



Newcastle Children and Young People's Plan 2011-2014



Newcastle Children's Trust

www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk

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Foreword

I am delighted to write this foreword of our Children and Young People's Plan for 2011-14, which marks a new era for partners in the Children's Trust as we take a more localised approach to improving outcomes for children and young people.



The joint plan demonstrates our commitment to work together around a set of shared priorities and strategic actions but does not get into the details about what individual partners will be doing. It is for each partner to demonstrate this in their own plans.

We will continue to rigorously monitor our performance, celebrate where we are doing well and challenge areas that are weaker through our revised performance monitoring framework.

I want to also take this opportunity to thank all of you who are working hard to support and provide opportunities for children, young people and families in Newcastle in what I know are sometimes very challenging circumstances.

The tough economic climate has meant budget reductions and difficult decisions for all partners and rising costs are making it more difficult for many families in the city.

Despite these circumstances, more children and young people in Newcastle are achieving better outcomes in many areas of their lives.

I have been inspired by the many children and young people I have heard about and been privileged to meet, who are achieving some incredible things and making a positive contribution to their schools and local communities. Newcastle is committed to becoming a truly child-friendly city and we have established an independent Youth Council to give young people a stronger voice in decisions about the local area.

We know that it is parents and carers who bring up children not governments and local services, but we want to support families to achieve the best for all of our children and young people.

I know that if we continue to tackle the challenges we face with the passion, determination and optimism that I regularly see, Newcastle will be the great place to grow up that we want it to be.

**John Collings, Executive Director of Children's Services
Chair of Newcastle Children's Trust**

Introduction

The Newcastle Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2011-14 marks a new era for the partners who are committed to work together within the Children's Trust to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

This plan covers all children and young people in Newcastle aged 0 to 19 years old. This includes some groups of young people up to the age of 25 who have learning difficulties and, or disabilities. It includes children and young people from other areas who are attending Newcastle schools or college, and those in the care of the local authority who live outside the area.

The CYPP 2011-14 builds on what has been achieved since the city's first strategic plan was published in 2006. There is clear evidence that the contribution our services are making to improve outcomes is good. Many outcomes for children and young people have improved and we are narrowing the gaps.

Newcastle's Children's Trust Board (CTB) has agreed three overarching priorities that we will focus on for the next three years:

SAFE – Keeping children and young people safe and supporting families

EQUAL – Reducing inequalities and promoting equality

ACHIEVING – Raising aspirations, achievements and opportunities

This Plan sets out the significant actions that we will take as a strategic partnership to deliver on these priorities. We will work together to make a difference.

Underpinning the three strategic priorities are ten outcomes which we feel are crucial in improving the life chances of children and young people. Each partner will set out in its own plans how it will deliver against these outcomes.

This Plan:

- states our shared commitment to work together across agencies to put our children and young people first
- describes the process we went through to determine our strategic priorities and outcomes
- sets out our strategic priorities and the strategic actions we will take as a Children's Trust
- lists the ten outcomes that all partners are working to improve, with a summary of the current data, the story behind the data and examples of how we are working together to make a difference
- identifies the significant partners for each outcome and the measures of success
- explains our governance and performance management arrangements within the partnership
- outlines how we are developing our workforce to support delivery of our priorities/outcomes

Our strategic vision

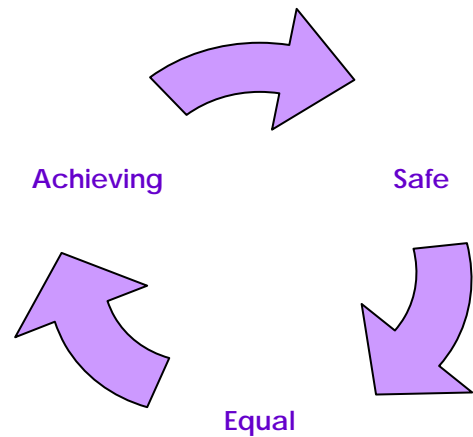
Newcastle is a great place to grow up where every child and young person:

- is safe and loved, healthy and happy, and free from harm, and
- has the chance to make the most of their talents and fulfil their potential.

Our strategic priorities and actions for 2011-14

In developing this plan, we have undertaken a comprehensive analysis of need and consulted widely on what matters most to children, young people, parents and carers. We have reviewed outcomes from inspections and other external assessments, and listened to practitioners' experience of what works (Appendix 1).

This Plan sets out the significant and accountable actions that we will take as a strategic partnership to deliver our priorities. We will work together to make a difference.



SAFE – Keeping children and young people safe and supporting families

Our strategic actions as the Children's Trust will be:

1. To bring universal, targeted and specialist services together to build more effective support pathways for children, young people and families when they need it most
2. To work with Safe Newcastle and the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board to reduce levels of domestic violence or domestic abuse

EQUAL – Reducing inequalities and promoting equality

Our strategic actions as the Children's Trust will be:

3. To implement the Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan
4. To ensure that the needs of children and young people are central to future NHS and wider public sector reform
5. To reduce inequalities by targeting our resources in proportion to need, with the greatest emphasis on those with the greatest needs and vulnerable groups

ACHIEVING – Raising aspirations, achievements and opportunities

Our strategic actions as the Children's Trust will be:

6. To further raise educational standards by challenging and protecting the interests of children and young people
7. To support and challenge young people, especially the most vulnerable, to access learning and employment opportunities in order to gain the necessary skills and attributes to succeed in education, training and the world of work
8. To champion children and young people's rights, and encourage all organisations to engage and involve children, young people, their parents and carers in decision making about their local area and about the services they receive.
9. To ensure that all children and young people have access to a range of sports and cultural activities including the Olympics programme and legacy.

Outcomes for children and young people

From our analyses and extensive consultation, we have identified and agreed ten outcomes which underpin the three strategic priorities. Partners across the Children's Trust will work to improve these outcomes over the next three years. Each relevant partner will set out in its own plans how it will deliver against these outcomes.

SAFE – Keeping children and young people safe and supporting families

- Children and young people are protected from violence and neglect
- Children and young people are safe and feel safe in their communities where they live, go to school, play and work
- Families, parents and carers are supported when they need it most



EQUAL – Reducing inequalities and promoting equality

- The impact of poverty on children and young people is reduced
- Children and young people who are vulnerable or have additional needs achieve the best possible outcomes
- Health inequalities are reduced, particularly child obesity and teenage pregnancy



ACHIEVING – Raising aspirations, achievements and opportunities

- Children and young people achieve their learning potential
- Young people behave positively and keep on the right track
- Young people develop into skilled, responsible and independent adults
- Children and young people enjoy their lives and have access to opportunities, culture and activities

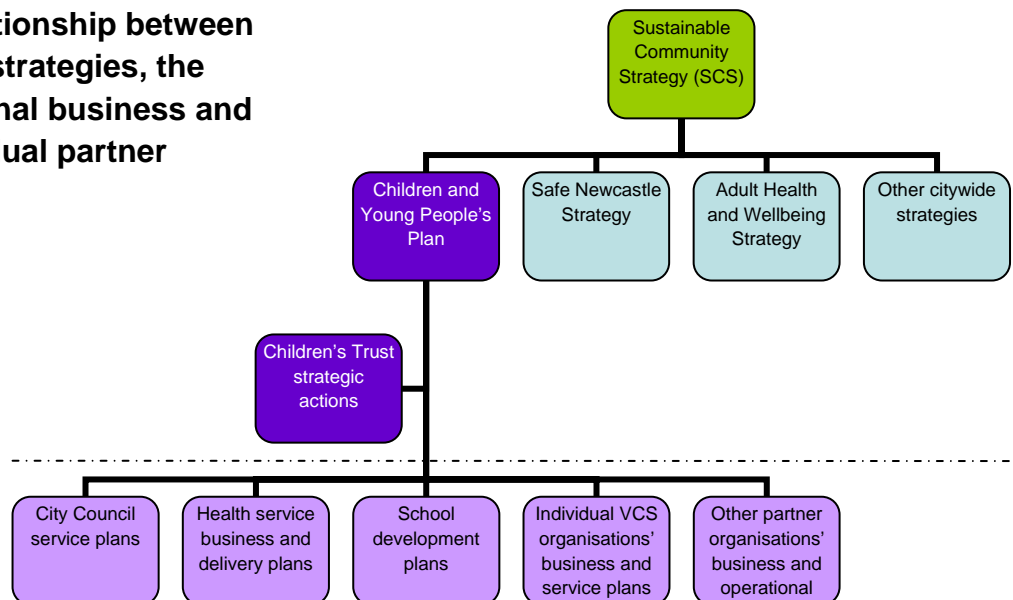


Appendices 2 - 4 summarise the current data and the story behind the data for each outcome, describe examples of how we are working together to make a difference, and identify the significant partners and measures of success.

Performance against each outcome and the contribution of each partner will be monitored and reviewed by sub groups of the Children's Trust (Appendix 5).

The following chart shows the relationship between the city's overarching strategies, the CYPP and the operational business and service plans of individual partner organisations.

Chart showing the relationship between the city's overarching strategies, the CYPP and the operational business and service plans of individual partner organisations



Equality and Diversity Statement

All members of the Children's Trust will actively ensure an appropriate response with regard to safeguarding all children and young people, whilst recognising and supporting issues of Equality and diversity.

We recognise that discrimination and barriers do exist, and as a Trust we need to engage and understand the experiences of our children, young people and their families and carers in accessing services. We are opposed to all forms of unlawful and unfair discrimination (including harassment of any kind) and will take appropriate action wherever instances of discrimination and harassment occur.

Discrimination on the grounds of race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, age, pregnancy or any other unjustifiable criterion will not be tolerated. We will also be proactive and work hard to eliminate discrimination in other areas including stigma around mental health issues and social or economic status.

We will work with our partners to develop effective procedures and policies to combat intentional and unintentional discrimination and to share good practice.

We will work together on shaping services that are needs based, accessible and delivered in such a way that children and young people experience Equality and fairness at all times

We are committed to helping our children and young people grow and develop their potential and identity in a way which helps them understand, respect and embrace being part of Newcastle as a City and be the best they can be.

We set out our pledges and actions on Equalities in our separate Equality Strategy.

Children's Rights

We have worked with groups of children and young people to develop a Children's Rights Charter. Every Child and Young Person in Newcastle is entitled to know about and access these rights and to take part in open and honest discussion about their rights and responsibilities. The charter will be central to the work and values set out in this Plan.

Appendices



Appendix 1: How we determined our strategic priorities and outcomes

In deciding the priorities for 2011-14, we looked at:

- what the data tells us about Newcastle
- what children and young people have told us
- what parents and carers have told us
- what voluntary and community sector agencies have told us
- what a range of people who work with children, young people and families have told us
- what inspectors of services in Newcastle have told us

From this information and analyses we proposed a set of draft priorities. The initial consultation process ran from 8 March to 7 June 2010. The initial consultation document was published on the website and circulated widely across partner organizations as well as being publicised to all Newcastle residents.

In addition, Children's Trust partners formally presented the initial consultation to a wide range of partners' internal and multi-agency groups and other key stakeholders and sought their feedback.

Following the consultation feedback a revised set of priorities was agreed by the Children's Trust Board. These are the three overarching priorities and ten underpinning outcomes shown in this plan.

A stakeholder event "Be a part of it" was held on 22 July 2010, where key stakeholders including professionals, children and young people, parents and carers came together at Newcastle Civic Centre to jointly generate ideas for action.

Below is a summary of the supporting evidence.

- 1. What the data tells us about children and young people in Newcastle**
- 2. What the data tells us about outcomes for children and young people**
- 3. What we know about different groups of children and young people**
- 4. Inspections, reviews and assessments**
- 5. Children and Young People's priorities**
- 6. Parent and Carer priorities**
- 7. What practitioners and other stakeholders told us**

1. What the data tells us about children and young people in Newcastle

There are 284,300 people living in Newcastle and our population is growing. Latest population estimates suggest 64,100 children and young people aged 0 to 19 live in Newcastle, 23% of the total population (Office for National Statistics, 2009).

Generally the number of 0 to 19 year olds has reduced since 2001 in contrast to an increasing population overall. The 5-9 and the 10-14 age groups show the biggest reductions.

However, the birth rate has risen steadily over the last five years. There were 3,359 live births in Newcastle in 2009, compared with 2,920 in 2004, a 15% increase.

36,404 children and young people attend Newcastle maintained schools, of whom 96% live in the City (School Census data 2010). A further 4,636 children and young people attend

Newcastle Independent schools and 1,167 young people attend Excelsior Academy. Over 6,000 16-18 year olds attend Newcastle College, of whom 33% are Newcastle residents.

20% of the school population are of black or minority ethnic origin (BME), compared with 23.4% of the school population nationally; and 17% of Newcastle pupils speak English as an additional language (EAL), compared with 13.8% nationally.

The proportion of children and young people registered for free school meals (FSM) in Newcastle has fallen from 28.7% in 2005 to 25.2% in 2010 but is still well above the national rate of 17.4%.

The proportion of children and young people identified with special educational needs (SEN) has increased from 19.3% in 2005 to 22.9% in 2010, well above the national rate of 21%.

In 2007, 32.3% of children in Newcastle were living in poverty (defined as families in receipt of benefits or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% of median income)

2. What does the data tell us about outcomes for children and young people?

We have analysed a lot of data about outcomes for children and young people in Newcastle. This includes information from Newcastle's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), which provides an assessment of projected health and social care needs to inform effective commissioning. This analysis tells us that we are closing some gaps but even in many areas where we have made good progress we are still below national averages.

The data tells us that:

- Poverty is having a negative impact on too many children.
- There are inequalities in outcomes for some children and young people.
- Too many children are overweight or very overweight.
- The numbers of children requiring protection or becoming looked after are high.
- Too many children and young people are frequently absent from school.
- Too few children and young people achieve educational qualifications.
- Too many young women become pregnant.
- Too many young people commit crimes.
- Too many young people do not stay in education or training.

3. What do we know about different groups of children and young people?

Some children and young people may be vulnerable, have additional needs and need extra support to help them to achieve their potential.

The following is a summary of what is known about different groups of children and young people in Newcastle. More details can be found in the Analysis of Need that supports this plan.

Children living in poverty

There are a range of different ways of measuring poverty and deprivation.

- In 2008, almost one third of children (16,670) were living in poverty.
- Data on children living in families in receipt of out of work benefits showed a drop in Newcastle from 33.3% of children in 2004 to 29.4% of children in 2008. However, it remained well above the national rate of 19.2% of children.

- Different data for 2007 from Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) shows that 32.3% of children in Newcastle were living in families in receipt of benefits or tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% of median income (a generally agreed definition of relative poverty).

There are substantial variations in levels of poverty in different parts of the city.

Children are more likely to experience poverty if they live in a:

- household where no parent is working
- lone parent household
- household where someone is disabled
- large family with four or more children

Children who grow up in poverty are:

- at higher risk of living in poverty as adults, and of experiencing negative outcomes
- more likely to be born prematurely and have low birth weight
- are more likely to die from unintentional injury, from exposure to fire or in a pedestrian accident
- less likely to have opportunities to play safely and access to leisure opportunities
- less likely to do well at school, achieve qualifications and participate in further or higher education or training
- more likely to live in poor quality housing and in a worse physical environment

Looked after children

In Newcastle, the number of looked after children and young people increased to 509 (November 2010), a rate of 97.7 per 10,000 children under 18. In November 2009 the rate was 95.4 per 10,000, which was higher than similar areas' rates (81.2) and well above the national rate (55).

In November 2010, 66% of children and young people in Newcastle entered care due to abuse or neglect; 11% due to family in acute stress; 7% due to absent parenting; 7% due to family dysfunction; and 4% due to parental illness or disability. National data shows children in care are five times less likely to achieve five good GCSEs, nine times more likely to be excluded from school, and six times less likely to enter higher education, than their peers. Research shows that care leavers experience high levels of unemployment and are at risk of homelessness and social exclusion.

Children and young people who are the subject of a child protection plan (CPP)

323 children and young people were the subject of a Child Protection Plan in Newcastle in November 2010. The number has decreased from 351 in November 2009. However the rate is still above national averages and that of 'similar areas'.

Children and young people largely become the subject of a Child Protection Plan because of abuse and neglect. This can mean a child does not reach developmental milestones as expected, such as starting to talk or socialising with others. They are more likely to suffer from low self-esteem, anxiety or depression, experience behavioural problems and suffer academically.

Children with learning difficulties and/ or disabilities

There is no single measure or source of information about children with learning difficulties or disabilities. However, the number of disability living allowance claimants aged under 16 years

in Newcastle was 1,910 in November 2009, a higher rate than the rates for National and similar areas to Newcastle.

Children have special educational needs (SEN) if they have difficulties in one or more of the following areas:

- learning
- communication, including autism and speech and language
- behaviour
- hearing
- vision
- multi-sensory
- physical ability

8,343 children and young people in Newcastle schools were identified as having some sort of special educational need in 2010. 5,086 of these children and young people (14%) were identified as 'school action' which means their additional needs are generally met within the school. 2,452 children and young people (6.7%) were identified as 'school action plus', which usually means that they will be receiving some specialist support from outside the school. 805 children and young people had a statement of special educational need, which means that their additional needs were more significant and they have undergone a statutory assessment to identify their additional support needs.

A breakdown of special educational need (statement or school action plus) by primary need for children and young people in Newcastle maintained schools shows that:

- 948 had moderate learning difficulties (28.7%)
- 757 had behavioural, emotional and social difficulties (23%)
- 471 had specific learning difficulties (14.3%)
- 412 had speech, language or communication needs (12.5%)
- 235 had severe learning difficulties (7.1%)
- 221 had Autistic Spectrum Disorders (6.7%)
- 77 had a physical disability (2.3%)
- 57 had a hearing impairment (1.7%)
- 51 had profound or multiple learning difficulties (1.5%)
- 33 had a visual impairment (1%)

Black, Minority and Ethnic (BME) children and young people

In Newcastle, the number of children and young people from BME communities has been increasing year on year to 7,273 in 2010 (20% of the school age population).

A higher proportion of younger year groups are from BME communities, varying from 27% of reception age children to 20% of Year 4 to 14% of young people in Year 11.

Of children and young people in Newcastle maintained schools:

- 1,333 (3.7%) are of Pakistani origin
- 1,268 (3.5%) are of Bangladeshi origin
- 681 (1.9%) are of Black African origin
- 428 (1.2%) are of Indian origin
- 660 (1.8%) are of other Asian origin
- 240 (0.7%) are of Chinese origin
- 728 (2.0%) are of mixed ethnic origin

Being from a BME group or having English as an additional language does not necessarily impact negatively on outcomes for children and young people, but it is important to monitor this and understand any issues that arise.

Children and young people whose first language is not English

The proportion of children whose first language is other than English increased from 15.7% in 2009 to 16.8% of the school population in 2010.

The first language of those children and young people for whom English is an additional language is:

- Bengali – 1,101 children and young people
- Urdu – 703 children and young people
- Arabic – 658 children and young people
- Punjabi – 440 children and young people
- French – 155 children and young people
- Polish – 104 children and young people
- Czech – 154 children and young people

Gypsies, Roma and Travellers

It is difficult to know the extent of the Newcastle population of Gypsy, Roma and Travellers, as it does not necessarily get recorded as a separate group and many prefer to remain unidentified, fearing prejudice and bullying. Community estimates put Roma numbers around 4,000 people with an average of four children per family.

- The majority of Roma do not have qualifications and their English is poor. Many of the adults do not have English as a first language and tend to use the children to interpret.
- Unlike other non English speaking children e.g. asylum seekers, they have extended family living in other parts of the UK, who they visit frequently.
- As Roma families often have no recourse to public funds if they lose their job, some Roma children are subsidising the family income by working and may not attend school because of this. Other children are responsible for looking after younger siblings to enable parents to work, as Roma families will not use crèche facilities for under 4 year olds as it is not culturally acceptable to leave children with strangers.
- The age of starting school is earlier in the UK than their home countries, so parents are reluctant to send their children to school before they are 6 years old. Likewise, at 14 a Roma child is considered an adult so will usually leave school.
- Like many asylum seeker families, Roma parents don't always understand the UK school system or curriculum and are put off by the cost of buying uniforms, shoes, school meals and paying bus fares.
- Health workers have reported poor uptake of ante natal and maternity services, some families have not registered with a GP and some families' uptake of immunisations is low.

Refugees and asylum seekers

Newcastle has adopted a positive stance and plays a leading role in the region in supporting asylum seekers and refugees. This has brought many benefits to the city, including inward investment, jobs, neighbourhood regeneration, profile and population growth. Refugees have contributed greatly to the social and economic development of Newcastle over the past ten years.

Data is collected on children and young people who arrive in Newcastle as refugees or asylum seekers, with or without their families but there are no data available on the numbers of

refugees and asylum seekers who leave the area so the asylum seeker and refugee population resident in Newcastle at any point in time is uncertain.

Between 2001 and 2007, 1,843 children and young people (aged 0-18 years) arrived in Newcastle as refugees or asylum seekers, varying each year between 436 in 2001 and 172 in 2004.

Of the 1,843 children and young people who arrived in Newcastle as refugees or asylum seekers between 2001 and 2007:

- 722 (39%) were aged 0-4 years
- 861 (47%) were aged 5-16 years
- 260 (14%) were aged 17-18 years

Refugees and asylum seeker children and families face difficult circumstances with no access to money and reliance upon vouchers. In recent research, children and young people who are asylum seekers or refugees:

- often felt a loss of self identity and loss of confidence
- can struggle to make new friends and mention that bullying is a great concern to them
- have often lost contact with family members and friends; and
- can have mental health issues stemming from past traumatic experiences in their home country (estimated at 11%).

All **unaccompanied minors** are treated as looked after children and placed in regulated provision, such as fostering or residential care and a core assessment and age assessment are undertaken to inform future plans for them. This includes meeting their emotional, accommodation, educational and health support needs.

The number of new arrivals has remained similar over the past two years with young people arriving from countries such as Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Zimbabwe, Iran, Somalia, China and Guinea. The Unaccompanied Minors Seeking Asylum team currently provides support to 23 young people aged 16-17 and 80 young people aged over 18. 10 of these are studying in Higher Education. Under 18s attend ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) classes and a number of other courses arranged by Connexions. All those in Newcastle Local Authority Care receive Leaving Care Support.

Families with 'no recourse to public funds'

No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) is defined as 'A person who:

- is subject to immigration control; and
- has no entitlement to welfare benefits, public housing or asylum support; and
- most often does not have the right to work.'

All local authorities in the UK have a duty to provide advice to people who have NRPF and to assist them in finding a solution to their destitution. Children's Services are currently supporting 9 families with no recourse to public funds and are at risk of destitution (January 2011). The financial support consists of payments for accommodation and living expenses. The families' circumstances are kept under review but support to these families may continue until the children concerned turn 18 years.

Homeless children and young people

In 2009/10, 1,075 families contacted the Housing Advice Centre for advice and support when experiencing housing difficulties. Of these, 522 (48.6%) had their homelessness prevented and

170 families (15.8%) were placed in temporary accommodation. Of the 170 families, 45 were from abroad, 38 had a physical disability, 28 had mental health issues and 8 had drug issues.

In 2010, 69 singles and couples under 18 were placed in temporary accommodation. Of these, 38 had an offending history, 29 had drug or alcohol issues, 6 had issues with mental health and 5 were former care leavers.

Domestic violence is the single most quoted reason for becoming homeless (Shelter 2002).

Young carers

Young carers are children and young people under 18 who provide, or intend to provide, care, assistance or support to another family member who is disabled, physically or mentally ill, or has a substance misuse problem. They carry out, often on a regular basis, significant or substantial caring tasks, taking on a level of responsibility that is inappropriate to their age or development. Young carers are often reluctant to tell others about their responsibilities.

The 2001 Census identified 475 young carers in Newcastle under 16 giving 1–50+ hours of care per week. This figure increases with the inclusion of 17-18 year olds. However, extrapolating from national figures suggests that there are between 1,200 and 2,000 young carers in Newcastle.

Research has highlighted some of the difficulties that young carers face, including:

- risks of ill-health, stress and tiredness
- social isolation
- more frequent absence from school; and
- bullying

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) young people

We do not have data on the numbers of lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender children and young people living in the city. However it is known that young LGBT people are one of the groups most likely to be bullied in schools; and they are at increased risk of homelessness, dropping out of school, physical or emotional abuse, depression, substance abuse, rape and suicide.

Stonewall claim that Homophobic bullying is epidemic in UK schools with two out of three (65%) of young gay and lesbian young people experiencing direct bullying.

Home educated

In England and Wales parents and carers have the primary responsibility for ensuring that their children receive an effective education. Although this responsibility is usually delegated to schools, some parents and carers choose to exercise it directly by providing an education based in the home.

Between the years 2000/01 and 2007/08 the average number of children known to be home educated in Newcastle was around 48. The most recent data (January 2010) shows that 85 children were registered. Around a quarter of registered home educated pupils in Newcastle are girls of Asian origin.

Parents assume the responsibility for educating their own child for a variety of reasons, such as:

- religious, cultural and/or ethical beliefs that determine a particular style of education which is not available locally

- the benefits of one-to-one learning
- their child's particular personality makes them unsuitable for the school environment
- the parent or child's negative experience of school, such as bullying or a school phobia
- they did not get into their choice of school or the nearest school is too great a distance from the home
- a short-term intervention or a particular reason; or
- a means of having a closer relationship with their children.

Registered home educated children receive annual visits that are intended to assess the suitability of the educational provision. There is very little data about educational or other outcomes for home educated children. There are no official attainment standards that need to be met and exams such as GCSEs or A Levels are entirely optional. Teachers of home schooled children - be that a parent or tutor - do not have to teach a child the National Curriculum.

Mobile pupils

In 2006, the average pupil mobility rate for maintained primary schools was 9.8% (with 1.5% joining the school after September Year 6). In maintained secondary schools, the average rate was 6.8% (with 2% joining the school after September Year 9).

Rates of pupil mobility vary significantly across the city and are affected by a range of factors including the availability of places in a particular school. In a minority of primary schools, pupil mobility is a very significant factor where only half of the children in the school remain there for the whole of their primary education.

In the 2008/09 academic year, there were 80 (3.4%) pupils in Year 11 who had made three or more school moves (including transition moves, that is: primary to secondary, or first to middle, or middle to high). Of these, 18 (22.5%) pupils achieved the expected 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C including English and maths, compared to 46.3% of pupils who had two or fewer moves.

Mobile pupils are more likely to be entitled to FSM, and be from BME communities or speak English as an additional language. As well as impacting on educational achievements, children who have moved schools repeatedly say that they felt a loss of self identity and loss of confidence, struggle to make new friends and mention that bullying is a great concern to them.

Children and young people who are frequently absent from school

The Department for Education (DOE) describes children who miss 64 or more half-day sessions as persistent absentees. This broadly equates to an attendance rate of 80% or less from around 320 possible sessions (it is measured over five terms). Children and young people who are persistently absent from school are:

- less likely to achieve good qualifications; and
- more likely to become unemployed in later life, to engage in anti-social behaviour or crime, become pregnant as teenagers or to abuse alcohol, drugs or other substances.

In 2010, 11.2% of persistent absentees in Newcastle maintained schools achieved 5 or more GCSEs including English and maths. For those who were not persistent absentees, the figure was 56.6%

In the 2009/10 academic year, there were 1237 pupils in Newcastle classed as persistently absent. This is a reduction of 151 from 2008/9.

Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)

891 young people aged 16-18 and resident in Newcastle (10.6%) were not in education, employment or training in November 2010. This varies from 7.2% of 16 year olds to 13.1% of 18 year olds.

Young people who are NEET are more likely to have low self esteem, which can lead to depression, are at a greater risk of homelessness and social exclusion and more likely to engage in anti social behaviour.

Pregnant teenagers

Each year around 250 young women under the age of 18 become pregnant in Newcastle, varying between 242 and 287 over the past ten years, and with between 35% and 44% of conceptions leading to abortion. Latest figures for 2008 show a substantial drop in conceptions to 50.5 per 1,000 15-17 year olds females compared with 58.0 per 1,000 in 2007.

The poor health, emotional health and well being and economic outcomes for teenage mothers and fathers are well evidenced.

- Rates of infant mortality are 60% higher compared to parents over the age of 18.
- Almost 40% of teenage mothers have no qualifications.
- 30% of teenage mothers aged 16-19 are NEET compared with 10% of all 16-19 year olds.
- Teenage mothers are known to have significantly poorer mental health during the three years after the birth than older mothers or teenage non-mothers.
- By age 30, teenage mothers are 22% more likely to be living in poverty than mothers giving birth aged 24 or over.

Young offenders

Over the past four years, the number of first time entrants (FTEs) into the youth justice system has fluctuated between 695 and 895 per year with an average of around 740. Local figures suggest a significant decrease in the numbers to 459 FTEs in 2009/10. The peak age for first time entrants to youth offending in Newcastle is 14 for girls and 15 for boys.

Recent national research shows a high proportion of young offenders come from households with significant social deprivation levels - low household income, workless households and free school meals. In a recent survey of young offenders nationally, 62% reported having major problems at school (behavioural, truancy and bullying); 41% were unemployed at the time of offending; and 55% reported alcohol related problems.

Children and young people who are excluded from school

The number of children and young people in Newcastle who are permanently excluded from school has decreased from 69 in 2007/08 to 1 in 2009/10.

The number of fixed term exclusions from schools decreased from 1,693 in 2006/07 to 1001 in 2009/10 (41% point decrease). The number of pupils with one or more fixed term exclusions also decreased over the same period, from 934 to 591. In 2009/10, 87% (880) of exclusions involved secondary school pupils and boys were almost three times more likely to be excluded than girls.

Persistent disruptive behaviour (32%), physical assault against a pupil (15%) and verbal abuse or threatening an adult (16%) were the most frequent reasons for pupils receiving fixed-term exclusions.

Children of prisoners

There are an estimated 160,000 children in the UK who have a parent in prison (Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) 2008). Children of prisoners may experience behavioural and emotional problems and may engage themselves in criminal activity, as according to national research children of prisoners are three times more likely to engage in anti social or delinquent behaviour and 65% of boys with a convicted parent go on to offend in later life (Social Exclusion Unit (SEU), 2002).

Children and young people with drug and alcohol problems

The drugs and alcohol needs assessment identifies 8,000 young people in Newcastle aged 10-18 as vulnerable. It estimates that 1,926 vulnerable young people (24%) will engage in frequent drug use. 1,290 vulnerable young people (16%) will have used Class A drugs in the last 12 months. 16% (435) of 16-18 year olds in vulnerable groups will have used Class A drugs in the last year.

In Newcastle the majority of young drug and alcohol users are White British, 65% are male and the average age of the user is 15 years and 10 months. Of the children and young people in Newcastle who use drugs and alcohol, 56% are mainly using alcohol, 31% are using cannabis and 71% are living at home or with family members. 50% are in mainstream education but often with problems for example attendance and exclusions.

One hundred children and young people

For every 100 children and young people in Newcastle:

- 51 are male, 49 are female
- 20 are from a black or minority ethnic group
- 17 have a first language other than English
- 5 are less than 1 year old
- 30 are aged 15-19 years old
- 32 are living in households in 'poverty'
- 25 are registered for free school meals
- 1 is in care and 0.5 subject to a child protection plan (CPP)
- 9 of the children of school age have an identified special educational need (SEN) that requires specialist support; and a further 13 need extra help with learning

Of those 100 children and young people in Newcastle:

- 79 will leave school with 5 or more good GCSEs
- 49 will have 5 or more good GCSEs that include English and maths
- 86 will be in education or work based learning at 17 years old
- 2 of the girls will get pregnant before they are 18
- 2 are likely to end up in trouble with the police
- 9 or more are likely to have a mental health problem
- 12 will be obese and a further 15 overweight at the age of 5
- At least 3 will be caring for a parent
- 68 think that they will go to university
- 42 have taken part in free leisure activities through FUSION
- 74 are happy about life

4. Inspections, reviews and assessments

Ofsted Children's Services Rating

On 9 December 2010, Ofsted reported that Newcastle was 'Performing Well' in terms of the quality of services for children and young people in Newcastle. Specific comments made in the assessment include:

- "improvement has been significant, particularly in the four local authority children's homes"
- "The large majority of services, settings and institutions inspected by Ofsted are good or better... there are very few inadequate settings and some key provision is outstanding"
- "A recent unannounced inspection of front-line child protection services found much that was strong and no areas for priority action."
- "National performance measures show that the very large majority of outcomes are in line with or above the averages for England or for similar areas."
- "Children progress well at school and results for 11- and 16-year-olds are in line with similar areas."
- "Arrangements for keeping children and young people safe are good."
- "A key priority of the Children and Young People's Plan, to support children, young people and families early before their needs escalate, has been successful."
- "The local authority has responded to children and young people's views by using their suggestions and the concerns they have raised to develop policy and improve services"
- "The local authority's accurate review of progress against priorities and the robust analysis of areas of underperformance show good prospects for future improvement ... Support is targeted where it matters most. This is demonstrated well through the most recent Children and Young People's Plan."
- "Limited resources are allocated efficiently to reduce inequalities. The local authority is developing its ability to meet needs through better use of funding and pooling of knowledge at local level."

Ofsted inspections of local authority services

- The second unannounced inspection by Ofsted of contact, referral and assessment arrangements within children's services was carried out in November 2010. It identified no areas for priority action and the following strengths:
 - "strong multi-agency working to protect children identified to be at risk of harm. Participation in strategy discussions is given a high priority and excellent attendance across a range of agencies is very effective in enhancing the quality of investigations and the recording of strategy meetings is of a high standard."
 - "Inter-agency working is enhanced through other professionals shadowing the duty service and the regular on site availability of professionals from a range of agencies. This is supported through robust and regular audits by the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board and as a result thresholds for children's social care are increasingly well understood and appropriately applied."
- Our children's home provision has improved in the last year, with Slatyford Lane now judged to be outstanding and Philipson Street is good.
- Our local authority fostering and adoption services are both judged good by Ofsted.
- Of the four Sure Start Children's Centres inspected at 28 February 2011, Lemington was judged to be Outstanding and the others were Good with Outstanding Features.

Ofsted inspections of schools and settings

- The very large majority of settings and institutions in Newcastle inspected by Ofsted are good or better.
- Importantly, there are very few inadequate settings and some key provision is outstanding, such as five of our nursery schools, four secondary schools, Newcastle College and three of the five local authority special schools. Ashfield Nursery was the first Newcastle School under the new Ofsted framework to be graded outstanding.
- Early years settings, primary and secondary schools are mostly good or better. National Challenge and Gaining Ground schools have made substantial improvements.

Youth Offending Team (YOT)

- The work carried out by Newcastle's Youth Offending Team was found to be "encouraging" in an inspection by HM Inspectorate of Probation. The team's safeguarding and public protection work was rated ahead of national averages. Inspectors judged much of the team's work to be of a "high level of quality" – praising in particular the positive relationships built with young people, and the "excellent" work done with partner agencies such as the police.
- The Howard League for Penal Reform and the Prison Reform Trust have formally recognised the work of the city's Youth Offending Team in reducing the numbers of young people receiving custodial sentences (in a letter to the Chief Executive).
- Also highlighted as a national exemplar in respect of the low use of custody within the Independent Commission's report into the future the Youth Justice system – "Time for a fresh start".



5. Children and young people priorities

A Young People's Steering Group (YPSG) reviewed evidence from participation and engagement work with hundreds of children and young people. This captured views of children and young people from different parts of the city, of different ages, abilities and needs. From these wider issues, the YPSG summarised these issues into five draft priorities.

These were then subject to consultation during May and June 2010 with a wide cross-section of children and young people and subsequently agreed.

As well as responses received from various individuals and groups working with children and young people (including some work by NACRO with 24 young people aged 12-18), the participation unit worked with 15 schools; and a range of early years providers to seek the views of younger children.

There is general consensus around the five priorities and a view that they will make a difference to children and young people.

to live in a city where everyone is respected for who they are

- break down stereotypes of young people, e.g. portrayed as jobs
- tackle labels and prejudice between different groups of young people, e.g. "charver", "goth"
- children and young people are people too, some services just treat us with suspicion
- opportunities for more multi-cultural activities and understanding issues affecting children and young people in their own words
- need more and better sex education and open discussion
- tackle bullying and discrimination
- consider children and young people when designing services and buildings

to feel safe and happy in our environment

- cleaner parks and play areas – all the time
- street pastors and community police
- better and safer cycle paths
- more street lighting
- night time staff on metros
- play opportunities relevant to different age groups
- more green spaces to play

to be recognised as experts in our own lives and issues

- having young people who have experienced issues talk to us about them
- we should have a say on things that affect us
- we want to see the changes we have made
- services should use feedback from children and young people to change how they do things

Children and young people want

to have someone who is there for us when we need it

- peer mentors and support – in schools and services
- help with transition into adulthood, life skills, finding jobs, (shared) housing
- open and approachable organisations
- all schools should have a counselling service/drop-in for support
- organisations like DnA and Streetwise coming into schools
- everyone who works with children and young people should be friendly and approachable

to have opportunities and a choice of things to do

- access to adventure and "dangerous" activities, e.g. camping, extreme sports
- cheaper, safer transport to access different activities and free travel to school
- more support and advice about careers and next steps
- having our own space and place to go in the city centre
- more "supervised" play for younger children
- things to do at night
- "what's on" guide
- creative activities – arts and crafts, gardening (community allotments?)

6. Parent and carer priorities

A group of parent and carer volunteers reviewed the evidence from parent and carer participation and engagement activities; including responses from over 800 parents and carers to the question “what one thing would you change for children, young people and families in Newcastle?”

Specific focus groups were also held to ensure the views of different groups of parents and carers were heard including BME communities, foster carers and parents of children with disabilities.

We want...

- affordable childcare
- clean and safe parks and play areas
- earlier intervention and help for families that are struggling
- better quality of teaching in schools
- cheaper public transport
- the council and it's partners to show they put children first
- more consistent services
- schools to teach values/ respect for others
- help for young people to stop drinking and smoking
- young people to be taught how to be parents themselves

7. What have practitioners and other stakeholders told us?

Practitioner views were gathered through a range of different mechanisms, events and meetings, included specific events with the voluntary and community sector.

We need to:

- reduce impact of poverty and economic downturn on children and young people
- encourage all services and agencies to “Think family”
- improve access to advice services for the most vulnerable including “unseen” groups, e.g. young carers, children of prisoners
- raise aspirations and self-esteem – break the cycle – use mentoring, coaching, life skills
- focus on individual needs
- increase focus on mental health and accessible counseling and mental health services
- support families and communities to find their own solutions to issues
- recognise the contribution and impact of the voluntary and community sector and ensure long term support
- better integrate between statutory and community services
- develop model of peer support for children and young people in all the priority areas
- establish more creative approaches outside mainstream education
- create positive perceptions of young people and promote role models
- support care leavers – corporate parenting shouldn't stop at 18

Appendix 2: SAFE – Keeping children and young people safe and supporting families



From our analyses we have identified and agreed three outcomes that partners across the Children's Trust will work towards improving in the next three years:

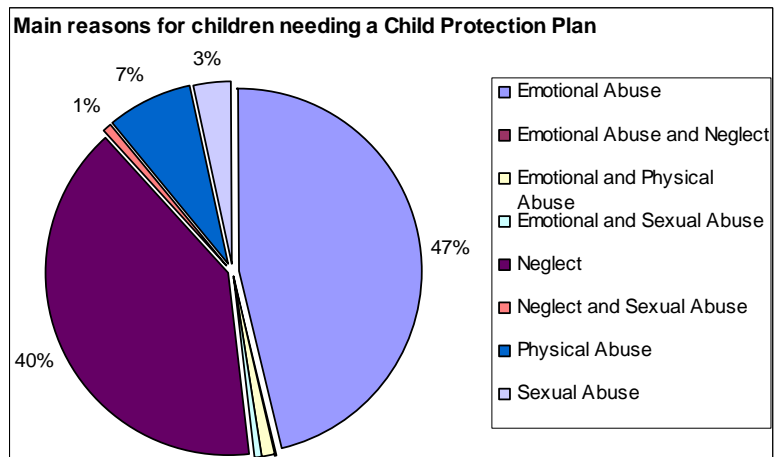
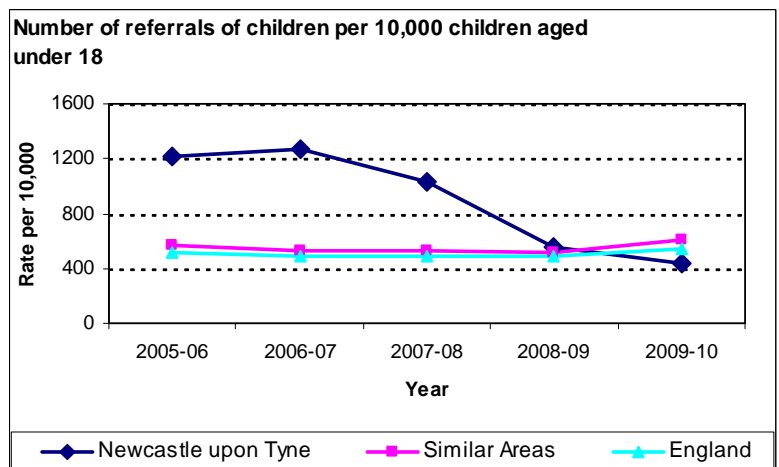
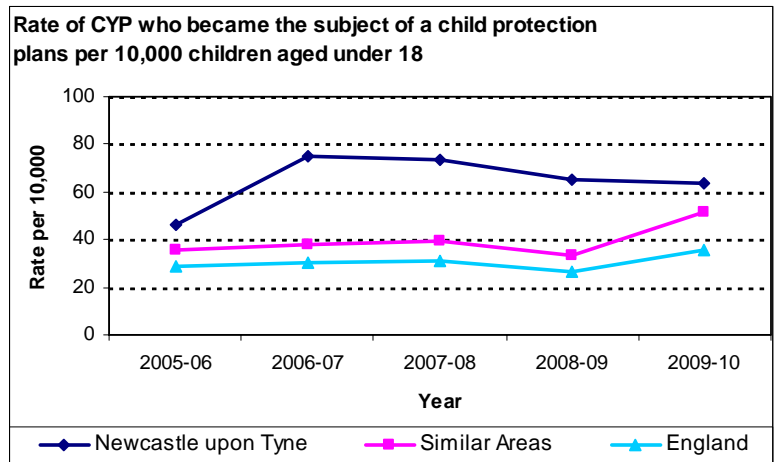
- Children and young people are protected from violence and neglect
- Children and young people are safe and feel safe in their communities where they live, go to school, play and work
- Families, parents and carers are supported when they need it most

Each relevant partner will set out in its own strategic plans how it will deliver against these outcomes.

Children and young people are protected from violence and neglect

What the data tells us

- The rate of children subject to a child protection plan in Newcastle is high.
- The main reasons for children needing a Child Protection Plan (CPP) are emotional abuse, neglect and physical abuse.
- 19.1% of all children becoming subject of a plan in the year 2009/10 were subject of a CPP for a second or subsequent time. The trend over the last 3 years has seen the percentage of children becoming subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time in Newcastle increase year on year from 14.1% in 2007/08 to 17.1% in 2008/09 and 19.1% in 2009/10.
- Number/rate of referrals has decreased significantly reflecting both improved systems and recording and increasingly appropriate referrals from other agencies. This is now lower than national rates and similar areas.
- Numbers of children subject to child protection plans remains higher than similar areas and much higher than the national average, despite reducing slightly during 2010/11.
- The timeliness of social care assessments have improved significantly and both initial and core assessments are now completed in timescale at a rate better than similar local authorities and national averages.



What is the story behind the data?

- More children and young people who require protection or become looked after are from the most deprived parts of the city.
- 41% of children subject to a child protection plan are aged 0-4 years; 57% of looked after children are aged 10-16 years
- 22% of referrals to Children's Social Care were for domestic violence.
- In child protection cases where domestic violence is a significant factor, 44% of parents misuse alcohol and 61% misuse other substances. Overall, between 2,500 and 3,000 children are affected by parents who misuse alcohol and other drugs in Newcastle.
- In 2009/10, 15,259 contacts were received by children's social care of which 52% were from the police. 2174 (14%) of the contacts became referrals to Children's Social Care in 2009/10. Of these referrals, 31% were from the police, 23% from health, 10% from schools, 9% from other local authority services, and 5% from a friend, neighbour or relative.

Working together to make a difference – Police and Children’s Social Care protocols

Dedicated screening team in social care holds daily meetings with Police on all new domestic violence notifications so that priority cases are identified and seen quickly, including same day visits where necessary.

Working together to make a difference - Signs of Safety Model

Signs of Safety is a solution focused approach to Child Protection work, centred around engagement; collaborative planning; harnessing professional and family ideas and resources; and focusing on building safety rather than trying to eliminate danger. Between October 2009 and April 2010 a total of 17 conferences for 38 children were held using the Signs of Safety model; 11 Initial Child Protection Conferences and 6 reviews.

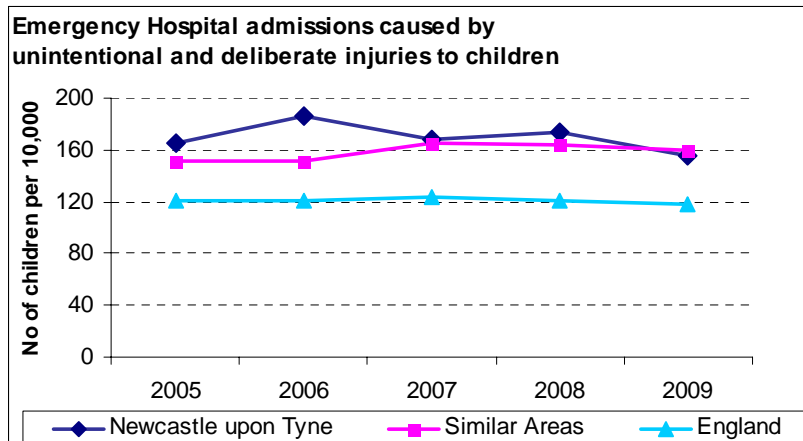
In 97% of cases, professional participants felt the Signs of Safety conference was better than the previous conference. In 90% of cases, professionals also felt the Signs of Safety conference had improved both the process of information sharing and the process of risk assessment.



Children and young people are safe and feel safe in their communities where they live, go to school, play and work

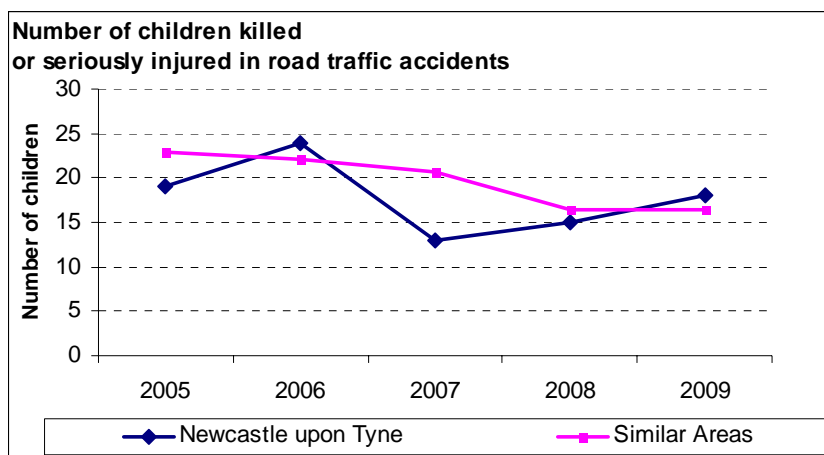
What the data tells us

- The rate of emergency hospital admissions from accidental or deliberate injuries is high.
- The number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents is lower than other areas.
- The proportion of children and young people in Newcastle who have experienced bullying is similar to other areas.
- Children and young people living in Newcastle feel significantly less safe going out than young people nationally or in similar areas.



What is the story behind the data?

- Children and young people in Newcastle say that feeling safe and living in a city where everyone is respected for who they are, are priorities for them.
- Parents and carers identified safe parks and play areas as one of their priorities. They also thought it was important that values and respect for others was taught in school.
- Research tells us that children and young people are more likely to be bullied if they: have a disability or special needs; have caring responsibilities; are looked after children and young people or care leavers; are or are perceived as being gay, lesbian or bisexual; from black and minority ethnic communities.
- The majority of children and young people in Newcastle feel quite or very safe in the area where they live, going to and from school, and in school. (Tellus). However a significant proportion say they feel a bit or very unsafe in the area where they live.
- The following things most often make young people feel unsafe in their local area (Tellus): groups of people hanging around, gangs, people carrying knives, people drinking or being drunk and people they think are on drugs.
- In the council's latest Residents Survey 10% of respondents felt that people being attacked because of their skin colour, ethnic origin or religion was a problem in their local area which compares to 24% in 2007/8.
- Most accidental injuries at all ages are due to falls, most fatalities are due to road traffic accidents.
- Children and young people living in deprived areas are more likely to die from unintentional injury, from exposure to fire or in a pedestrian accident and are less likely to have opportunities to play safely than those from more affluent areas. Boys are twice as likely to have accidents as girls.



Working together to make a difference – Accident prevention

- Road safety work with early years providers, schools and community groups has included creation of 20 mile per hour zones to reduce traffic speed. Over 2200 children are trained in cycle proficiency; over 9000 children in basic road safety education per year.
- The Under 5's accident prevention forum provides education and support to help parents manage risk and safety in the home and includes initiatives to loan safety equipment.
- Home fire risk assessments are undertaken by the fire brigade and a fire safety education programme is delivered in schools to reduce risks and arson incidents

Working together to make a difference – Anti-bullying work

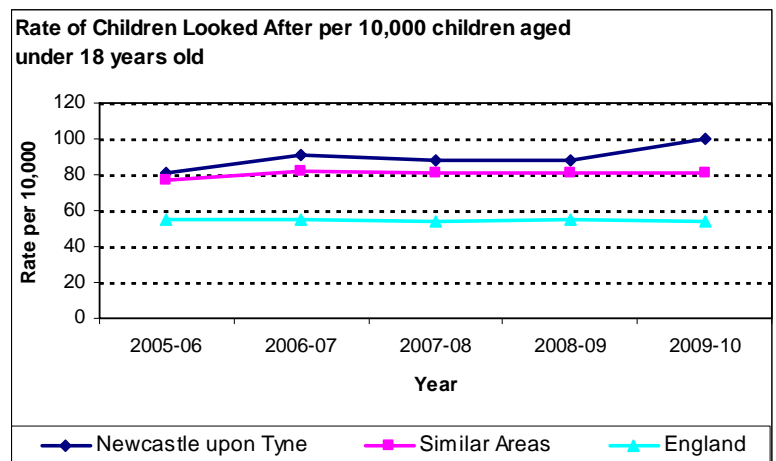
Anti-bullying work with schools in Newcastle is endorsed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, and includes work on all prejudice issues. Five secondary schools and 10 primary schools have been awarded the Anti-Bullying good practice award.

ARCH (Agencies against Racial Crime and Harassment) provides conflict management training to young people identified as 'having influence' through involvement in conflict themselves or because they are respected or have something to say. This course has effected attitudinal and behavioural change in participants and reduced conflict and racism in the school and is being acknowledged as national good practice.

Families, parents and carers are supported when they need it most

What the data tells us

- The rate of children looked after in Newcastle is high at 97.7 per 10,000 children under 18.
- The number of looked after children and young people increased to 509 (November 2010), and remains higher than similar areas and much higher than the national average.
- The proportion of Newcastle residents who felt that parents in their local area took responsibility for the behaviour of their children is slightly higher than other areas.



What is the story behind the data?

- Parents and carers in Newcastle say earlier intervention and help for families that are struggling is a priority.
- In November 2010, 66% of children and young people in Newcastle entered care due to abuse or neglect; 11% due to family in acute stress; 7% due to absent parenting; 7% due to family dysfunction; and 4% due to parental illness or disability.
- National data shows children in care are five times less likely to achieve five good GCSEs, nine times more likely to be excluded from school, and six times less likely to enter higher

education, than their peers. Research shows that care leavers experience high levels of unemployment and are at risk of homelessness and social exclusion.

- Ofsted recognised that "The common assessment framework (CAF) is beginning to be routinely used by a range of agencies to provide preventative services to children and families" (Inspection of of contact, referral and assessment arrangements, February 2010)
- Between 1 April 2009 and 31 June 2010, 1054 assessments using CAF were recorded in Newcastle. The most frequent reasons for a CAF were: behaviour at home (11%); behaviour at school (9%); child's illness or disability (9%); parenting (8%); family relationship issues (5%); parent's mental health (5%); and school attendance (5%).
- Where there are professionals supporting a family to make changes through a parenting programme, outcomes are improved. 82% of all parents on programmes felt better afterwards and 965 said they had been helped to cope with their problems. These figures rose to 1005 for parents who received dedicated support as part of the programme.

Working together to make a difference - Community Fostering Scheme

The Community Fostering Scheme works with children who are at risk of coming into care, using experienced foster carers to work in the family's own home alongside the child's social worker to help maintain the child in their own family home.

The Foster Carers in the scheme are skilled and experienced at engaging with children and their families and in helping them to achieve their goals. The Community Fostering Scheme ensures that there is always someone there to listen to the child and to put their wishes and choices at the front of any decisions that are made.

Since March 2007 the scheme has worked with 136 children of whom 120 have remained at home with no further involvement.

Working together to make a difference - Families at Risk Intensive Support Service

The Families at Risk Intensive Support Service (FRISS) works with the most challenging families and tackles issues such as antisocial behaviour, youth crime, school absenteeism, drug and alcohol addiction, domestic violence, poor mental health and inter-generational disadvantage. Families are supported by a dedicated 'key worker' who coordinates a multi-agency package of support and works directly with family members to help them overcome their problems.

In Newcastle, 518 individuals in 126 families have received FRISS interventions (645 people referred) leading to:

- 71% improvement in anti-social behaviour
- 85% reduction in risk of eviction
- 54% reduction in child protection plans or risk of (27 child protection plans were discontinued)
- 69% reduction in children becoming looked after or at risk of (24 children returned home)
- 58 individuals entered employment, education or training while participating in the Your Homes Newcastle (YHN) Family Intervention Project (FIP)

Working together to make a difference – Sure Start Children’s Centres

Sure Start Children’s Centres use birth registration data to target geographic areas where large numbers of families have not registered with Sure Start or engaged with universal services.

The outreach team offer home visits to families where parents have low confidence, encouraging them to engage with activities and accompanying them, where necessary. Visits are followed up with phone calls or text messages to maintain a good relationship.

The outreach team have developed an outcomes focused record system that they use to monitor the engagement of families and their outcomes. This personalised approach has received positive comments from parents and has led to greater engagement from families who had described themselves as isolated.

It has meant they have been able to engage with many vulnerable families who may not have accessed the services without this early and intensive relationship building. Using an outcomes focused ‘tool’ has enabled the team to plan future activities and engagement with families and share best practice.



Key partners contributing towards this priority and the measures that we will monitor to manage performance

PRIORITY – SAFE		
Outcomes	Key Partners	Measures of success
Children and young people are protected from violence, abuse and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newcastle Safeguarding Children's Board • City Council Children's Services • Police • Health • Schools • Newcastle College • Voluntary and community sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of children subject to a child protection plan (CPP) reduces • Referrals to Children's Social Care decrease • Rate of children subject to CPP for second or subsequent time reduces • Timeliness of social care assessments improves • Reduction in the number of incidents of domestic violence in households with resident children • Reduction in the number of cases of parental substance misuse in households with resident children
Children and young people are safe and feel safe in their communities where they live, go to school, play and work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe Newcastle • City Council Children's Services • City Council E&R directorate • City Council Adult and Culture Services • Police • ARCH • Health • Schools • Newcastle College • Fire Service • Voluntary and community sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents reduces • Rate of emergency hospital admissions of children with accidental or deliberate injuries reduces • The proportion of children and young people who say they have experienced bullying reduces * • The proportion of children and young people who say they feel very safe around their local communities increases * • Reduction in number of racist incidents reported by children and young people * • Reduction in crime rate • Improvement in Ofsted inspection judgements for Stay Safe
Families, parents and carers are supported when they most need it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parenting Support/Think Family Commissioning Group • City Council Children's Services • City Council Adult and Culture Services • Police • YHN • Health • Schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More women accessing maternity services within 12 weeks • Rate of looked after children reduces • Increase in the number of CAFs undertaken • Reasons for CAFs • Improved access to targeted family and parenting support and resulting outcomes • Access to information • Increase in the number of families from deprived backgrounds accessing Sure Start Children's Centres

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newcastle College• Voluntary and community sector• Sure Start Children's Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sufficient of quality childcare in the city• Improvement in the quality of Early Years and Childcare settings
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* Some of these success measures will need to be developed locally following changes in National indicators and withdrawal of TellUs national survey



Appendix 3: EQUAL – Reducing inequalities and promoting equality



From our analyses we have identified and agreed three outcomes that partners across the Children's Trust will work towards improving in the next three years:

- The impact of poverty on children and young people is reduced
- Children and young people who are vulnerable or have additional needs achieve the best possible outcomes
- Health inequalities are reduced, particularly child obesity and teenage pregnancy

Each relevant partner will set out in its own strategic plans how it will deliver against these outcomes.

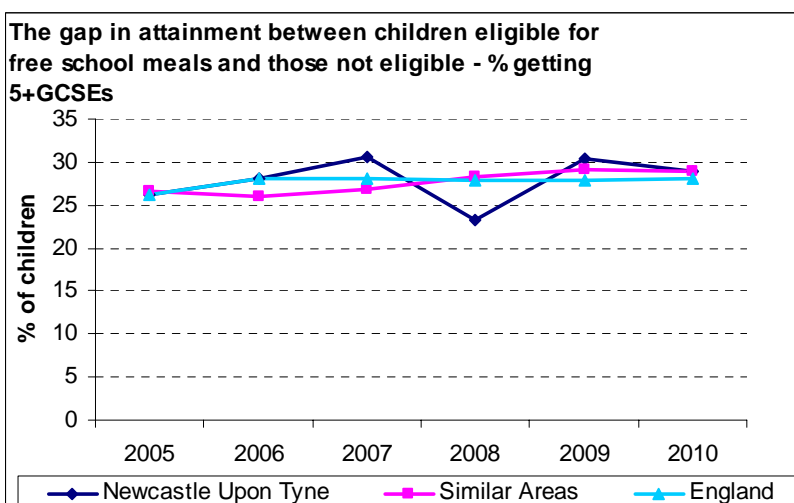
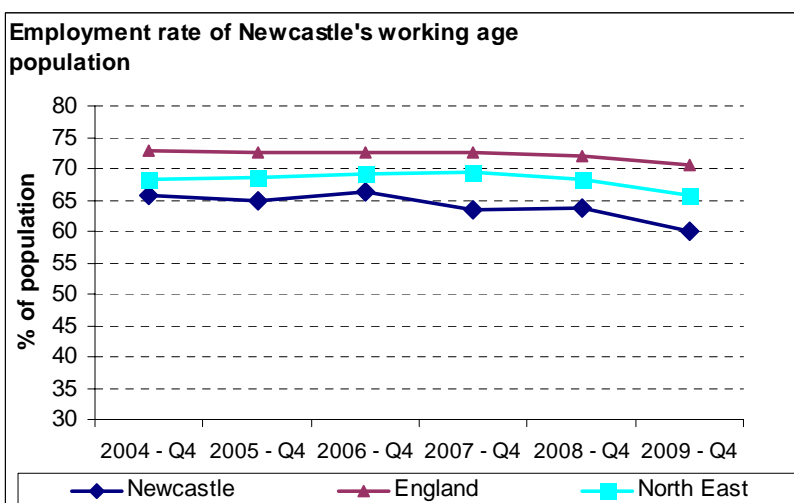
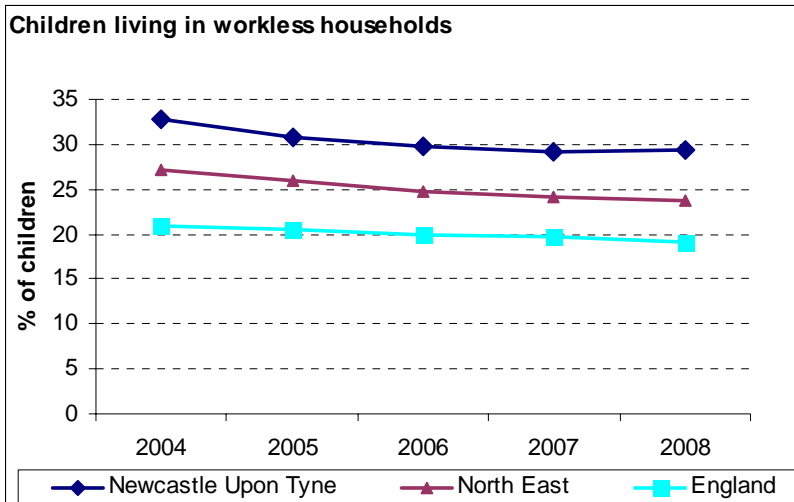
The impact of poverty is reduced

What the data tells us

- More children and young people live in poverty in Newcastle than the national average.
- The employment rate is lower in Newcastle than the national average and falling.
- Of all children attending Newcastle state-funded schools, more than half (52%) live in the 20% most deprived areas nationally. Only 10% live in the 20% least deprived areas nationally.
- Referrals into children's social care in Newcastle vary considerably between wards and a higher proportion of referrals come from the most deprived wards.
- Children eligible for free school meals (FSM) are much less likely to do well at school than those not eligible.
- 170 homeless families were placed in temporary accommodation in 2009/10 as were 69 single people/couples under the age of 18.

What is the story behind the data?

- Through the economic downturn, unemployment has risen in Newcastle and is well above the national rate. There is evidence that it has risen most in areas where it was already high.
- Children are more likely to live in poverty if no parent is working, if they live with a lone parent or someone with a disability, or if the family has four or more children.
- Babies born into poorer families are more likely to have low birth weight and be premature.
- Children who grow up in poverty are far more likely to experience poverty as an adult, to die from an accident or fire, and to live in poor quality housing. They are less likely to have opportunities to play safely and access to leisure facilities, to do well at school, gain qualifications and go on to further or higher education or training.
- Take up of formal childcare by low income working families is improving but is below national and similar areas. Parents and carers have identified the availability of affordable childcare as one of their priorities.
- Poor housing and homelessness are often features of child poverty and have a direct link to poorer physical and mental health of children and young people.



- A quarter of young people in Newcastle say that cost is a factor that prevents them doing activities that they would like to do, more than national and similar areas. A quarter also say they often worry about money. (Tellus)

Working together to make a difference - Quids for Kids

The Quids for Kids campaign led by Newcastle Welfare Rights service seeks to maximise the income of families with the most vulnerable children. Their work includes targeting:

- All families known to the Children with Disabilities social work team;
- All parents receiving a disabled child premium as part of their housing benefit assessment;
- Parents of babies on the Special Care Baby Unit;
- Families registering a birth at Newcastle Registrars;
- Lone parents; Foster carers, young people leaving care and unaccompanied minors.

In the last year, the programme has drawn down additional benefits of £1.1 million for children and young people with disabilities or who are Looked After.

Working together to make a difference - Jobcentre Plus and Children's Centres

Jobcentre Plus, Newcastle Futures and Children's Centre staff are working together to provide a package of employment and training support to parents, under one roof. This is convenient for parents who can access immediate support from these different agencies in a local setting.

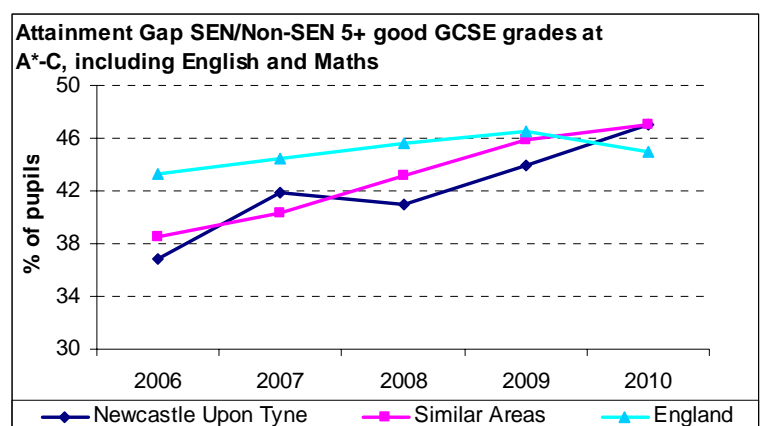
Jobcentre Plus currently attends Kenton, Cowgate & Blakelaw, Nunsmoor, St Martins and Newbiggin Hall Children's Centres once a week. The response from parents has been positive and they have asked for follow up appointments to be arranged in the centres.

Children and young people who are vulnerable or have additional needs achieve the best possible outcomes

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

What the data tells us (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)

- 23% of the Newcastle school population are identified as having some sort of special educational need (SEN).
- The gap between the proportion of SEN and Non-SEN pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, including English and Maths, has widened by 8.6 percentage points (2006 to 2010).
- More parents with disabled children in Newcastle say they are satisfied with their experiences of services (health, education and care and family support) than national or similar areas.



What is the story behind the data (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)?

- The primary needs for pupils who are statemented or at school action plus are moderate learning needs (28.7%), behavioural, social or emotional difficulties (23%), specific learning difficulties (14.3%) or speech, language and communication (12.5%).
- Due to increased survival rates of babies born pre-term, the numbers of children with complex health care needs is increasing.
- Ofsted judgements for the achievement of pupils with SEN across schools are very positive. Four of the five special schools are judged to be good or better by Ofsted with three judged to be outstanding. Success rates for learners with disabilities at Newcastle College have been consistently around five percentage points above those of other learners for many years.
- Disabled children are 13 times more likely to be excluded from school than their peers.
- 98% of disabled children and young people in the UK live at home and are supported by their families.
- Disabled children are more likely to live in poverty. It costs up to three times as much to raise a disabled child, as it does to raise a child without disabilities. Only 16% of mothers with disabled children work, compared to 61% of other mothers.
- Parents and carers of disabled children have identified the following issues as important - access to health services, access to therapies, communication and information, inclusive and accessible play and leisure activities, support for parents, transport.
- Disabled children and young people agree with the overarching priorities identified by all children and young people but some have a different significance, for example having green space to play is important but is linked to fears of being bullied or attacked.

Working together to make a difference – The BIG Planning Day

In October 2010 young people, family carers, schools, Newcastle College, the British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD), transition staff and other professionals from the council, health and VCS all came together for an event called the BIG Planning Day.

The BIG Planning Day was the result of 10 months work on the Quality Transitions Review. The review looked at what young people wanted to do when they leave school, their dreams and aspirations, and we made sure the families led the process. The young people who took part had a range of different needs. Some of them used words to communicate and others used signing or communication aides. The young people were supported to make posters about themselves and their experiences.

A key part of the BIG Planning Day was the presentations by young people. One of their presentations was a film they had made about walking along Hadrian's Wall. It was called 'What Is the Edge'. It was about their feelings and worries as they start to plan for their future and their transition from school or college.

The result is a new action plan for all young people made in partnership with young people and family carers. This plan is being taken forward by the city's Strategic Transition Planning Group.

Working together to make a difference – Improving health of deaf residents

The council's Leisure Services, DeafLink and Healthy Cities have worked together on a project looking at how individuals could 'Change 4 Life' by adopting more active and healthier lifestyles.

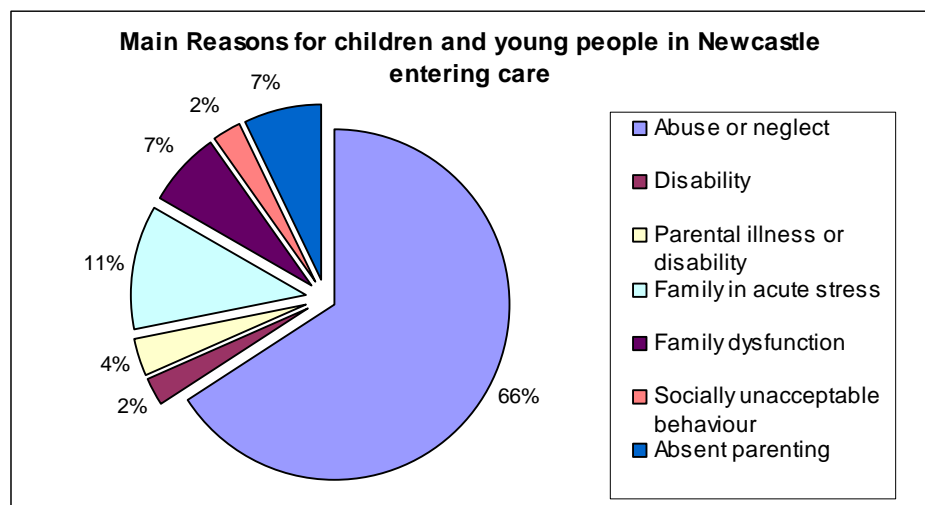
Staff ran taster events to gather the views of local deaf people about current leisure provision and to see if there was a demand for a specific deaf exercise group or sessions, with interpreters. A pilot session was designed for adults and young people over 16 years old who wanted to change their lives, get fit and learn about healthy eating. The nutrition and exercise sessions were tailored for the participants; instructors were British Sign Language (BSL) level 1 trained so they didn't need to rely completely on the interpreters and the programme changed to meet the needs and feedback from the participants.

The pilot was such a success the activity was continued, with an average attendance of 10 a week and has now run for just over a year. Every Monday from 6 - 7pm deaf participants use the Centre for Sport gym knowing there will be a gym instructor to help them and then 7-8pm they try different activities for example Taekwondo, boxercise, circuits, dance mats, ice-skating, bell-boating and climbing. At the end of every block of activities, we ask the group their views and activity suggestions / improvements for the next block.

Looked after children (LAC)

What the data tells us (Looked after children)

- Newcastle has a much higher number of looked after children (LAC) than national or similar areas. The number of looked after children and young people increased to 509 (November 2010), a rate of 97.7 per 10,000 children under 18.
- Performance on the stability of placements (no. of places) declined from 9.5% in 2008 to 13.5% in 2009 making it worse than comparators for the first time in four years. However, this figure has improved to 8.3% in March 2010 (provisional).
- In 2009, the stability of placements (length of placement) was 65% and below national and similar areas. This figure increased to 80% in March 2010 (provisional).
- Newcastle's performance on the timeliness of placements of LAC for adoption is good and above national and similar areas.
- Educational outcomes improved in 2009 at all ages
- The proportion of care leavers living in suitable accommodation in Newcastle has increased from 63.0% in 2002 to 95.2% in 2009 and our performance is better than national and similar areas.
- The proportion of care leavers in Education, Employment or Training (EET) in Newcastle has significantly increased from 37.1% in 2003 to 73.8% in 2009 and is better than comparators.



What is the story behind the data (Looked after children)?

- In November 2010, 66% of children and young people in Newcastle entered care due to abuse or neglect; 11% due to family in acute stress; 7% due to absent parenting; 7% due to family dysfunction; and 4% due to parental illness or disability.
- National data shows children in care are five times less likely to achieve five good GCSEs, nine times more likely to be excluded from school, and six times less likely to enter higher education, than their peers. Research shows that care leavers experience high levels of unemployment and are at risk of homelessness and social exclusion.
- The LAC population is getting older. The proportion aged 10–16 increased from 51% in 2007 to 56% in March 2010. 36% are aged 0-9 years.
- A higher proportion of LAC are female (54%).
- 16% of LAC are from BME communities (March 2010).
- 85% of LAC were from the 30% most deprived areas; 54% from the 10% most deprived.
- A high proportion of looked after children are in family placements.
- Improved care planning ensures that timely permanency decisions and plans are made about Looked after Children.
- Targeted recruitment for prospective adopters ensures good matching in placements.
- Good quality post-adoption support minimises disruption in adoption placements.
- Dedicated social work teams support looked after children in long term placements.
- Improved choices available through increased fostering placements.
- ASPIRE provides multi-agency holistic support to improve outcomes for looked after children.
- Local authority fostering and adoption services are both judged 'Good' by Ofsted. Of the four local authority residential homes, one is outstanding, two good and one is satisfactory.

Working together to make a difference - Children in Care Council Pledge

The Pledge to Looked after Children is the means by which Newcastle will deliver services to ensure that the children and young people in our care achieve the best Outcomes. The Pledge incorporates the key principles and the key objectives of the Corporate Parenting Strategy, and it is both our promise to the children we look after and the agreement with them to which they and their representatives on the Children in Care Council can hold us accountable. The Forward Plan delivers on the promises made in the Pledge.

In March 2010 an event was held to bring together children and young people representing the Children in Care Council together with elected members, social care and Children's Services managers and social workers, foster parents, and representatives of partner agencies like Barnardos, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, the NHS, independent fostering providers, and the Police. Working together in workshops facilitated by IDeA (Local Government Improvement and Development service), the participants identified the actions needed to progress the Corporate Parenting Strategy in 2010 -2011.

Working together to make a difference – Positive activities for LAC

We established a baseline of LAC participation, barriers faced and gaps in access to sports, leisure, arts and cultural activities. Ensuring young people placed outside Newcastle have positive activities has been a significant issue and good links with independent Fostering associations have been crucial. Successful outcomes include:

- We have had two successful bids by our residential units to the Youth Opportunities Fund and garden volunteering projects in our children's homes. One young person achieved an Outstanding Achievement Award for 100 hours of voluntary work.

- Funding from the Care Matters Grant for outreach work provided a series of taster sessions in different art forms including dance and drama.
- Our most recent initiative, is the Sing Up project led by musicians from The Sage Gateshead. Potential participants were identified and recruited via the Personal Education Plan (PEP) process (meetings chaired by Education Liaison workers of the Aspire Team), young people known to other support workers in Aspire and the Fostering Service. The project was regularly attended by a group of 16 young people. For many of these young people aged 8-14 years, this was the first time they have been part of a choir or music making group.

Other vulnerable groups

What the data tells us (other vulnerable groups)

- National figures suggest there may be as many as 2,000 young people with caring responsibilities in Newcastle. A national research study suggests 16% of young carers provide 20hours care or more per week, and 64% had been caring for three years or more.
- 20% of the school age population is from a Black, Minority or Ethnic community, varying from 27% of reception age children to 14% of year 11 pupils. Being from a BME group or having English as an additional language does not necessarily impact negatively on outcomes, but it is important that any issues are monitored and understood.

What is the story behind the data (other vulnerable groups)?

- Caring responsibilities do not have a totally negative impact upon young people but can have a detrimental impact on their personal life, their social interactions, their physical and emotional health, their educational attainment, and their employment opportunities
- Research has highlighted that young carers are more frequently absent from school and are more likely to suffer from bullying than their peers.
- More than half of the young carers surveyed feel unsupported or misunderstood by their teachers. 39% said that none of the teachers at their school were even aware of their caring role.
- 1,843 children and young people arrived in Newcastle as refugees or asylum seekers between 2001 and 2007. In recent research, children and young people who are asylum seekers or refugees:
 - often felt a loss of self identity and loss of confidence
 - can struggle to make new friends and mention that bullying is a great concern to them
 - have often lost contact with family members and friends; and
 - can have mental health issues stemming from past traumatic experiences in their home country (estimated at 11%).

Working together to make a difference – Young people with caring responsibilities

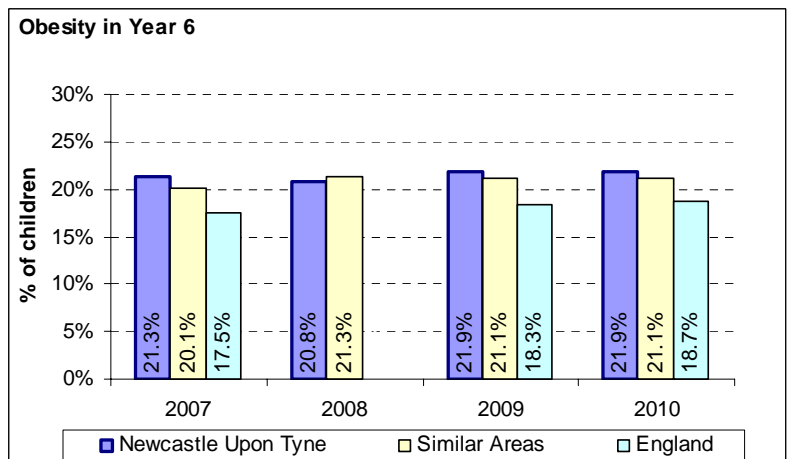
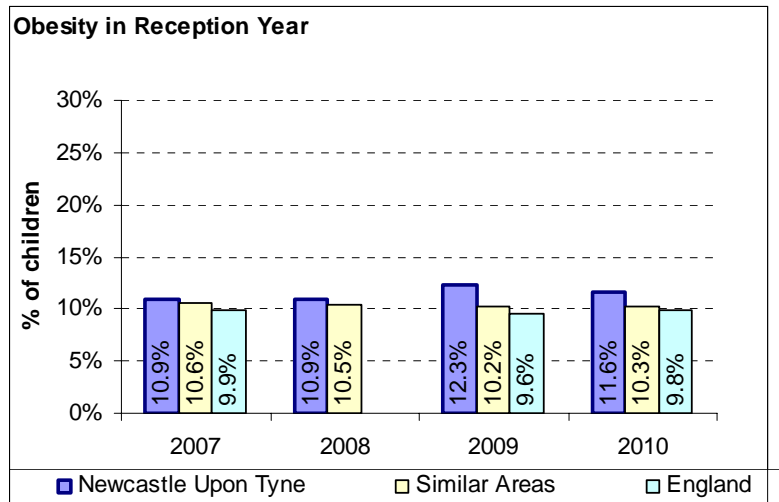
A successful pilot between the Young Carers team and Adult Services Disability Team has resulted in closer working, increased awareness of young carers, improved identification of young carers by Adult Services staff, use of CAF and pre-CAF by Adult Services staff and increased appropriate referrals to the young carers' service.

Young carers are also reshaping the services that support them and expressing their views, such as meeting local MPs, media promotion, developing a job description for "young carers" champions in schools.

Health inequalities are reduced

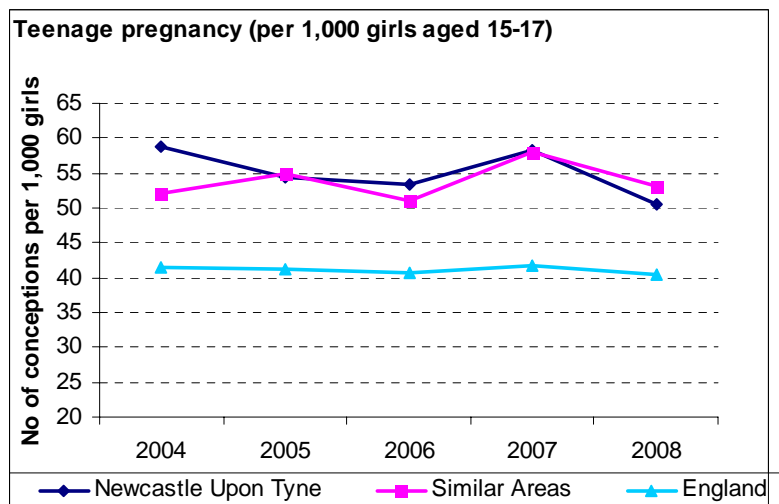
What the data tells us

- The proportion of children in Newcastle who are overweight or very overweight is high.
- More than a quarter of 5 year olds in Newcastle are either overweight or obese and this rises to more than a third of 11 year olds.
- Newcastle has a much higher rate of teenage conceptions than the national average. Each year around 250 young women under the age of 18 become pregnant with between 35% and 44% of conceptions leading to abortion.
- The proportion of mothers breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks has increased significantly in recent years but is below national averages.
- More young people smoke in our region than any other part of the UK. Drug and alcohol use is in line with national and similar areas.
- Immunisation rates for under 5s in Newcastle are improving but are almost all below national and similar areas.
- The latest survey in 2007/8 showed that 53.1% of Newcastle children had dental decay experience compared with 30.9% in England. The figure was also higher than most similar areas.



What is the story behind the data?

- Breastfed babies are less likely to become obese in later childhood. The proportion of mothers breastfeeding in Newcastle is increasing and is higher than similar areas. The rate of breastfeeding varies from over 50% in some wards such as North Jesmond and Wingrove to 16% or less in Walker and Woolsington. It is lowest in deprived areas of the city.
- In Newcastle around 32% (1,550 children) in reception and Year 6 are either obese or overweight. Research shows that boys are more likely to be overweight than girls; Asian children are more likely to be obese than white children; and obesity is least likely in managerial and professional households. Deprived areas are more likely to have higher proportions of children who are overweight or obese.
- The proportion of children taking school lunches is higher in Newcastle than nationally. Newcastle children are just as likely to eat 5 portions of fruit or vegetables as children nationally and they are equally likely to take part in physical education (PE) or high quality sport.



- The rate of teenage pregnancy is significantly higher in deprived areas than the city average. Teenage mothers often have no qualifications and are three times more likely to miss out on employment, education or training than other similarly aged girls. Consequently, teenage mothers are far more likely to be living in poverty when they reach 30.
- Poor emotional health can often be a contributory factor leading to problems, such as behavioural issues, substance misuse and teenage pregnancy. Almost 10% of children and young people in Newcastle are estimated to have a mental health problem. Conduct and emotional problems are the most common.
- In the Tellus survey, almost one third of young people said they often worry about friendships and the way that they look. A quarter worry about relationships and being healthy.
- Parents and carers in Newcastle have identified it as a priority that young people are helped to stop drinking and smoking. They also think it is important that young people are taught how to be parents.
- Dental decay is a preventable disease but levels in Newcastle are much worse than national and similar areas, and oral health is poorer among children living in deprivation.

Working together to make a difference – The Targeted Mental Health in Schools Project

The Targeted Mental Health in Schools Project has run in 22 Newcastle schools over the last two years. It was created to highlight children and young people aged 5-13 years who may have or may be at risk of developing mental health difficulties and to intervene early in this process in order to promote their mental health and wellbeing.

There has been significant workforce development of staff in and around schools with the development of a school mental health champion in each school involved in the project. Involvement of a number of services has meant that children, young people and families in need of mental health support have been able to access a range of interventions suitable to address their difficulties.

Following robust national and local evaluation the project is being rolled out across the city.

Working together to make a difference – Teenage Kicks

Teenage Kicks is a sex and relationships education team which was created to tackle teenage pregnancy and provide informal sex and relationships education to young people.

The project runs informal workshops for young people aged 13-18 living in Newcastle. The sessions are interactive, informative and most of all fun. They cover a range of themes including self esteem, sexually transmitted infections, contraception, negotiation, assertiveness and delaying sexual activity.

The programme is designed to cater specially for the needs of that group. This is identified during an assessment carried out prior to Teenage Kicks working with the group, where an outreach worker will work alongside the link or key worker to ascertain the needs of the group regarding sex and relationships education.

Sessions will always be age appropriate and be tailor made to a group of young people. This includes signposting to local services throughout the city.

Working together to make a difference – Tackling obesity

Public Health has led a piece of work to develop a DVD aimed at positively promoting local programmes supporting families to make lifestyle change and specifically to address the issue of overweight and obesity.

Partners from across Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland and from health improvement, leisure services and dietetics have come together with local children, young people and their families to star in and produce the DVD.

The idea of the DVD came about as we recognised that families were often unsure about where to get appropriate help and support. Often families do not know what support is on offer, they build up many misconceptions about what local programmes are for and what they look like – and even what ‘type of families’ attend. Professionals recognised very quickly that peer information and support is very powerful, as in this way people considering lifestyle change, considering attending a programme, can hear and see what support is really like.

The DVD entitled ‘**Make the change4life to healthy living**’ was showcased in February 2011 at Newcastle’s Tyneside Cinema. It has been produced alongside a brief intervention pack and is available to help front line professionals raise the issue of obesity and support families.



Key partners contributing towards this priority and the measures that we will monitor to manage performance

PRIORITY – EQUAL		
Outcomes	Key Partners	Measures of success
The impact of poverty on Children and young people is reduced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Poverty Board • City Council - all directorates • YHN • Jobcentre Plus • Newcastle Futures • Schools • Health • Newcastle College • Voluntary and Community Sector • Private sector • Sure Start Children’s Centres • Debt Partnership and Advice Compact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in educational attainment gap relating to deprivation at Key Stage 4 • Increase in the number of parents supported to maximise their disposable incomes • Proportion of children living in poverty reduces • Increase in the number of parents supported through family learning programmes • Increase in the number of families prevented from homelessness
Children and young people who are vulnerable or have additional needs achieve the best possible outcomes, for example LAC, children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, or with caring responsibilities, or from black and minority ethnic communities	<p>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • City Council Children’s Services • City Council Adult & Culture Services • Schools • Newcastle College • Voluntary and Community Sector 	<p>Special Educational Needs and Disabilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational attainment of children with SEN improves • SEN statements completed within statutory timescales improves • Number and % of disabled children and young people accessing short breaks increases • Number of families receiving an individual budget • Number of CAFs undertaken for 0-5 year old disabled children increases

PRIORITY – EQUAL

Outcomes	Key Partners	Measures of success
	<p>LAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Parenting Group • City Council Children’s Services • Health • Schools • Voluntary and Community Sector • Newcastle College • YOT 	<p>LAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional health of children in Care improves • Improved educational attainment of looked after children • Stability of placements improves • Inspection judgements of Childrens homes are good or excellent • Children and young people’s views on being in care
	<p>Other vulnerable groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health • City Council – all directorates • Schools • Voluntary and Community Sector 	<p>Other vulnerable groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap in educational attainment of different vulnerable groups at Early Years Foundation Stage, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 reduces • Different groups of children and young people receiving targeted support and the difference made
<p>Health inequalities are reduced, particularly child obesity and teenage pregnancy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council • North of Tyne PCT • Newcastle College • Schools • Sure Start Children’s Centres • Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals Foundation Trust • Voluntary and Community Sector • Action for Children’s Oral Health Newcastle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obesity of Reception age children, including rates for different groups reduces • Obesity of Year 6 children, including rates for different groups reduces • Under 18 conception rate reduces, including rates for different groups • Breast feeding rates at 6-8 weeks improve, including rates for different groups • Improved immunisation rates, including rates for different groups • Reduction in the percentage of Reception age children experiencing dental disease

Appendix 4: ACHIEVING – Raising aspirations, achievements and opportunities



From our analyses we have identified and agreed four outcomes that partners across the Children's Trust will work towards improving in the next three years:

- Children and young people achieve their learning potential
- Young people behave positively and keep on the right track
- Young people develop into skilled, responsible and independent adults
- Children and young people enjoy their lives and have access to opportunities, culture and activities

Each relevant partner will set out in its own strategic plans how it will deliver against these outcomes.

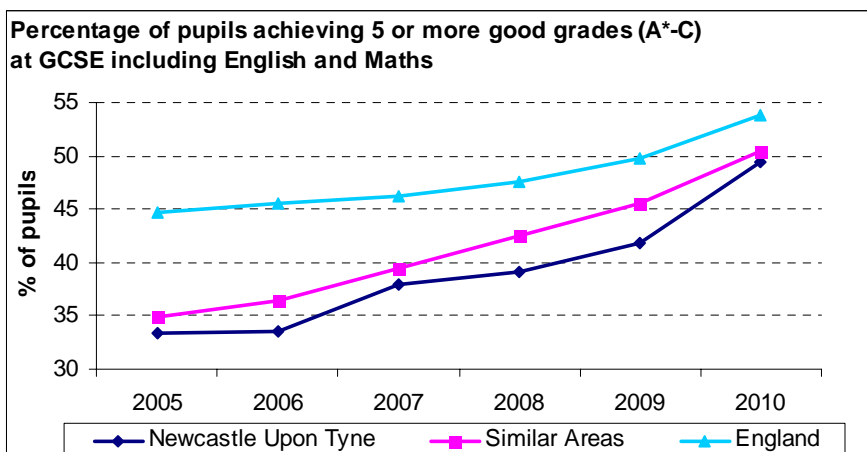
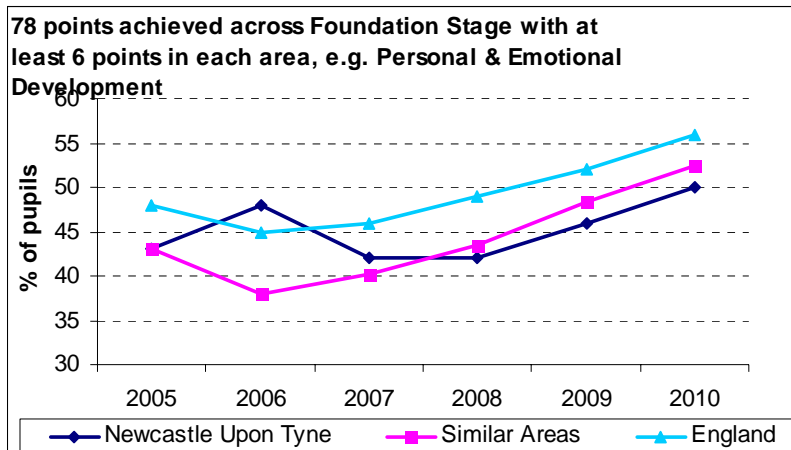
Children and young people achieve their learning potential

What the data tells us

- Attainment at Foundation Stage is improving but remains below national and similar areas.
- The gap between Newcastle and national results at Key Stage 2 has narrowed from 7 percentage points in 2005 to 1 percentage points in 2010.
- The percentage of 16 year old pupils achieving 5 or more good grades

(A*-C) at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths is improving and the gap with the national average has narrowed.

- Rates of frequent absence from secondary school are reducing but are still considerably higher than national and similar areas.
- The average point score by students achieving Level 3 qualifications (A/AS level and equivalent) is above national.



What is the story behind the data?

- The factors that have the greatest effect on educational attainment are (a) child poverty or deprivation, (b) special educational needs, (c) school attendance.
- Some other groups with lower overall attainment than average include: boys; those with English as an additional language; looked after children and young people; excluded pupils; mobile pupils (those who change school frequently); some black and minority ethnic communities (though some have much higher attainment than average). The attainment of many of these lower achieving groups is well below the city average but the gaps are narrowing.
- The proportion of early years providers, nursery schools and secondary schools in Newcastle judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding is the same or higher than national and similar areas. All our nursery schools, 4 secondary schools and Newcastle College are judged to be outstanding. A slightly lower proportion of primary schools are judged to be good or outstanding than nationally and similar areas.
- Newcastle College is one of the largest and the highest performing Further Education (FE) colleges in England.
- Poor school attendees are more likely to be: eligible for free school meals (FSM); to live in a deprived area, or to have special educational needs (SEN). There are no differences between attendance rates for boys and girls citywide.
- Children who are frequently absent from school are more likely to become unemployed in later life, to engage in antisocial behaviour or crime, become pregnant as teenagers or to misuse alcohol, drugs or other substances.
- More than 90% of children and young people in Newcastle said they had access to a computer and access to the internet at home to help with their school work (Tellus 2009).
- The proportions of young people in Newcastle who say they enjoy (45%), try their best (75%) and learn a lot (64%) at school are slightly lower than national and similar areas. The main

change they felt would help them do better at school is smaller classes. A third of young people said more interesting lessons at school would make their life better (Tellus).

- Parent and carers in Newcastle have identified better quality of teaching in schools as one of their priorities.

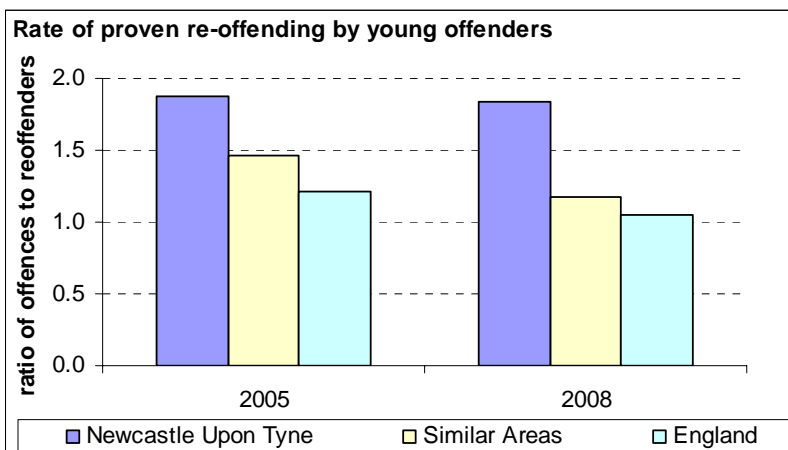
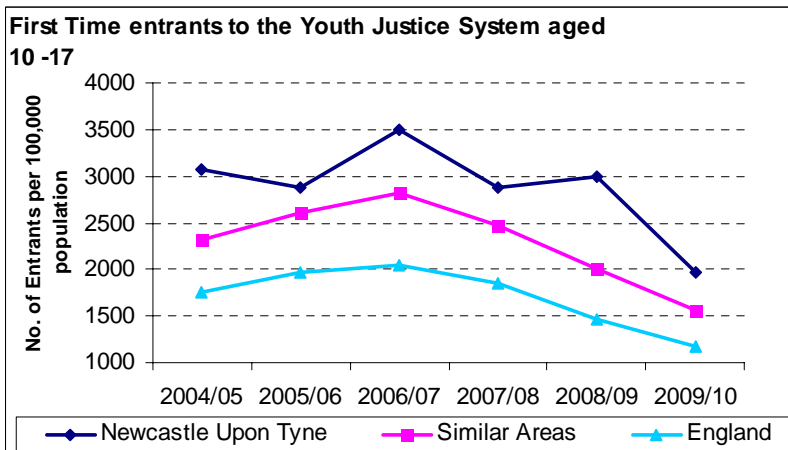
Working together to make a difference – School improvement strategies

- Strong focus on intervention programmes in Early Years and Key Stage 1, such as Social and Emotional Aspects of Development (SEAD) and Every Child a Reader / Writer.
- School-based interventions, School Improvement Partner and consultancy support for schools are targeted at schools with greatest need.
- LA consultancy is increasingly more bespoke and supports best practice sharing, which is proving vital in working with schools to meet the requirements of the recent 'Importance of Teaching' white paper.
- Schools are strengthening capacity in the identification of – and targeted support for - underachieving groups.

Young people behave positively and keep on the right track

What the data tells us

- Recently published national data for 2009/10 showed significant improvements in rates of youth offending and reoffending.
- The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system fell by 34% from 2008/09; and reoffending rates fell by 16% compared with the 2005 baseline. Latest local data shows a continued improvement in first time entrants but an increase in re-offending rates.
- The proportion of young offenders receiving custodial sentences in Newcastle is very low (1.6%) compared to national and similar areas. This is regarded as good performance but can have a negative impact on reoffending rates.
- The proportion of young offenders in education, training or employment in Newcastle is lower than national and similar areas but has improved by 10% in last 12 months.
- Newcastle has the highest performance amongst core cities for the proportion of young offenders with access to suitable accommodation.
- More young people smoke in our region than any other part of the UK. Drug and alcohol use is in line with national and similar areas.



What is the story behind the data?

- The peak age in Newcastle for first time entrants is 14 for girls and 15 for boys.

- Reoffending rates are often distorted by small numbers of reoffenders committing large numbers of crimes.
- Young people from BME communities are not over- represented in the local criminal justice system but numbers accessing YOT preventative services are increasing.
- The YOT preventative team are increasingly working with children and young people who are LAC or subject to a child protection or child in need plan.
- Young people of school age who are engaged in youth offending and criminal activities are more likely to have low attainment in school, poor school attendance, exclusions and behavioural difficulties in school.
- Young people known to the Youth Offending Team, Police and Probation Service are more likely to live in deprived areas.
- Pre-court decisions (i.e. reprimands and final warnings) accounted for 71% of substantive outcomes for FTEs between 1 July and 30 September 2010. The indicative recidivism rate of both interventions is 13-14%.
- Estimates suggest that 2,000 young people in Newcastle aged 10-18 will engage in frequent drug use. Most report age of first use as 13.
- 65% of teenage drug and alcohol users are male.
- Of the children and young people in Newcastle who use drugs and alcohol, 56% are mainly using alcohol, 31% are using cannabis and 71% are living at home or with family members. 50% are in mainstream education but often with behaviour and attendance problems.
- Parents and carers in Newcastle have identified it as a priority that young people are helped to stop drinking and smoking.
- In the council's latest Residents Survey, the proportion of respondents feeling teenagers hanging around on the streets causing anti-social behaviour is a very or fairly big problem in their area has fallen for the third successive year.

Working together to make a difference – The Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP)

The Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP) was formed in 2006 and works with young people aged 8–17. Its prime focus is to work with those children and young people at risk of Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) or offending. Involvement in the YISP is voluntary and is based upon the young person's motivation to make a difference. Interventions are delivered by a variety of agencies, both statutory and non statutory. Panel membership includes YOT, Education, Police, Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS), Play, Youth, Children's Social Care, YHN (Housing Anti Social Behaviour and Enforcement Team) and Connexions.

Each young person receiving an intervention will undergo an assessment (the Youth Justice Board's Onset). From the risk factors identified, an individual intervention plan is drawn up building upon the existing protective factors, appropriate interventions are then delivered and the young person and their family supported. Staff at the YISP often act as advocates for young people and families experiencing difficulties with their education; either because of exclusion or behavioural difficulties.

1:1 and small group work interventions have been most successful in influencing the thinking and behaviour of the young people with positive activities supporting the overall programme in school holiday times.

A number of children and young people involved in the YISP have seen their involvement in incidents of anti social behaviour reduce considerably and have improved educational attendance. The YISP can confidently claim that it has had a major impact on the reduced number of first time entrants in to the criminal justice system. It increasingly contributes to a number of child protection and child in need plans and the subsequent positive outcomes. Children and young people are involved in more positive activities and use their leisure time more constructively.

Working together to make a difference – Sports-for-Youth Academy

Aged 15 years old, Hamid wanted somewhere he could play in a safe environment after school. He began taking part in the regular football training and development sessions run by Sports-for-Youth Academy at the Centre for Sport on West Road.

Hamid says: “I got involved with Sports-for-Youth five years ago. Originally I kept going to the club every Friday night as it stopped me hanging around the streets and being involved in anti social behaviour.”

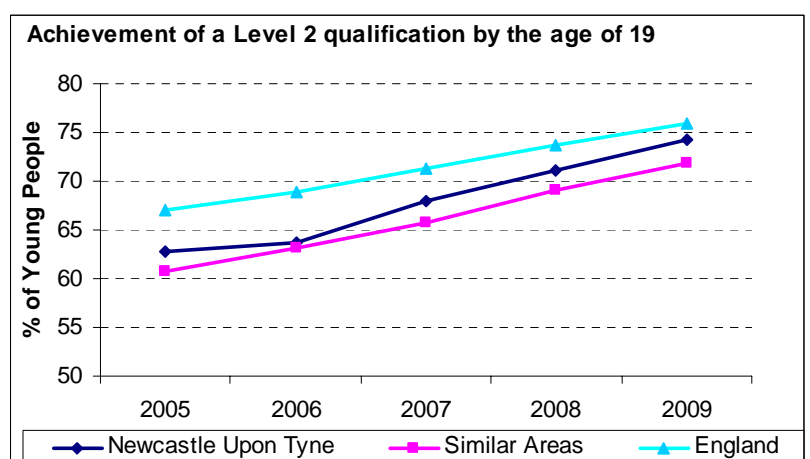
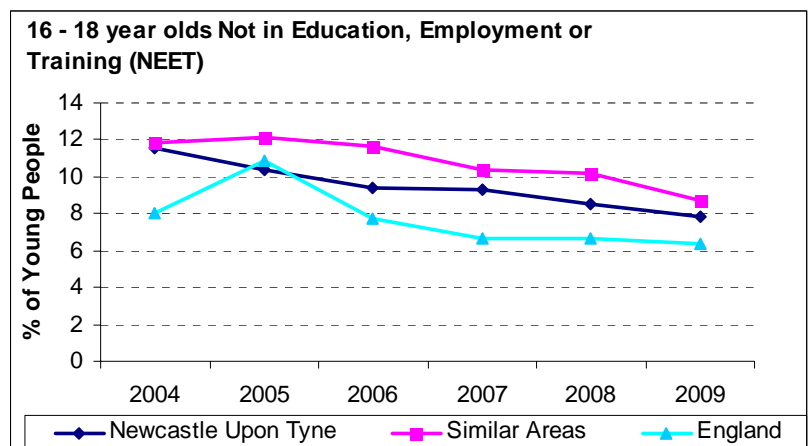
Five years later, Hamid has progressed from playing to gaining a Football Association Level 1 Coaching qualification and he is now employed delivering football coaching to other young people. This gives him much needed income whilst studying at Northumbria University.

“It is great and I am really enjoying it. It is a great pleasure working with Sports for Youth, everyone is so friendly, helpful and I am doing well with my studies.”

Young people develop into skilled, responsible, independent adults

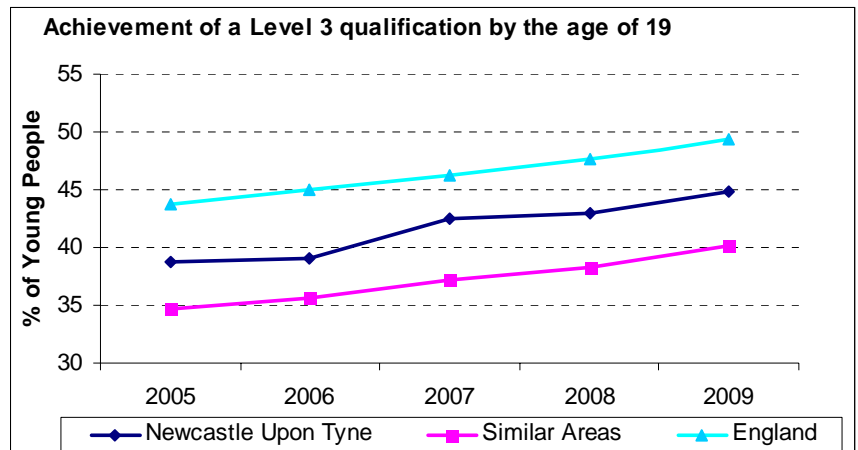
What the data tells us

- Participation in education and work based learning at age 17 is higher than national, similar areas and core cities rates.
- The percentage of young people aged 16 to 18 in Newcastle who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is reducing but is worse than national.
- Achievement of Level 2 qualifications (5+ GCSEs at A*-C or equivalent) by the age of 19 is improving and the gap with national is closing.
- Achievement of Level 3 qualifications by the age of 19 is better than similar areas but below national. The gap between Newcastle and national results has only slightly improved.
- The number of young people going into Higher Education (HE) has increased significantly in recent years, particularly from Newcastle College. However the gap between the proportion of young people from low income backgrounds progressing to HE and their peers has increased.



What is the story behind the data?

- 891 young people aged 16-18 and resident in Newcastle (10.6%) were not in education, employment or training in November 2010. This varies from 7.2% of 16 year olds to 13.1% of 18 year olds. The official NEET figures relate to Newcastle based institutions rather than young person's postcode.



- Local evidence shows that students receiving free school meals and those living in the most deprived neighbourhoods are less likely to stay on at school after year 11.
- Young people are more likely to be NEET if they are care leavers, have learning difficulties or disabilities, are young offenders, are teenage mothers, or live in the most deprived parts of Newcastle.
- Young people who are NEET are more likely to have low self esteem, are at a greater risk of homelessness and social exclusion, and are more likely to engage in anti social behaviour.
- 68% of young people in Newcastle think they will go to university/higher education in the future compared to 62% nationally and in similar areas.

Working together to make a difference - Aimhigher

All Newcastle schools have implemented Aimhigher Curriculum Plans and worked with targeted cohorts of young people in Years 8 to 13 to raise aspirations and entry to Higher Education including:

- university visits
- Aimhigher roadshows
- motivational workshops
- parent and carer events
- university sports events
- theatre based activities
- progression coaching and learning mentors
- the Inspire primary school transitions project

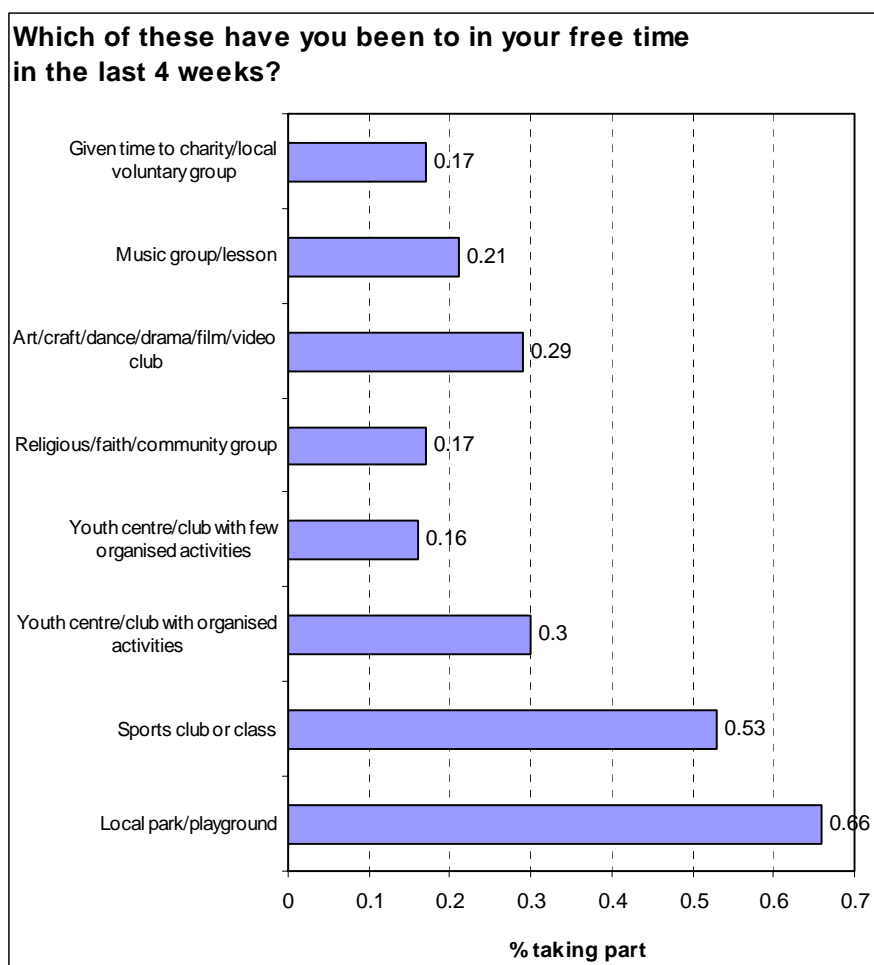
Working together to make a difference – Raising aspirations and providing opportunities

- Newcastle City Council has created 58 new apprenticeship posts, taking the total to 115. Targeting young people from deprived areas as part of the recruitment programme has resulted in an apprentice intake that is more representative of the diversity of the city. Priority interviews are offered to Looked after Children as part of the council's Corporate Parenting Strategy.
- The council also has a successful programme of offering Looked after Children work experience placements to raise aspirations. Participation doubled in the past year with 18 looked after young people successfully completing a two week work placement in various departments in the council.
- 'Enterprising Newcastle' provides young people aged 14-19 with activities to develop their confidence and transferable skills and to encourage them to consider enterprise options.

Children and young people enjoy their lives and have access to opportunities, culture and activities

What the data tells us

- Similar proportions of children and young people in Newcastle take part in sports, arts and leisure group activities outside of school as in other areas.
- Half of our children and young people are happy with our parks and play areas, which is broadly similar to percentages nationally and in similar areas.
- The main barriers to children and young people doing activities were: that they weren't available in their area, the cost, and not having anyone to go with. The next most common reason was that their parents/carers worry about them - this was significantly more of an issue in Newcastle than national or similar areas.
- More children and young people in Newcastle regularly use public transport than nationally and in similar areas.



What is the story behind the data?

- It is a priority for children and young people in Newcastle that they should all have the chance to do activities they choose to do.
- Parents and carers have identified clean and safe parks and play areas as important, as well as cheaper public transport.
- In a poll of more than 6,000 people in six major cities (Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, London, Manchester and Newcastle), Newcastle came top with 76% of its residents feeling that the city is a healthy place to live and work. Of those surveyed in Newcastle, 70% went on to rate the public park and play areas in the city as clean and healthy, 69% the transport systems, 63% the high street and 46% say that they even consider the public toilets to be hygienic. The poll was carried out by Dettol's Mission for Health campaign
- Newcastle residents identified activities for teenagers and facilities for young children as important priorities for improvement locally in the most recent Place survey (2008/9)
- In the Residents Survey 2010/11, respondents said 'activities for teenagers' were the second most important area for improvement after 'roads and pavement repairs'. Satisfaction with council cultural and leisure services fell slightly from 2009/10 and fewer agreed there was a good range of cultural opportunities in the city.
- Children and young people living in Newcastle feel significantly less safe going out than young people nationally or in similar areas (Tellus). A higher proportion than nationally say they never feel safe going out on their own during the day or when it's dark.

- Over 26,000 children and young people access free sports and leisure activities through the FUSION programme. 43% of these are under 11 years old and 39% are 11-16 years old. 10% are from black and minority ethnic communities. The gender split is even.
- Along with skate parks and kickaround areas, there are now 94 playgrounds in Newcastle. Ten city parks have Green Flag Awards.
- Over 8000 children and young people took part in cultural activities at the Juice Festival in 2009, compared to just over 1000 in 2008.
- Newcastle has set up an independent Youth Council. 26 young people have been elected with 8,000+ votes cast.
- Nearly 80 organisations and projects across the city are 'Investing in Children' members which mean they actively engage children and young people in changing the way they work. All schools have a school council.
- 20% of children and young people in Newcastle say they have been asked to give their ideas about what is important to them, to a school council in the last year. This is higher than national and similar areas. One-third of young people thought their ideas were listened to.
- The Children in Care Council is challenging officers and elected members in their corporate parenting role and the implementation of the Pledge for Looked after Children

Working together to make a difference - Youth Council

In 2010, Newcastle became the first in the UK to set up an independent Youth Council. Working with local charity Children North East, the City Council is supporting a group of young people aged between 13 and 19 to work with local decision makers to make Newcastle even more young person friendly. More than 8,600 young people voted, with 26 young people elected.

The Youth Council will provide an opportunity for young people to raise issues impacting on the lives of young people with decision makers to bring about change. The Youth Council will act as a consulting mechanism through which decision makers can seek the views of young people on decisions or issues which affect young people in the city.

Working together to make a difference - Creating inclusive play opportunities

Traditionally play equipment suitable for children with complex disabilities or sensory impairments has been located at a specialist school. We know that play is an important part of development and that good play facilities can help to engage children in creative play and discourage social exclusion. A need was identified for more of the city's parks and play areas to have play equipment suitable for disabled children, partly due to the number of families with both disabled and non-disabled children who use the parks located close to hospital.

Newcastle Play Services and the Parks and Countryside Service worked with disabled children, parents and carers to decide what equipment would be installed and in which parks it should be located. They carried out a mapping exercise by using monitoring data to look at where disabled children lived or went to school in the city. This identified a list of parks that could potentially be used by and benefit disabled children, parents and carers.

The first site chosen was the play area at Paddy Freemans Park. This park is popular with families and centrally located near to the Freeman Hospital. We held several engagement activities with parents, carers and disabled children to help decide what equipment to include from the available choices. These included an inclusive roundabout, which has space for a wheelchair and seating suitable for older people who may also need to hold a child. Other equipment included is suitable for use by those with sensory impairments and children with autism like the mirror rotunda. This equipment can be used by all and included in all mainstream play areas.

Working together to make a difference - Future Leaders

Children's Services commissioned an asylum seeker, through the Changemakers Future Leaders volunteer programme, to carry out research with her peers in the refugee and asylum seeker communities on the barriers they felt they faced in accessing services. Her findings are helping inform and shape services to meet their needs.

In 2010/11 two more Future Leaders have been commissioned – one to research barriers for Looked After Children; the other to research the extent to which the place someone grows up shapes their aspirations and opportunities.



Key partners contributing towards this priority and the measures that we will monitor to manage performance

PRIORITY – ACHIEVING		
Outcomes	Key Partners	Measures of success
Children and young people achieve their learning potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Improvement Partnership • Schools • Newcastle College • Aimhigher • City Council Children’s Services • City Council E&R directorate • City Council Family Learning • Work Based learning providers • Early years providers • HE institutions • Voluntary and Community Sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the proportion of children gaining 78 points at Early Years Foundation Stage, including at least six points in Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL) and Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED) • Increase in proportion of pupils achieving level 4 or above in English and Maths at KS2 • Increase in proportion of pupils achieving five or more A*-C grades at GCSE including English and Maths • Improved school attendance • Improved early years and school inspection judgements
Young people behave positively/keep on the right track	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council Children’s Services • YOT • Police • Probation • Newcastle College • Training providers • Schools • Voluntary and Community Sector • Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offending and reoffending rates reduce • The proportion of young offenders engaged in education, employment or training increases • Reduction in custodial sentences • Reduction in persistent school absence • Reduction in fixed term exclusions • Reduction in the level of substance misuse by young people * • School inspection judgements for behaviour improve • Residents’ perceptions of anti-social behaviour in their local area and the extent to which parents take responsibility for their children’s behaviour improve

PRIORITY – ACHIEVING

	Key Partners	Measures of success
Young people develop into skilled, responsible, independent adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 – 19 Partnership • Schools • Newcastle College • Jobcentre Plus • City Council • Work based learning providers • HE institutions • Voluntary and community sector • Private sector • Enterprise Strategy Management Group, City Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in proportion of young people aged 16 to 18 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET), including vulnerable groups • Increased participation in education and work based learning at age 17 • Increased participation by different groups in education and work based learning post 16 including apprenticeships • Achievement of qualifications by the age of 19 improves • More young people progress to HE • More care leavers are in suitable accommodation • Reduction in the numbers of young people homeless • Improved Ofsted inspection judgements for post 16 provision
Children and young people enjoy their lives and have access to opportunities, culture and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Council Children’s Services • City Council E&R directorate • City Council Adult and Culture Services • Voluntary and Community Sector • Schools • Arts, Leisure and Cultural organisations • Nexus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of how children and young people’s feedback has informed service improvements * • Participation in positive activities increases • Access to transport improves * • Access to leisure/libraries/culture improves • Children and young people’s satisfaction with facilities in their local area increases *

* * Some of these success measures will need to be developed locally following changes in National indicators and withdrawal of TellUs national survey

Appendix 5: Strategic governance and performance management arrangements

Newcastle's Children's Trust

Children's Trusts are local partnerships which bring together the organisations responsible for services for children, young people and families in a shared commitment to improving children's lives. Children's Trusts are not separate organisations in their own right, each partner retains its own responsibilities, while working together to join up services.

The Children's Trust currently sits within the wider **Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)**.

LSPs, which operate at local authority level, bring together the public, private, community and voluntary sectors and are responsible for establishing a vision for an area – the **Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)** and for agreeing priorities for improvement in the local area.

Newcastle's SCS Outcomes framework 2010-2030 aspires that 'All People in Newcastle:

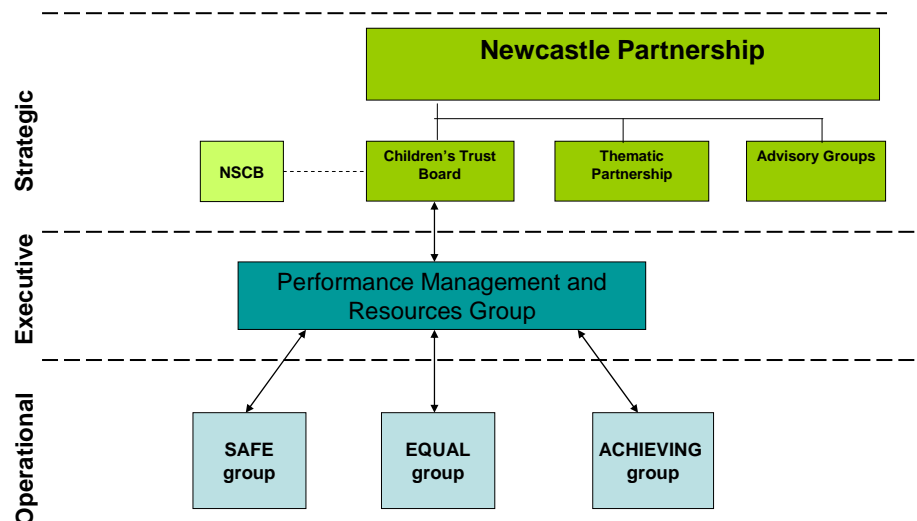
- are healthy
- are safe and free from discrimination
- have economic wellbeing
- enjoy a good quality environment in thriving neighbourhoods
- achieve their learning potential, express creativity and enjoy culture
- make a positive contribution
- have dignity, choices and control'

This citywide governance and planning structure is likely to be reviewed over the lifetime of the CYPP following the implementation of the government's Health and Social Care Bill. The Bill will bring about major reform to the health service and proposes the creation of citywide statutory Health and Wellbeing Boards, as well as to give councils a responsibility for the health and wellbeing of their population including specific responsibility for health improvement and the integration of services.

A key commitment from all partners locally is to expand upon the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), which currently projects health and social care needs to inform effective commissioning, to create a full strategic needs assessment across the whole range of public sector functions in the city.

The Children's Trust will need to confirm its relationship with the new statutory Health and Wellbeing Board in order to ensure that the needs of children and young people are central to its work. The Children's Trust currently informs and influences the work of the LSP as it relates to children, young people and families.

Children's Trust Partnership Structure



The Children’s Trust is governed by the Children’s Trust Board (CTB). The following partners are Board members:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Member for Children’s Services, City Council • Children’s Services Directorate, City Council • Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals Foundation Trust • Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust • Voluntary and Community Sector organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northumbria Police • Newcastle College • Newcastle Primary Schools • Newcastle Secondary Schools • Newcastle Academies • PCT Public Health • NHS North of Tyne • Jobcentre Plus • Newcastle Youth Offending Team • Strategic Housing, City Council • Environment and Regeneration, City Council
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The CTB also work closely with Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB), with two representatives attending the Children’s Trust Board meetings. The NSCB is a statutory partnership with responsibility for agreeing how relevant local organisations will cooperate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Beneath the CTB, a Performance Management and Resources Group (PMRG) has been recently established. Its broad remit is to direct and manage resources and overall performance on behalf of the Children’s Trust.

Remit of PMRG:

- Further develop and streamline the performance management arrangements for the CTB including identifying areas of strong and under performance that need to be escalated to the wider CTB.
- Ensure that the CTB reviews and influences the allocation of resources to:
 - reduce the gap in outcomes between the most vulnerable, and the majority of children and young people
 - have most impact on achieving CYPP outcomes.
- Ensure that the CTB has a commissioning strategy which is underpinned by staff with the right knowledge, skills set, qualifications and operational environment.
- Develop policies and arrangements to support the pooling and aligning of resources between partners.
- Ensure that the Board sets targets for, and monitors improvement in Value for Money (VFM).
- Ensure that the total resources available within the CTB reconcile to a costed CYPP.

Reporting into the PMRG are three Outcome Groups, one for each overarching priority of Safe, Equal and Achieving. Each is led by a Champion from the Children’s Trust Board supported by a lead officer from the local authority.

Performance against the ten outcomes will be monitored cyclically by the Outcome Groups; overall performance is the responsibility of the PMRG. Twice annually performance will be reported to the Trust Board and to the Newcastle Partnership.

Children's Trust principles

These are the principles on which we base all our work to achieve our priorities.

1. We will involve and engage children, young people, families and communities in the design and delivery of services.
2. We will champion children and young people's rights.
3. We will be evidence based and outcome focused.
4. We will provide excellent universal services for all children and their families
5. We will support families to address any potential problems early before things go wrong.
6. When children and young people are at risk, we will act quickly to provide targeted support.
7. We will protect and care for the most vulnerable.
8. Every child and young person will have someone there for them when they need it.
9. We will identify inequalities, raise aspirations and "narrow the gap" in outcomes.
10. We recognise the dedication and professionalism of our workforce and support their continuing development.
11. We will build effective and trusting partnerships and make the most efficient and effective use of our combined resources.
12. We will ensure that the breadth, skills and diversity of the Voluntary and Community Sector are recognised.



Appendix 6: Workforce reform and development

The Newcastle children and young people's workforce is currently estimated to be between 15,000 and 20,000 people. This covers people in a range of public, private and voluntary organisations and settings. It includes leaders and managers, and those in universal, targeted and specialist services in: education; health; social, family and community support; youth; justice and crime prevention; sport and culture; and early years and childcare.

Newcastle Children's Trust has developed a strategy for reform, deployment, development and recruitment of a high quality children and young people's workforce that:

- Is competent, confident, safe and well led to work with children and young people, families and carers
- Strives to achieve the best possible outcomes for all children and young people, families and carers and reduce inequalities between the most disadvantaged and the rest
- Focuses on identifying and preventing problems as early as possible while strengthening protection for vulnerable children and young people, working with families and carers
- Works effectively together across organisational and professional boundaries to meet the needs of children, young people, families and carers
- Is able to work effectively with children and young, families and carers from diverse cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds
- Is flexible and responsive, able to meet current and future need
- Makes as much difference to the life chances of children and young people as possible

Our aims are:

1. To improve the skills, knowledge and practice of the workforce within professional and occupational groups, and across the workforce as a whole.
2. To ensure that everyone in the workforce (including volunteers) has the skills and capacity to work effectively with children, young people and families to improve outcomes, and are able to meet the needs of those who are most vulnerable to poor outcomes.
3. To ensure that everyone in the workforce is clear about when and how they should work together to make the most difference for children, young people and families – and have the skills and capacity to do so.
4. To continue to embed shared processes and tools which support integrated working, underpinned by our shared statement of values for integrated working.
5. To continue to integrate and align workforce planning within a shared strategic framework so that organisational, service and sector specific workforce planning complements and supports our aspirations and objectives for the children and young people's workforce in Newcastle.
6. To develop the notion of 'one children and young people's workforce' in Newcastle, where everyone working with or for children and young people recognises and supports a shared vision and values, with access to training and development in the Common Core of skills and knowledge.
7. To strengthen leadership and management, recognising that leaders and managers in all parts of the workforce have increasingly complex roles.
8. To continue to develop common approaches to induction within a shared framework, so that people become effective in their roles more quickly and have the skills, knowledge and understanding that are essential to their role.
9. To identify opportunities to align and/or pool resources and expertise to support implementation of our strategy.
10. To contribute to the development of regional approaches to workforce planning and delivery of regional workforce strategies and projects that add value to local workforce planning.

What have we done?

- A multi-agency Workforce Board is in place as part of Children's Trust arrangements to support planning and delivery of our priorities for Workforce Reform and development in Newcastle. This includes local, regional and national priorities for workforce reform and development.
- We continue to provide opportunities for practitioners and managers from different services, organisations and backgrounds to train, share practice and problem solve together.
- More than 1900 practitioners and managers have attended Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Lead Professional (LP) training across a wide range of sectors and services, and support groups are in place to support integrated working practice.
- Local evaluation and case studies provide positive evidence of impact on outcomes through effective partnership working coordinated through CAF.
- City-wide multi agency information sharing training is in place. More than 1300 practitioners and managers have attended since 2009.
- A shared induction programme has been in place since 2007 (based on Common Core skills and knowledge for the children and young people's workforce) for practitioners from different organisations and occupational backgrounds.
- We have developed Key Working for families of disabled children aged 0-4 with complex need to improve coordination of services available to them. All parents interviewed said they had benefited from having a key worker, and the majority said it had helped to join up services for their benefit.
- An Early Years, Childcare and Play Workforce Strategy is in place to take forward sector specific workforce reform and development. This includes development of a graduate led workforce leading practice in full day care settings.

Key joint developments

- To continue to embed CAF and develop the skills and capacity in our workforce to undertake the role of Lead Professional
- To continue to provide opportunities for our workforce to acquire a common core of skills and knowledge alongside specialist or role specific skills and knowledge
- To continue to develop common approaches to induction, so that people become effective in their roles more quickly and have the skills, knowledge and understanding that are essential to their role and to support integrated working.

For more information see the Newcastle Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy.



Appendix 7: Glossary of Terms

ARCH Agencies against Racist Crime and Harassment
ASB Anti-Social Behaviour
BILD British Institute of Learning Disabilities
BME Black and Minority Ethnic
BSL British Sign Language
CAF Common Assessment Framework
CAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CLL Communication, Language and Literacy
CP Child Protection
CPP Child Protection Plan
CTB Children's Trust Board
CYP Children and Young People
CYPP Children and Young People's Plan
DWP Department of Works and Pensions
EAL English as an Additional Language
EET Education, Employment and Training
ESOL English for speakers of other languages
EYFS Early Years Foundation Stage
FE Further Education
FIP Families Intervention Programme
FRISS Families at Risk Intensive Support Service
FTE First Time Entrants
FSM Free School Meals
GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education
HE Higher Education
IDeA Local Government Improvement and Development service
KS Key Stage
LAC Looked After Children
LDD Learning Difficulties and Disabilities
LGBT Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
LSP Local Strategic Partnership
LP Lead Professional

MP Member of Parliament
NEET Not in Education, Employment or Training
NHS National Health Service
NRPF No Recourse to Public Funds
NSCB Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board
ONS Office of National Statistics
PCT Primary Care Trust
PE Physical Education
PEP Personal Education Plan
PMRG Performance Management and Resources Group
PSED Personal Social Emotional Development
SCIE Social Care Institute for Excellence's
SCS Sustainable Community Strategy
SEAD Social and Emotional Aspects of Development
SEU Social Exclusion Unit
SEN Special Educational Needs
UKYP United Kingdom Youth Parliament
VFM Value for money
YHN Your Homes Newcastle
YISP Youth Inclusion Support Partnership
YJB Youth Justice Board
YOT Youth Offending Team
YPSG Young People Steering Group

Appendix 8: Jargon buster

This A-Z contains the explanations and meanings of acronyms, abbreviations and terms which you may not be familiar with within the CYPP.

Term / phrase	Description
CAF (Common Assessment Framework)	A shared assessment tool for use across all services for children and all local areas in England which aids early identification of children with additional needs and promotes co-ordinated service provision.
Care leavers	This is a young person between the ages of 16-21 who is leaving (or has left) the care system having spent at least three months (continuously or in aggregate since the age of 14) being in the care of the local authority.
Child Protection Plan	These assess the likelihood of the child suffering harm and look at ways that a child can be protected; decide upon short and long term aims to reduce the likelihood of harm to the child and to protect the child's welfare.
Child protection conference	These are attended by professionals who know the family and are able to provide relevant information, such as the child's health visitor, teacher, doctor, other health and education workers and specialist police officers.
Children's Trust	Children's Trusts bring together all services for children and young people in an area, underpinned by the Children Act 2004 duty to cooperate, to focus on improving outcomes for all children and young people.
Extended Services	Extended Schools provide a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of children, their families, and the wider community
Family intervention project	Family Intervention Projects have developed out of the Government's anti-social behaviour strategy which has focused on tackling anti-social behaviour such as neighbour nuisance.
Fixed exclusion	A fixed term exclusion is always for a set number of days. A head teacher can sometimes exclude for lunchtimes only if behaviour during this period is inappropriate. The maximum amount of time that any child can be excluded from school for a fixed term is 45 school days in an academic year. This may be either a single exclusion of 45 days or a number of exclusions, which together total 45 school days.
Free School Meals	Pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) live in households where income is low. It is therefore a measure that is strongly associated with poverty.
Fusion	Fusion is a two year City Council led programme that through a mix of free activity sessions and paid for activity sessions aims to increase participation in physical activity by children, young people and family groups across Newcastle.
Honour Based violence	A crime or incident which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and or community
Lead Professional	The lead professional takes the lead to coordinate provision and act as a single point of contact for a child and their family when a range of services are involved and an integrated response is required.
Safeguarding Children Board	Safeguarding Children Boards coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of their member agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
Local Strategic Partnership	They bring together representatives from the local statutory, voluntary, community and private sectors to

Term / phrase	Description
	address local problems, allocate funding, discuss strategies and initiatives.
Looked after children	Looked After Children are subject to care orders and those who are voluntarily accommodated..
Outcome	The condition of wellbeing we want to achieve – the result of local organisations all working together and joining up services.
Permanent exclusion	A permanent exclusion is when a pupil is “expelled” from a school as their behaviour cannot be managed within the school or they have committed a serious incident.
Quids for Kids	Quids for Kids is a campaign to encourage the take up of benefits for children and their families.
Signs of safety	This is a strengths based approach to keep children safe.
Similar areas	“Similar areas” or “statistical neighbours” is a group of other local authorities that is used to benchmark the performance of an individual local authority against places that share similar characteristics. By comparing like with like, it can give a fairer comparison than using a national or regional average.
SureStart	Sure Start is a UK Government initiative, with the aim of "giving children the best possible start in life" through improvement of childcare, early education, health and family support, with an emphasis on outreach and community development.
Sustainable Community strategy	The LSP creates a long-term vision for the area to tackle local needs. The vision is set out in the sustainable community strategy (SCS). The local area agreement (LAA) is the mechanism for making the vision a reality. All the outcomes and targets are designed to deliver the vision set out in the SCS.
Tellus Survey	Tellus was a national survey which gathered young people's views on their life, school and their local area.
UK Youth Parliament	UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) is a youth organisation in the United Kingdom, consisting of democratically elected members aged between 11 and 18 who meet regularly to hold debates and plan campaigns, at venues including the British Museum, the House of Lords and the House of Commons.
Voluntary and Community Sector	The voluntary and community sector (VCS) – often referred to as the third sector – has a vital role in the delivery of local services. The work of the VCS includes delivering services, advocating/lobbying on behalf of community causes ; facilitating international, community and economic development; advancing religious faith and practice; raising funds; and providing financial support to other VCOs.
Welfare rights	Newcastle Welfare Rights Service gives independent information and advice on benefits and debt.

**If you would like further information on the work of Newcastle
Children's Trust or the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14
please contact us by email at
childrens.services@newcastle.gov.uk**