designed to ensure that a framework for setting priorities, monitoring and review are in place. This partnership architecture will ensure that risks to individual workstreams are escalated and dealt with at the appropriate level.

Appendix to this report

Appendix A - CYPP 2008 Review