

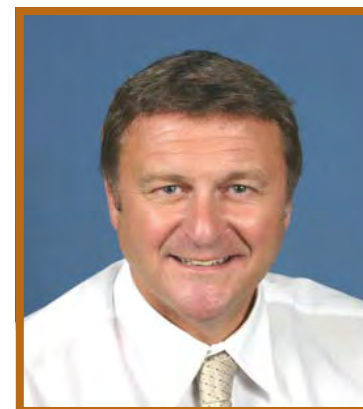
Newcastle Children and Young People's Plan 2010 — 11



Foreword

I'm delighted to write this foreword to celebrate the continued improvement in every outcome area in 2009/10 and look forward to further improvement in 2010/11.

It has been a challenging year for services for Children, Young People and Families both locally and nationally. The recession is making it more difficult to help families to get out of poverty but we are taking a strategic and innovative approach in Newcastle that has received national recognition and was awarded Beacon Status. The tragic death of Baby Peter in Haringey was a sad reminder to us all to ensure that safeguarding practice is rigorous. We were pleased therefore when Ofsted inspected the way that Children's Services deals with child protection concerns and referrals and found our arrangements to be robust with no priority actions, six strengths and three areas for development.



I have been inspired by the many children and young people I have heard about and been privileged to meet, who have made a positive contribution to their schools and local communities. Newcastle is committed to becoming a truly child-friendly city and has signed up to this UNICEF initiative. We are also creating a new Youth Council to give young people a stronger voice in decisions about their local area.

I hope we have reflected the many achievements of the last year within this plan. Newcastle Children's Trust is committed to tackling the stubborn challenges we continue to face, and this Newcastle Children and Young People's Plan seeks to build on our successes. We will further improve outcomes for children and young people. We recognise that parents, carers and families bring up children not governments and local services and we will continue to support families to achieve the best for their children.

I want to thank you for the contributions you have made and I know that you will continue to tackle the challenges we face with optimism and determination.

John Collings

Executive Director of Children's Services
Chair of Newcastle Children's Trust Board

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Chapter 1: Introduction

The Newcastle Children and Young People's Plan 2010-11 (CYPP) reviews our progress and achievements from 2009-10 and sets out our priorities and plans for the coming year.

Newcastle Children's Trust Board agreed to produce an interim plan for 2010-11, prior to developing a new three year plan for 2011-2014 that will meet the new statutory requirements for Children's Trusts.

This plan covers all children and young people in Newcastle aged 0 to 19 years old. This includes services provided for 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 builds on what has been achieved since our first statutory plan was published in 2006. There is clear evidence that the contribution our services are making to improving outcomes is good. Many outcomes for children and young people have improved and we are narrowing the gaps. We can and need to keep improving.

Our Children's Trust arrangements are built on the commitment of all partners to work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families. We have reviewed our Local Safeguarding Children Board arrangements in light of the Laming recommendations to ensure they are fit for purpose and can hold all partners to account for keeping children and young people safe. We are working together more effectively to support children, young people and families who are experiencing difficulties.

We recognise the challenge of child poverty, exacerbated by the recent economic downturn, and are trying to tackle both the causes and the impact that it has on children and young people's lives and their futures.

This Plan:

- states our shared commitment to work together across agencies putting our children and young people first
- explains our priorities for improvement and how we identified them; and
- sets out how partners will work together to improve those outcomes that will make most difference to the life chances of children and young people.

We set out:

- the partnership and governance structures that are responsible for producing, delivering, monitoring and reviewing this Plan
- our vision, principles and priorities
- our summary needs analysis - what it is like to be a child or young person in Newcastle
- for each area of focus this year, a headline summary of:
 - What the data tells us
 - Specific issues for vulnerable groups
 - The story behind the data
 - What we are doing that is making a difference
 - How we are measuring performance
 - Partners
 - Related strategies and plans
 - Our key actions for 2010-11
- our approach to integrated processes and frontline delivery including progress in workforce reform, aligning resources and joint commissioning

Our priorities have come from:

- our analyses of need and what the data is telling us about outcomes for children and young people
- what children and young people have told us
- what parents and carers have told us
- what people who work with children, young people and families have told us are the issues; and
- strengths and weaknesses identified in inspections, reviews and assessments.

Language used in this Plan

An 'outcome' is the condition of wellbeing we want to achieve – the result of local organisations all working together. An explanation of other terms can be found in the glossary.

Newcastle's Children's Trust arrangements

What is a 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.

The Director of Children's Services and the Lead Members for Children's Services within each local authority lead Children's Trusts. This is a statutory responsibility as outlined in the Children Act 2004. They work closely with the other local agencies with a legal duty to be part of the Trust: strategic health authorities, local health trusts, police authorities, local probation boards, youth offending teams, schools, academies, colleges, and jobcentre plus. And with other important local partners like voluntary and

community organisations, GPs, as well as other local authority services like adult social care and housing.

The term 'Children's Trust' applies to the whole system of children's services, covering the work of partner agencies at every level, from the development of the overall strategy to the delivery of front-line services. But 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 role of the Children's Trust Board is to put in place the five 'essential features' of the Children's Trust. These are:

1. developing and communicating a child and family-centred, outcome led vision for all children and young people via the CYPP, clearly informed by children and young people's views and those of their parents and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
2. putting in place robust arrangements for inter-agency governance (through the Children's Trust Board)
3. developing integrated strategy: joint planning and commissioning; pooled and aligned budgets; and the Children and Young People's Plan
4. supporting this via integrated processes: effective joint working sustained by a shared language and shared processes; and
5. developing and promoting integrated front line delivery organised around the child, young person or family.

Newcastle Children's Trust Board (NCTB)

The Children's Trust is governed by a statutory Children's Trust Board, comprising representatives of all statutory partners and other interests. The Board is legally responsible for preparing and publishing this Children and Young People's Plan, and for monitoring its delivery and success. The following partners are members of our Children's Trust Board:

- Executive Director of Children's Services, City Council
- Lead Member for Children and Young People, City Council
- Newcastle upon Tyne NHS Foundation Hospitals Trust
- NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health
- PCT Public Health
- NHS North of Tyne
- Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
- Voluntary and Community Sector representatives
- Learning and Skills Council
- Northumbria Police
- Newcastle College
- Newcastle Primary and Nursery Schools
- Newcastle Secondary Schools
- Job Centre Plus
- Newcastle Youth Offending Team
- Strategic Housing (City Council)

We are currently reviewing our arrangements to reflect the new statutory responsibilities that come into force in 2010.

Local Strategic Partnerships and Plans

The Children's Trust 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 agreement (LAA).

Newcastle's SCS Outcomes framework 2010-2030 (see Appendix) 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'

The Children's Trust informs and influences the work of the LSP as it relates to children, young people and families. It identifies and champions children and young people's interests as part of the process of agreeing and implementing LAA targets. The Children and Young People's Plan sets out the strategy for achieving the LAA targets, including the responsibilities of each partner.

The Children's Trust also has a key role in influencing infrastructure planning at local and regional level to embed facilities for children, young people and their families in local housing, regeneration and transport plans. **The '1Plan'** the new 20 year economic and spatial strategy for NewcastleGateshead shows how key partners will:

- build a knowledge economy and create employment opportunities in science, culture, creativity and low-carbon technologies
- develop a skilled, educated and adaptable workforce; and
- shape the city to promote sustainable urbanism and transform the urban core (attract office and retail development back to city centre, invest in the city's green spaces and public transport).

Keeping children safe is a top priority for Children's Trusts. Newcastle Children's Trust works closely with the **Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB)** which is responsible for co-ordinating work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in three broad areas of activity:

- universal activity that aims to identify and prevent maltreatment, or impairment of health and development, and ensure children are growing up in circumstances with safe and effective care
- proactive work that aims to target particular groups; and
- responsive work to protect children who are suffering, or at risk of suffering harm.

Some procedural responsibilities are:

- managing allegations of abuse against staff
- development of the child death review process
- safe recruitment; and
- development of the web-based safeguarding procedures.

The **Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, (Safe Newcastle)** is responsible for co-ordinating work to reduce crime and disorder, anti-social behaviour and the misuse of drugs in the city. This links to the **Local Policing Plan ‘Policing Northumbria’**. Newcastle’s Children’s Trust and Safe Newcastle work together to deliver the **Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP)** to prevent and reduce youth offending.

A **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)** has been completed by Newcastle Primary Care Trust (PCT) and the council and published as a shared online information resource for everyone who commissions, provides or uses health, social and children’s services in the city. The **NHS North of Tyne Strategic Plan** and **Newcastle PCT Operational Plan** contribute to the work of the Children’s Trust to improve health and wellbeing outcomes.

‘One Vision, One Future’ sets out the **North East Strategic Health Authority’s (SHA)** vision for transforming health and healthcare services:

1. no barriers to health and well being
2. no avoidable deaths, injury or illness
3. no avoidable suffering or pain
4. no helplessness
5. no unnecessary waiting or delays
6. no waste
7. no inequality

This is against the backdrop of the North East’s strategy for 21st century health and well being **‘Better Health, Fairer Health’**.

Newcastle Children’s Trust and the **Newcastle 14-19 Partnership** work together to raise aspirations and ensure every child and young person achieves their potential. The 14-19 Partnership agrees and reviews the local vision for 14-19, and develops local strategies and plans to deliver the full range of 14-19 priorities.

Newcastle Children’s Trust also supports and engages with a number of schools partnerships and agencies including the **Behaviour and Attendance Partnership, Newcastle Education Improvement Partnership, Schools Forum.**

The **Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS)** is a diverse and vibrant provider of services to children, young people and families in Newcastle. It brings significant value to Newcastle, including additional funding and expertise, and plays a significant role in the city, for example, two of Newcastle’s Children’s Centres are Community and Voluntary Sector led.

CHYP-IN has a specific remit to enable Voluntary Sector colleagues to contribute effectively to all the partnerships within the Children’s Trust and support Voluntary Sector representatives on the NCTB. Many VCS organisations have strong engagement with children and young people and ensure their views and needs are reflected in all plans and procedures.

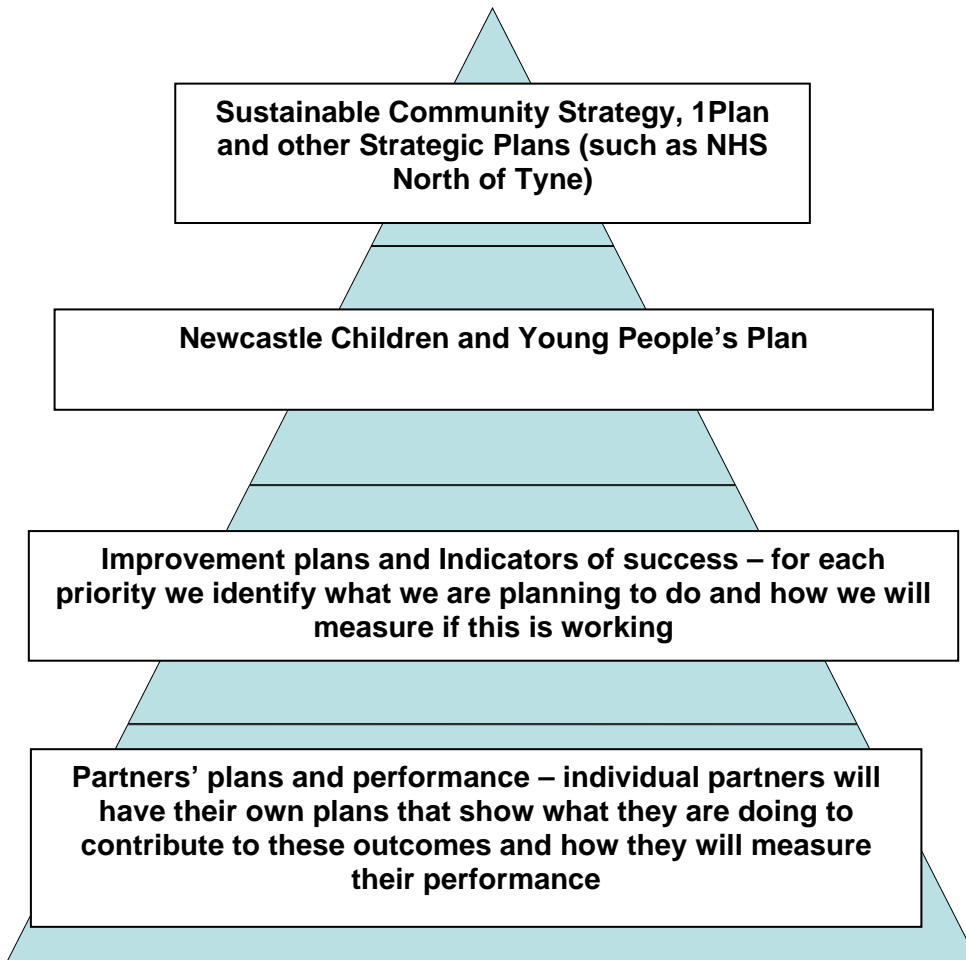
United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) states that children are born with fundamental freedoms and inherent rights. We have an expectation that all work with children and young people in Newcastle will be underpinned by UNCRC.

Our vision

Children and young people should:

- **Be healthy**
 - Enjoy the best physical, emotional, mental and spiritual **health** and development, so that they feel good about themselves and their lives.
- **Be safe**
 - Be **safe** and protected from harm within their families, communities and the City as a whole.
- **Enjoy and achieve**
 - Realise their ambitions, **enjoying and achieving** in all areas of life.
- **Make a positive contribution**
 - **Take an active part** in positive opportunities presented in all areas and stages of their life and the life of the community, and be valued for their contributions.
- **Achieve economic well-being**
 - Be actively protected from discrimination in order to live **free from poverty and hardship**.



Review of 2009-10 and key achievements

Progress against our LAA (Local Area Agreement) targets

Newcastle has 20 LAA targets that relate to children and young people. These include: child poverty; rates of breastfeeding; child obesity; educational attainment; school absence; youth offending; young people's engagement in education, employment or training; and progression to higher education.

Of these 20 performance indicators, 16 have improved since 2008/09, 2 have declined and 2 have no updates available.

The following indicators **have improved** and are **above** their target for 2009/10:

- Rates of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks
- Referrals to social care that go onto assessment
- Children experiencing bullying
- Pupils who are frequently absent from secondary school
- Achievement gap at Foundation Stage (age 5)
- Achievement of looked after children in both English and maths at Key Stage 2 (age 11)
- Achievement of looked after children at GCSE (age 16)
- Rate of re-offending (based on 9 months)
- Young people offending for the first time (based on 9 months)
- Young people not engaged in education, employment or training at 16-18

The following indicators have **improved** but are **below** target for 2009/10:

- Rate of teenage conceptions
- Achievement in Early Years Foundation Stage (age 5)

- Achievement in English and maths at Key Stage 2 (age 11)
- Achievement of 5 or more GCSEs including English and maths (age 16)
- Progress of pupils between age 7 and 11 in English and maths

The following indicator has **not improved** and is **below** target for 2009/10:

- Proportion of children in year 6 who are obese

Ofsted Performance Profile

Ofsted publishes a regular performance profile for every local area that informs their annual Children's Services Rating (CSR). The profile includes a range of information on inspections of schools, services and early years' providers and analysis of national performance indicators. It judges how well Newcastle is doing compared to other local areas.

The latest performance profile (June 2010) shows that (where number of providers is small it is shown in brackets):

- proportion of Newcastle providers judged to be good or better by Ofsted was **above** national or similar areas in the following: childminders; nursery schools; secondary schools; sixth forms; fostering (1); adoption (1); and further education (1).
- proportion of Newcastle providers judged to be good or better by Ofsted was **below** national or similar areas in the following: primary schools; special schools (5) children's homes (4)
- 82% of national indicators were **in line with or above** similar areas and national figures.
- Since 2009, the performance profile has improved in almost all areas.

In addition, Ofsted identified children's homes to be a key issue in the 2009 CSR. Since then, there have been significant improvements. Of the four children's homes in Newcastle three are now judged to be satisfactory, one is outstanding.

Other achievements

- The council was awarded Beacon status for its work with partners in "Preventing and tackling child poverty".
- More than 26,000 children and young people have accessed free leisure activities through FUSION
- Our children's homes have all improved with Slatyford Lane judged to be Outstanding in April 2010.
- Ofsted have inspected the way that Children's Services deals with child protection concerns, referrals and assessments and found no priority actions, 6 strengths and 3 areas for development
- Moorside and Beech Hill Primary Schools and Kenton School have been recognised as national leaders in Education.
- Newcastle College is the highest performing college in England for Level 3 attainment by 16-18 year olds and is nationally recognised as a Beacon College
- Sure Start West Riverside Children's Centres were judged to be Good with Outstanding features in a pilot Ofsted inspection.
- An Independent Chair was appointed to the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board.
- The number of young people who commit offences is decreasing, and a very low proportion of those who do offend receive custodial sentences
- Youth Inclusion Programmes are successfully working with children and young people at risk of anti-social behaviour and criminal activity
- A range of successful joint programmes have developed with Newcastle College, including for young people with learning

difficulties and disabilities, young offenders, employability, alternative education

- A dedicated service for looked after children identifies and treats mental health disorders and supports and trains carers and practitioners to recognise risk factors and promote resilience
- Hundreds of young people have taken part in a wide range of Friday night and weekend activities in neighbourhoods where concerns around anti social behaviour have been expressed by the Police and local residents.
- An independent Youth Council has been established in Newcastle, managed through Children North East. Recent elections saw 26 candidates elected with 8,695 votes cast.
- There was a 67% increase in take-up of the Newcastle Libraries Summer Reading Challenge in 2009
- 8246 children and young people performed or participated in cultural activities at the Juice festival in 2009, compared with 1125 in 2008
- Newcastle United Enterprise Academy was launched to work with and raise the self-esteem and aspirations of more than 750 young people over two years
- A new sexual health clinic for young people has opened in the City Centre
- Twenty-nine new or refurbished outdoor play spaces have been completed through Fair Play pathfinder
- Teenager to Work programme provides work experience and raise aspirations of young people who are looked after; and looked after young people were offered priority interviews for apprenticeships in the council
- Active Newcastle was launched and is a four year campaign leading up to the 2012 Olympics and beyond. It promotes what's on and is encouraging residents of all ages to participate in sports and physical activities
- Family intervention projects are successfully targeting and supporting families with complex needs.

Our focus for 2010 - 2011

These come from our analyses of need, priorities from children, young people and parents and carers, what people who work with children, young people and families have told us, and strengths and weaknesses identified in inspections, reviews and assessments.

Be Healthy

1. Reduce the rate of teenage conceptions (LAA priority)
2. Halt the increase in childhood obesity (LAA priority)
3. Increase rates of breastfeeding (LAA priority)

Stay Safe

4. Safeguarding children and young people
5. Supporting families
6. Reduce the incidence of bullying (LAA priority)

Enjoy and Achieve

7. Improve attainment in the early years and primary (LAA priority)
8. Improve attainment at secondary and 14-19 (LAA priority)
9. Increase school attendance and reduce persistent absence (LAA priority)
10. Reduce rates of exclusion from school

Make a Positive Contribution

11. Reduce rates of youth offending and re-offending (LAA priority)
12. Ensure children and young people participate in their communities and in decision making
13. Provide targeted youth support (TYS) and positive activities for young people

Achieve Economic Wellbeing

14. Tackle the causes and reduce the impact of child poverty (LAA priority)

15. Increase young people's engagement in education, employment or training (LAA priority)
16. Increase numbers of young people going on to Higher Education (LAA priority)

Vulnerable Groups

17. Children with learning difficulties and or disabilities
18. Looked after children

What children and young people have told us

The following priorities were established by children and young people of Newcastle through a range of participation and engagement activity about "What Matters To Us". We have responded by prioritising these issues in our policy making, service improvement and action planning.

1. Anti-discrimination including bullying, racism and homophobia; Respect between children and young people
2. Respect for children and young people; Fair treatment from organisations
3. Space and opportunities to spend time with friends
4. Outdoor play spaces
5. Accessible sports / leisure provision that is cheap or free
6. Road safety
7. More policing to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour
8. Decent neighbourhoods to grow up and live in
9. Cheaper public transport
10. Healthy lifestyles (food, exercise, drugs, alcohol)
11. Involvement in decision making
12. More interesting lessons and fairer treatment in schools

Chapter 2: Data 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 (ONS, 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 Authority 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. This is well above the national rate of 21%.

In 2007, 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.

What does the data tell us about outcomes for children and young people in Newcastle?

We are closing some gaps BUT even in many areas where we have made good progress we are still below national averages.

- Poverty is having a negative impact on too many children
- Rates of child obesity
- Rates of absence from schools
- Numbers of children requiring protection or looked after
- Educational attainment, particularly GCSE with English and maths
- Teenage conception rates
- Youth offending levels
- Young people not in education, employment or training
- Inequalities in outcomes for some vulnerable groups

What do we know about different groups of children and young people in Newcastle?

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 (see Appendix).

Children living in poverty

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

- 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 2007. However, it remained well above the national rate of 19.7% of children (DWP, 2008).
- Different data for 2007 from 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 significantly to 526 in March 2010, a rate of 101 per 10,000 children under 18. In 2009 in Newcastle the rate was 88.1 per 10,000, which was higher than similar areas' rates (81.2) and well above the national rate (55). Latest information (May 2010) indicates 540 children are looked after in Newcastle.

In March 2010, 62% of children and young people in Newcastle entered care due to abuse or neglect; 11% due to family in acute stress; 9% due to absent parenting; 8% due to family dysfunction; and 5% 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)

311 children and young people were the subject of a Child Protection Plan in Newcastle in June 2010. The number has decreased from 360 in 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 1,600 in 2008.

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 Black, Minority and Ethnic (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

Gypsy Roma people and Travellers of Irish Heritage communities often have difficulties in accessing advice, support and services. They are disadvantaged educationally, economically and in terms of housing.

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.

A Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel report in 2009 stated: “A forthcoming report by Newcastle PCT into the experiences of the Roma Community in Newcastle presents qualitative evidence from interviews with front line workers and community members. The paper is currently in draft form but it identifies some serious issues for children and young people around health, housing and education. Some examples are:

- poor uptake of ante natal and maternity services
- some families do not register with a GP
- some families’ uptake of immunisations is low
- families living in overcrowded private accommodation sometimes poorly maintained by the landlord”

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) have 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 24 young people aged 16-17 and 83 young people aged 18-24. 16 young people aged 21-24 attend further or full time higher education. Under 18s attend ESOL classes and a number of other courses arranged by Connexions. All those in Newcastle Local Authority Care receive Leaving Care Support under Section 20 of The Children Act 1989.

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 advice people who have NRPF on their personal circumstances and to assist them in

finding a solution to their destitution.

Children's Services are currently supporting 48 families with no recourse to public funds and are at risk of destitution. 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 2008/09, 1,042 families contacted the Housing Advice Centre for advice and support related to the potential threat of homelessness. Of these, 192 families (18.4%) were placed in temporary accommodation. A further 131 singles and couples under 18 were also placed in temporary accommodation.

In 2007, 38 young people under 19 were identified as homeless in Newcastle. This figure is likely to significantly underestimate true numbers since not all young people who experience homelessness come to the attention of the local authority. Of the 38, eight (21%) had an identified mental health problem.

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.

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.

Young carers are often reluctant to tell others about their responsibilities.

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.

A parent assumes 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.

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

DCSF 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 2009, only 6% 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 51%

In the 2008/09 academic year, there were 964 children and young people who were persistently absent in Newcastle. This represents a reduction of 293 from 2007/08.

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

1,019 young people aged 16-18 and resident in Newcastle (11.5%) were not in education, employment or training in November 2009. This varies from 7.8% of 16 year olds to 14.4% 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 45 in 2008/09 to 0 (as at end of January 2010) in the current academic year (2009/10).

The number of fixed term exclusions from schools decreased from 1,693 in 2006/07 to 1,385 in 2008/09 (18.2% point decrease). The number of pupils with one or more fixed term exclusions also decreased over the same period, from 934 to 754. In 2008/09, 87% (1,201) of exclusions involved secondary school pupils and boys

were almost four times more likely to be excluded than girls. Persistent disruptive behaviour (32%), physical assault against a pupil (19.4%) and verbal abuse or threatening an adult (18.6%) 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 (SCIE 2008). Unfortunately we do not have any local data on the numbers of children who are affected.

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 (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
- 16 have a first language other than English
- 5 are less than 1 year old
- 31 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)
- 8 of the children of school age have an identified special educational need (SEN) that requires specialist support; and a further 16 need extra help with learning

Of those 100 children and young people in Newcastle:

- 74 will leave school with 5 or more good GCSEs
- 42 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 21 overweight at the age of 5
- At least 3 will be caring for a parent
- 68 think that they will go to university in the future
- 42 have taken part in free leisure activities through FUSION
- 74 are happy about life

Chapter 3: Outcomes for children and young people

Be Healthy

Focus for 2010-11

- Teenage conceptions (LAA priority)
- Breastfeeding (LAA priority)
- Childhood obesity (LAA priority)

Teenage conceptions (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: People have healthy lifestyles and avoid risky behaviour

What the data tells us

The rate of teenage conceptions decreased from 58.0 per 1,000 15-17 year old females in 2007 to 50.5 in 2008. It also decreased nationally (40.4) and in similar areas (53.2). The 2008 data makes Newcastle's teenage conception rate the second lowest in Tyne and Wear and third lowest amongst similar areas. The gap between Newcastle and national has reduced considerably during 1998 to 2008.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- A high proportion of teenage mothers and biological fathers are not in Education, Employment or Training
- Almost 40% of teenage mothers have no qualifications.

- Teenage mothers are known to have significantly poorer mental health than older mothers or teenage non-mothers.

What is the story behind the data?

- The under 18 conception rate in the most deprived neighbourhoods in Newcastle is a lot higher than Newcastle as a whole. For example, the 2006 rate for Newcastle as a whole was 52.6, but in the most deprived neighbourhoods it was as high as 87.6 per 1,000 15-17 year old females.
- 42% of conceptions lead to terminations.
- Most teenage mothers are White British.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Teenage Kicks, the Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) Outreach Team, is targeting large numbers of vulnerable groups and hotspots across the City including work related to self esteem, alcohol and risky behaviour. Working with youth services, college and school health on targeting interventions.
- Targeted work in areas with the highest teenage conception rates to provide C Card, contraception and pregnancy and Chlamydia testing in schools, emergency oral hormonal contraceptives (EHC) and long acting reversible contraceptives (LARCs) through local pharmacies, and school health advisers.
- Take up of LARCs and C-card increased.
- SRE quality standard achieved by 4 schools and more schools working towards this standard. Standard recognised as an example of good practice both regionally and nationally.
- Accurate and accessible information for young people and professionals provided through targeted marketing and a clear referral pathway to improve signposting and support to EHC.
- SRE included in parenting programmes with teenage parents.

- Young parents (both mums and dads) are supported through 1-2-1s and group work
- Building underway for a 19 unit housing for teenage parents
- 97% of Newcastle schools have joined the National Healthy Schools Programme (NHSP). The NHSP aims to support children and young people in developing healthy behaviours. 80 (85%) schools have gained NHSS which exceeds the 2009 target but is lower than the national average of 88%
- Streetwise and the young people's maternity scan clinic have achieved the You're Welcome quality standard
- Contraceptive and Sexual Health (CASH) and Genito-Urinary Medicine centre opened in the city centre
- Core offer of parenting programmes covering full age range and different parenting situations. These include universal provision in schools and the community such as Speakeasy (helping parents overcome anxieties and embarrassment around talking to their children about sex and relationships) and targeted support such as Being a Parent (teenage mums and dads).

How we are measuring performance

- NI112 - Under 18 conception rates

Lead partnership: Children's Be Healthy Partnership

Partners

Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Strategy Board, Newcastle City Council, Newcastle PCT, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust, Newcastle College, YHN, Barnardo's, Streetwise, Connexions, schools

Related documents

- Newcastle teenage pregnancy strategy and action plan

Childhood obesity (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: People are physically healthy

What the data tells us

One in every three children measured at age 5 (reception) and age 11 (year six) in Newcastle is either overweight or very overweight (obese). About 3,000 children in Newcastle aged 2-10 are classified as very overweight, with a further 2,600 classified as overweight.

The percentage of reception age children who are very overweight increased from 10.9% in 2008 to 12.3% in 2009. Nationally it remained at 9.6% and similar areas' average rate was 10.2% in 2009. The percentage of children in Reception Year in Newcastle who are very overweight or overweight is 26.6% in 2008 (660 children).

Year 6 obesity rates increased from 20.8% in 2008 to 21.9% in 2009. Nationally it was 18.3%, and similar areas' average was 21.1%. The percentage of children in Year 6 in Newcastle who are overweight or very overweight is 39.3% in 2008 (930 children out of 2,364).

The percentage of children and young people's participation rates in high quality PE and sport in Newcastle increased from 43% in 2005 to 80% in 2008. Newcastle broadly in line with national (81%) and similar areas (79%).

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

Measurements of Reception and Year 6 children show that areas with higher deprivation are more likely to have higher levels of overweight and obese children and young people.

Boys are more likely to be overweight or very overweight. At reception age in Newcastle, one third of boys are overweight or very overweight compared to a quarter of girls.

At Year 6, between 30-40% of boys are overweight or very overweight compared to one third of girls. A quarter of boys and one fifth of all girls are very overweight.

Across the UK:

- Obesity prevalence is lowest among children in managerial and professional households.
- Obesity is almost four times more common in Asian children than in white children.

What is the story behind the data?

- A higher proportion of Newcastle pupils eat school meals than the national average. 48.6% of pupils take school meals at primary (39.3% nationally) and 42.4% in secondary schools (35.1% nationally).
- The percentage of children in Newcastle eating five or more daily portions of fruit and vegetables is approximately 20% in Newcastle and broadly in line with national (19%) and above similar areas' (17%) TellUs 2009 Survey.
- VCS partners identify that low cost healthy food is an issue for many families in Newcastle.
- 26,162 children and young people (November 09) accessing free sports and leisure activities through FUSION programme

- 39.2% of infants were being breastfed at 6-8 weeks in 2009. While this is lower than 2008, it remains above LAA target and the rate in similar areas. Breastfed babies are less likely to become obese in later childhood.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Lean East and West change 4 Life are delivering targeted interventions in schools and communities in identified hotspots
- A varied programme of activities educating and supporting parents and carers, children and young people so that families lead healthier lifestyles is being delivered as part of the Overweight and Obesity Strategy for Newcastle. These include:
 - Match Fit, a 3-year programme of football coaching, healthy eating and fitness for 6,000 primary age children
 - Wobbly Street and Matilda's lunchbox community arts projects
 - Pupil school food panels, courses on nutrition and cooking experience, demos by Expo Chefs
 - The development of a care pathway for children with overweight or obesity problems
 - Opening of two young people's gyms and extension of free swimming to include under 18's
 - VCS is working with parent and toddler groups to promote healthy eating and with Sure Start Childrens Centres to provide healthy eating classes for families on low budget
- Launch of the Active Newcastle campaign.
- 97% of Newcastle schools have joined the National Healthy Schools Programme and 85% of schools have gained National Healthy School Status.
- 44% of children and young people attending school took part in organised sport or keep fit activities. Newcastle is broadly in line with national (46%) and similar areas (45%) (TellUs 2009)

- Significant investment in parks and the improvement of play areas through the Play Builder Programme and Heritage Lottery projects.
- Newcastle United Foundation family football project is helping families have fun and learn together about healthy eating, living a fit and healthy lifestyle, football coaching, fair play, communication and team work.

How we are measuring performance

- NI 55 and 56 - Obesity among primary school age children in (a) Reception and (b) Year 6
- NI52 - Take up of school lunches
- NI57 - Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport.

Lead partnership: Children's Be Healthy Partnership

Partners

Obesity Strategy Group, Newcastle City Council, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health, Sure Start Children's Centres, Early Years Providers, Health Visiting, School Sports Partnership, schools, Healthy Schools team, community and voluntary sector,

Related documents

- Newcastle Overweight and Obesity strategy
- Health Improvement Strategy 2007-2017
- CYP Health and Physical Development Strategy
- Breastfeeding action plan
- Food in schools action plan
- Healthy schools action plan

Breastfeeding (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: Children get off to a good start in life

What the data tells us

- Breastfeeding initiation rates in Newcastle were 52.7% in 2006/07 compared to 69.2% nationally. September 2009 figure was 60.3% based on local data.
- 39.2% of infants were being breastfed at 6-8 weeks in 2009, above LAA target and the rate in similar areas.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

Breastfeeding rates are lower in deprived areas.

What is the story behind the data?

- Babies born into poor families are more likely to be premature and have low birth weight.
- In general, mothers who do not initiate breastfeeding tend to be younger, less well educated and from lower income groups.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiatives and infant feeding co-ordinators are being implemented in hospitals and the community.
- Breastfeeding peer support expanded in communities including Sure Start Children's Centres and baby cafes through role of Peer Support Co-ordinator and delivery of La Leche training for volunteers.

How we are measuring performance

- NI53 - Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth

Lead partnership: Children's Be Healthy Partnership

Partners

Newcastle City Council, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health, Breastfeeding Strategy Steering Group, Sure Start Children's Centres, Early Years Providers, Health Visiting, Newcastle Action for Parent and Toddler Groups (NAPI), North of Tyne Maternity Partnership, community and voluntary sector, hospitals

Related documents

- Breastfeeding strategy and action plan

Other Be Healthy

SCS Outcomes: People have healthy lifestyles and avoid risky behaviour; People are not harmed by alcohol, drugs and other substances; People are mentally and emotionally healthy and can deal with significant life changes and challenges; People have help to prevent ill-health and long term care needs; People have excellent quality treatment and care if needed.

What the data tells us

- Chlamydia screening rates in Newcastle increased from 19.1% in 2008 to 22.3% in 2009. Newcastle above national (21%) and below similar areas' rates (24.9%).
- The number of diagnoses of Chlamydia has been rising as the number of young people screened rises. There were approximately 40-45 positive screening tests per month in 2009.
- In North East region 10% of 11-15 year olds smoke (6% males and 14% female) which is the highest figure of any region in the UK.
- Newcastle's percentage of substance misuse by young people in 2009 was 12%. Newcastle is above the national rate of 9% and similar areas' rate of 8% (TellUs 2009).
- Referrals to D'n'A, the multi-disciplinary substance misuse treatment service for children and young people in Newcastle increased by 13% to 259 in the last year.
- Estimates suggest that 2,000 young people aged 10-18 in Newcastle will engage in frequent drug use.
- 9.6% of Newcastle children aged 5-16 are estimated to have a mental health problem.
- Immunisation rates for under 5s in Newcastle are improving but almost all are below national and similar areas.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- 19% of children and young people excluded from school are likely to have lifetime class A drug use, 56% will have lifetime Class B drug use.
- 23% of persistent truants will have lifetime Class A drug use.
- 3.7% of Newcastle LAC were identified as having a substance misuse problem and 91.7% received an intervention within the year. These figures are better than national averages.
- Smoking increases with age and is strongly associated with disadvantage, however it is still very much a social norm not to smoke. Girls are more likely to smoke than boys under 15, however male smoking tends to 'catch up' later in terms of national adult data.

The following groups are more likely to have a mental health disorder:

- boys
- young people from deprived areas
- young people who offend
- looked after children (LAC) and care leavers, particularly those living in residential care
- children who have suffered physical or sexual abuse or have suffered neglect
- refugees, asylum seekers and unaccompanied minors.
- children and young people with significant learning disabilities
- homeless young people
- teenage mothers

It would appear that minority ethnic children from Asian backgrounds, particularly Indian, have a lower rate of mental disorder compared to other groups.

What is the story behind the data?

- There has been a significant increase in referrals to D'n'A from the YOT over the last year, reaching 112 in 2008/09.
- 37% of D'n'A clients were NEET, which is much higher than the general population.
- In Newcastle the majority of teenage drug and alcohol users are white British, 65% are male and the average age of the user is 15 years and 10 months.
- The proportion of referrals for substance misuse from BME communities is increasing as a result of targeted work to raise the profile of treatment services.
- Of the young people in Newcastle who use drugs and alcohol:
 - 56% mainly using Alcohol, 31% are using Cannabis
 - 71% living at home / with family members.
 - 50% are in mainstream education but often with problems for example attendance and exclusions.
 - Most reported age of first use as 13; it ranged from 8-16.
- Prevention measures to stop children and young people smoking focus on protecting them from tobacco industry promotion and marketing, preventing the illegal supply and keeping tobacco prices high, and helping their parents to quit or remain smoke free.
- Mental health problems in children are associated with educational failure, family disruption, disability, offending and antisocial behaviour, placing demands on social services, schools and the youth justice system.
- The most common mental health conditions in Newcastle are conduct and emotional disorders. Conduct disorders are more common in boys than girls whereas emotional disorders are more likely to occur in girls.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Uptake of Chlamydia screens has increased with the majority of screens carried out via outreach work, educational settings, text based postal service, Streetwise and TOP, club nights, antenatal services.
- A North of Tyne sexual health social marketing group has been set up to co-ordinate a range of targeted and universal work to improve sexual health. A GP Champion has been appointed to drive up screening activity in Primary Care. All GP practices have signed up to be provided with Chlamydia testing pick up boxes.
- The quality and provision of tobacco education in schools has improved; including provision of training for teachers and school health advisors, increasing the number of schools with a North East Smoke Free School Award and the development of a theatre in education programme on the tobacco industry.
- Increased the number of frontline staff who are trained to raise the issue of reducing children's exposure to second-hand smoke with parents and carers.
- Support to stop smoking including carbon monoxide monitoring is routine for all pregnant women.
- Alcohol Strategy for the city and development and delivery of pilot Alcohol Arrest Referral Scheme, an early intervention model, with evaluation to identify lessons learned for future service development.
- Planned discharge rate from substance treatment services improved from 43% to 58% over the year.
- Development of Identification and Brief Advice (IBA) model around alcohol in schools, custody suites, ASB routes, youth services such as mobile buses and Friday/Saturday night activity all becoming more confident and consistent in their approach.

- Staff at D'n'A work with increasing numbers of parents and carers and also make regular referrals to PROPS and Families at Risk Intensive Intervention Services.
- CAMHS has been refocused towards prevention and early intervention, with improved access within the community.
- An Intensive Community Treatment Service is now being commissioned to help provide specialist (tier 4) care closer to home and to reduce the requirement for hospital admission.
- The CAMHS Partnership is developing a needs assessment and gap analysis for BME children and young people.
- 80% of Primary schools and 50% of Secondary schools have introduced Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL).
- Targeted Adolescent Mental Health in Schools (TAMHS) project underway in All Saints, Walbottle and Walker Technology College and their primary feeder schools (21 schools).
- ADHD care pathway developed.
- Barnardos project is supporting young people living independently.
- Dedicated CAMHS service for LAC identifies and treats mental health disorders and supports and trains carers and practitioners to recognise risk factors and promote resilience. Since 2006 the team has worked with 261 LAC.
- A number of Children's Fund projects are working with children and young people to raise self esteem and develop effective social and emotional skills.
- Baby and Teen Life Checks being promoted.

How we are measuring performance

- NI113 – Chlamydia testing
- NI115 - Substance misuse by young people (Tellus)
- Schools achieving Healthy Schools Status and Healthy Schools + Status

- NI51 - The effectiveness of Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) for children and young people:
- Waiting times for CAMHS
- NI58 - Emotional health of LAC
- Immunisation rates

Lead partnership: Children's Be Healthy Partnership

Partners

Newcastle City Council, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Trust, Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health, Newcastle College, YHN, Barnardo's, Streetwise, schools, Sure Start Children's Centres, Early Years Providers, community and

voluntary sector, Healthy Schools team, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear Trust – CAMHS and Adult Mental Health

Related documents

- CAMHS strategy
- TAMHS project initiation document
- NHS North of Tyne Strategic Plan
- Drug and alcohol treatment plan

What will we do in 2010-11?

The following key actions will make the greatest contribution to improving performance but do not reflect **all** actions taking place.

Actions	Lead agency
Teenage pregnancy	
Encourage young people to make healthy lifestyle choices around sex and relationships, through social marketing campaigns through TV, radio, publications, social networking sites	Newcastle PCT; City Council – Children’s Services; schools
Targeted work by Teenage Kicks with vulnerable young people and groups including work on self esteem, alcohol and risky behaviour	Teenage Kicks
Increase uptake of Under 18s of Long Acting Removable Contraception (LARC) as preferred method of contraception	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council – Children’s Services
Target resources at identified vulnerable young people and teenage pregnancy hotspot areas	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council – Children’s Services
Increase sexual health services into schools through health 4U provision	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council – Children’s Services; schools
Further develop provision of high quality SRE through integrated youth services.	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council – Children’s Services; schools
Increase support and access to good quality supported housing for homeless young parents including new 19 unit accommodation for young parents at Coxlodge	YHN
Obesity	
Lean East and Change 4 Life West targeted work on child obesity	Newcastle PCT, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council -

Actions	Lead agency
	leisure; schools
Continued delivery of obesity strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promoting healthy eating and more active lifestyles • targeted activities and events in areas where obesity levels are highest • care pathways for children with overweight or obesity problems 	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council - leisure; schools
Further develop the Active Newcastle and Fusion programmes	City Council - Leisure
Host UK school games in September 2010	City Council – Leisure
Introduce and embed the new Enhanced Programme for Healthy Schools – all schools to be involved in National Healthy School Programme; 90% of schools to have Healthy School status	City Council – Children’s Services; NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; schools
Breastfeeding	
Achieve UNICEF Baby Friendly accreditation for Sure Start Children’s Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend Baby Cafes and increase the number of Breast Feeding Peer Support Coordinators to five • Appoint two Infant Feeding Coordinators to support work within hospitals and in the community 	Sure Start Children’s Centres; Newcastle PCT, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health
Promote take-up of Baby Life Checks by families in the 30% most disadvantaged areas and support roll-out of national Start4Life campaign across city	Sure Start Children’s Centres
Other Be Healthy actions	
Improve access to mental health services for children and young people from newly arrived communities	CAMHS Partnership
Develop a care pathway for mental health services for young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming so	CAMHS Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote stop smoking services to pregnant women and parents and carers to reduce children’s exposure to second hand smoke and increase number of front line practitioners trained in interventions • Regulate and enforce lawful practice regarding tobacco sales • Improve the quality of tobacco education in schools and youth settings by implementing new guidance 	Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health
Encourage young people to make healthy lifestyle choices around sex, relationships, alcohol, drugs and smoking through social marketing campaigns through TV, radio, publications, social networking sites and promotion of Teen Lifechecks, an online questionnaire for young people aged between 12 and 15 years	Newcastle PCT, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City Council –

Actions	Lead agency
	Children's Services
Ensure that 17 and 18 yr olds in treatment with the most chaotic lifestyles are prioritized in adult services and continue work with NECA Adult Services to ensure transition into the service is more flexible and supportive	D'n'A, NECA Adult Services
Continue to provide innovative and young people focussed interventions and further develop opportunities for young people and their families to contribute to the development of drug and alcohol service delivery	D'n'A
Increase universal and targeted alcohol awareness in schools and Newcastle College, including staff and parent alcohol awareness	Schools; NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health
<p>Improve access to and uptake of Chlamydia screening amongst 15 – 24 year olds with a particular focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • embedding the programme in core services • access to sexual health information, advice and support in FE settings (achieve You're welcome accreditation) • target young people identified as being at increased risk of poorer sexual health. 	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; schools, Newcastle College

Stay Safe

Focus for 2010-11

- Safeguarding children and young people and supporting families in times of difficulty (LAA priority)
- Reducing bullying (LAA priority)

Safeguarding children and young people and Supporting Families

SCS Outcome: People are protected from domestic violence and abuse; People are safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and exploitation

What the data tells us

Newcastle has high numbers of children and young people who require formal intervention to protect them, such as Child Protection Plans (CPPs) or becoming looked after by the local authority.

Where social care think a child or young person needs protection, a group of people who support that young person come together to draw up a Child Protection Plan (CPP) with the parent or carer and young person to address the concerns about their safety.

The number of children and young people who are the subject of a Child Protection Plan (CPP) in Newcastle decreased slightly from 390 in 2007 to 333 in March 2010.

The number of Looked after Children (LAC) in Newcastle has increased by 8.7% from 484 in 2007 to 526 in March 2010.

In 2009/10, 15,259 contacts were received by children's social care of which 2,192 (14.3%) were referrals. There was an average of 1,271 contacts per month, of which 183 were referrals.

Domestic violence is a key factor in relation to child protection. In 2010 there were 3,388 contacts with domestic violence as a presenting issue, an average of 282 per month. One or more children were reported living in the home in 53.5% of all recorded domestic abuse incidents in 2008/09. Between 1 April and 31 March 2010, 22% of all contacts into Newcastle Children's Social Care were from the police concerning domestic violence incidents.

It is important that where child protection concerns are raised they are dealt with in a timely way through consistent assessment processes.

- In 2009 2,430 initial assessments were completed. 79% were carried out within 7 working days of referral, twice the rate of 2008 and better than national and similar areas.
- 1,090 core assessments were completed in 2009, 73% of which were carried out within the statutory timescale of 35 working days. Although performance has improved for the third successive year it is lower than national and similar areas.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- In June 2010, 234 (75.5%) of children and young people in Newcastle with CPPs are aged between 0 and 9 years old.
- 93% came from within the 30% most deprived areas and 66% from the 10% most deprived areas of Newcastle.
- 263 (84.8%) were White British and 14% were from an ethnic minority group. Almost half the children in Newcastle with Child Protection Plans are aged 0-4 (45%) as are 17.5% of the LAC population.
- 18% of under 5's with CPPs came from the 1% most deprived areas
- In 2007/08 there were 81 homelessness applications resulting from domestic violence. And 34 homelessness applications were made where violence was reported from an associated person.
- 11% of children and young people in the UK run away from home before the age of 16. Current statistics indicate 1 in 6 runaways sleep rough, and one in 12 will be hurt or harmed whilst they are away from home or care.
- The proportion of LAC from black and minority ethnic communities has increased to nearly 16%. The average age of LAC has also increased. 56% are aged 10 – 16 years, a 5% point increase in three years, though a 3% point decrease since last year.

What is the story behind the data?

- The main reasons for children and young people becoming subject of a CPP are: emotional abuse 43.5% (135); neglect 36.1% (113) and physical injury 12.6% (39)
- In child protection conferences with domestic abuse as a significant factor, 44% had parental issues raised surrounding alcohol misuse and 61% with substance misuse (2008/9).

- 60% of children and young people enter care due to abuse or neglect; 12% due to family in acute stress; 10 % due to absent parenting; 8% due to family dysfunction; and 6% due to parental illness or disability.
- VCS partners have highlighted a lack of awareness among BME communities about safeguarding and the need for more preventative work and awareness raising.
- There are between 2,500 and 3,000 young people aged 18 and under in Newcastle who are affected by parental drug and alcohol use.
- Ofsted inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements in Children's Services found:
 - There is a prompt response to contacts and referrals. Risk of harm is managed effectively to promote good outcomes for children and young people.
 - Child protection Section 47 enquiries meet requirements. They are timely and clearly recorded and action is taken to ensure children and young people's safety.
 - Timescales for completion of initial and core assessments have improved. Most assessments are completed promptly and children are seen alone when required.
 - Members of staff report that they are well supported by managers. Some supervision records seen were of excellent quality.
 - The Local Safeguarding Children Board undertakes regular monitoring and quality assurance audits.
 - The cultural, religious and language needs of children and families are identified and responded to effectively.
 - The emergency duty service links effectively with day time services to ensure consistency of response to children and young people's needs.
 - The common assessment framework (CAF) is beginning to be routinely used by a range of agencies to provide preventative services to children and families.

What we are doing that is making a difference

Improving safeguarding practice:

- Improvement in assessments means that children, young people and families receive quicker access to any help they might need.
- 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.
- Additional social workers have been employed and retention of experienced staff improved.
- Practitioners across agencies are trained to identify and respond to safeguarding issues.
- Signs of Safety model is being rolled out across agencies to manage risk within families.
- Early intervention and prevention model identifies thresholds for child protection processes and admission into care.
- Safeguarding training is being targeted at BME communities with champions identified from the Hindu and Chinese Communities.
- Online safeguarding training and guidance promoted to all practitioners working with children and young people.
- NSCB staff training programme on safeguarding children of parents who have a mental health difficulty.
- Reviewing and quality assurance systems developed for the notification of private fostering arrangements
- Voluntary and Community Sector-led SCARPA project targets young people most at risk of going missing or running away, with follow up and re-assessment following missing episodes.
- Independent Chair of NSCB to enable more rigorous challenge of all parties.

- Family Group Conferences in partnership with Action for Children are being systematically rolled out to avoid accommodation and support reunification.
- An Emergency Residential Unit works closely with LAC Prevention Team to promote reunification within 6 weeks.

Supporting Families:

Governments and local services do not bring up children; parents, carers and families do. Parents and carers generally want the best outcomes for themselves and their children but sometimes have difficulty achieving this.

It is recognised that more preventative and earlier support for children, young people and families are needed to prevent problems escalating. Intensive family support, multi-agency approaches to domestic violence, and partners working together using the common assessment framework (CAF) to identify support are some of the successful ways that these issues are being tackled.

- A wide range of parenting programmes have been taking place to support families who want to improve their parenting skills or where there is an identified risk of negative outcomes.
- Between January 2009 and April 2010, 13 PEIP (Parenting Early Intervention Programme) courses have run and 72 families have completed the programme. 96% parents said the course had helped them cope with their problems; 92% parents reported an improvement in their child's problems; there were also significant improvements in parents mental well-being, their children's behaviour and school attendance
- 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, FRISS brings together different family intervention projects as shown in the diagram below.

- 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 were returned home)
 - 58 individuals entered employment, education or training while participating in the YHN FIP
- Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is beginning to be routinely used by a range of agencies to provide preventative services to children and families.
- CAF protocol developed with adult treatment services helping to safeguard children from substance misusing families.
- Community Fostering Scheme involves experienced foster carers working in the family's own home with children who are at risk of coming into care. Since March 2007 the scheme has worked with 136 children of whom 120 have remained at home with no further involvement.
- MARAC, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences take place between local authority, Police, health service and voluntary organisations to agree joint plans to support high risk victims of domestic violence (average of 42 cases per month).
- Domestic Violence Protection Project (DVPP), Newcastle Women's Aid, Panah, the SAFE project and others provide

safe emergency accommodation, outreach support, advice and advocacy to women, children and young people affected by domestic violence, honour based violence and forced marriage, and work with male abusers who want to change their behaviour. This includes targeted work with BME communities.

- Sure Start Supporting Families Pathway is improving delivery of appropriate and timely support to vulnerable children and families. Joint working with children's social care ensures vulnerable families with children under five are supported.

How we are measuring performance

- NI 59 - initial assessments carried out within 7 working days
- NI60 - core assessments carried out within 35 working days
- Number of referrals to social care
- NI65 – children subject to CPP for second or subsequent time
- NI68 – referrals to social care going to initial assessment
- Changes in parental and child behaviour and outcomes following interventions and support

Lead Partnership: Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board; Safe Newcastle; Think Family/Parenting Support Commissioning Group

Partners

City Council, Police, Health, schools, voluntary and community sector, YHN, Sure Start Children's Centres

Related documents

- NSCB delivery plan
- Newcastle Domestic Violence Reduction Strategy
- Parenting Support strategy?
- Homelessness strategy
- Housing strategy

FRISS Service Breakdown



Referral Criteria



ASB FIP (Respect)	CP FIP (Reduce Worklessness)	YCAP FIP (Reduce Offending)	CP FIP (Option 2)	Option 2	YCAP FIP
<p>High end families with complex needs who are known to a range of services including HASBET, Housing, CSC. Persistent anti-social behaviour; HASBET involvement, children of school age in family home, at risk of eviction; Homelessness.</p>	<p>Inter-generational unemployment /no parent in work/ no parental qualifications, children under 16 in the family, poor housing/ overcrowding, mental health issues with risk to children present/ potential, DV, Low income, material deprivation, disability/ illness.</p>	<p>Families where parents/older children are involved in offending/criminal behaviour, low school attendance/exclusion/behaviour issues, school age children in family, children offending/know n to police, likelihood of intergenerational offending, parental history of custodial sentences.</p>	<p>Families who are known to adult drug treatment services and children are at risk of negative ECM outcomes (particularly the disadvantages identified through 'Think Family' as barriers to ending child poverty.)</p>	<p>Family must be at point of crisis. Have allocated social worker. Risks must be such that children will be subject to CP plan or become looked after. Drug & Alc. issues. One or more parent must be willing to make changes.</p>	<p>Families where a parent is known to the PPO team. Also where children are at risk of offending and producing potential negative ECM outcomes.</p>

Bullying

SCS Outcome: People are safe from bullying, discrimination, hate crime and harassment; Newcastle is a safe place to live, work, study and visit; People feel safe and are not fearful of becoming a victim of crime; People live in mixed and diverse neighbourhoods where people get on well together.

What the data tells us

- The percentage of children and young people who said that they had experienced bullying at school in Newcastle was 45% compared with 46% nationally and 43% in similar areas (Tellus4, 2009).
- 23% of children and young people have also been bullied when they are not in school, slightly above national (21%) and similar areas' (21%) (Tellus4, 2009).

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

Research has found particular risk factors for being bullied are:

- having a disability or special needs
- having caring responsibilities
- being looked after or a care leaver
- being, or perceived as being, gay or lesbian
- black and Asian pupils were more likely to have been bullied than white or other ethnic groups

Name calling and being excluded from friendship groups was most common type of bullying between girls. Boys were much more likely to have their money or possessions taken, to be threatened by violence or to be a victim of actual violence.

Young people who had been bullied were more likely to be not in employment, education or training (NEET) at age 16 and to have lower Key Stage 4 results than those who hadn't been bullied

What is the story behind the data?

- 56% of children and young people in Newcastle said in the Tellus 2009 survey that their school dealt 'very' or 'quite well' with bullying, slightly below national (58%) and similar areas' (61%).
- Research shows the most common types of bullying are name calling and cyberbullying, followed by being threatened with violence, being socially excluded and being subjected to actual violence.
- Children and young people in Newcastle want a city where people are respected for who they are – where the media spreads positive news about young people, a positive image campaign which tackles labels like 'Charver' and 'Goth' and breaks down stereotypes.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Anti-bullying work with schools which is endorsed by the Anti-Bullying Alliance, includes work on e-safety and cyber-bullying, and this is expanding across community-based services.
- 5 secondary schools and 10 primary schools have been awarded the Anti-Bullying good practice award.
- School councils of St Catherines and St Marys have won the Diana Award for anti-bullying peer led work.
- Inter-generational work has taken place between young and older people.
- Show Racism the Red Card runs activities to encourage people, including young people, to challenge racism.
- Newcastle's UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) Members are meeting with local transport providers to better understand and

assess issues around bullying on school journeys. Newcastle UKYP MPs spoke at the national ACT Travelwise Conference.

- Newcastle City for Peace initiative is working to increase understanding, respect and harmony among all people and communities.
- No Outsiders supports primary teachers in exploring ways of challenging homophobic discrimination through the positive use of stories, drama and the visual arts.

How we are measuring performance?

- Children who have reported experiencing bullying (NI69)
- The percentage of children who report that their school deals well with bullying (TellUs)
- Percentage of schools and other settings with anti-bullying accreditation or working towards

Lead Partnership: NSCB; Safe Newcastle

Partners

City Council, schools, ARCH, Show Racism the Red Card

Related documents

- Anti-bullying strategy

Other Stay Safe

SCS Outcomes: People are safe from accidental injury and death.

What the data tells us

- The rate of emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional or deliberate injuries to children has continued to increase from 167.5 (per 10,000 children and young people admitted) in 2007 to 173.5 in 2008 and is much higher than national rates and those of similar areas.
- The number of children and young people who are killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents has reduced significantly from its baseline of 35.2 (1994-1998 average) to 13 in 2007 and is now lower than national averages.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

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. Boys are twice as likely to have accidents as girls. 0-4 year olds are most likely to have accidents at home.

What is the story behind the data?

Most accidental injuries at all ages are due to falls, most fatalities are due to road traffic accidents.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- 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 trained in cycle proficiency in 2008/09. Working at 143 playgroups, nurseries and schools in the City to deliver basic road safety education to over 9000 children under the age of 6 in 2008/09.
- Mini Moto events were held to promote the responsible and safe use of motor cycles and vehicles by children and young people.
- Nexus have installed CCTV system into targeted bus shelters in Westerhope and Walker to reduce damage and anti-social behaviour, and to promote increased safe public transport use.
- The 94 static playgrounds, kick about areas and skate parks in Newcastle are inspected on average three times per week with increased maintenance visits for high use or hotspot areas and rapid response for damaged equipment or dangerous items.
- Local Safe Neighbourhoods Action and Problem Solving Groups (SNAPS) focus on youth disorder, criminal damage, graffiti and burglary issues at community level, such as working with the Police, the private sector (Eldon Square) and young people to provide a safe and enjoyable environment around the Green and Monument areas.
- Youth Crime Action Plan measures include the use of police powers to take vulnerable young people either home or to a designated safe place, after school patrols providing high visibility police patrols at identified hot spot areas at school closing time and late afternoons, targeted youth activities on Friday and Saturday evenings to provide positive alternatives for young people at risk of antisocial behaviour.

- Street Pastors offer practical assistance and a listening ear to those who are vulnerable or in need in the City Centre between 10pm and 4am every Friday and Saturday night.
- 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

How we are measuring performance

- NI48 - number of children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- NI70 – hospital admissions caused by unintentional or deliberate injuries to CYP
- NI22 Perceptions of parents taking responsibility for the behaviour of their children

Lead Partnership: Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board; Safe Newcastle

Partners

City Council, Police, Health, schools, voluntary and community sector, YHN, Sure Start Children's Centres, YOT

Related documents

- NSCB Business Plan
- Road Safety plan

What will we do in 2010-11?

The following key actions will make the greatest contribution to improving performance but do not reflect **all** actions taking place.

Actions	Lead agency
Safeguarding children and young people	
Complete roll-out of Signs of Safety model in child protection conferences	City Council – Children’s Services
Allocate free nursery places to all two year old children subject to a child protection plan	City Council – Children’s Services
Develop Family Group conferences to avoid accommodation	City Council – Children’s Services; Action for Children
Improve early detection of vulnerable children pre-birth	Health (midwifery); City Council – Children’s Services
Continue to improve consistency in social care assessments, their timing and recording	City Council – Children’s Services
Ensure children are allocated a lead professional at key transition points so that they do not become subject of a CPP again	City Council– Children’s Services
Implement areas for development identified in response to Lord Laming’s report 2009) and Government Action Plan.	NSCB partners
Continue to work with perpetrators of domestic violence to include preventative services for young men on the periphery of offending	Safe Newcastle
Continue to raise awareness on issues specific to BME communities such as forced marriage and honour based abuse, and develop services to support victims and survivors in Newcastle	Safe Newcastle
Supporting families in times of difficulty	
Publicise core offer of parenting support to increase numbers of appropriate referrals and families accessing universal and targeted support	City Council – Children’s Services
Increase numbers completing training pathway for parenting practitioners	City Council– Children’s Services
Expand and promote work of Families at Risk Intensive Support Service (FRISS), including Changing Trax and Family Intervention Programmes (FIPs) to provide more whole family support for those with difficulties	City Council – Children’s Services; YHN,
Further develop the ‘Think Family’ model and culture across local authority and partner services to align intervention and support for vulnerable individuals and families, including situations of domestic	City Council – Children’s Services and Adult & Cultural

Actions	Lead agency
violence	Services
Embed Solihull approach for Health Visiting and SSCC staff as model for early intervention and prevention	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; City council; Job Centre Plus
Bullying	
Deliver specific targeted Internet Safety and cyber bullying training programmes across schools, communities and children' services workforce	City Council – Children's Services
Offer support to schools to work towards Anti-Bullying Award status	City Council – Children's Services
Other stay safe	
Deliver road safety awareness training - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3,500 children and young people on National Standard Cycle Training • 2,000 on Child Pedestrian Training programme • Further promotion and development of teaching resource for secondary school pupils, Ghost Street. • Early Years Road Safety education in all playgroups, nurseries and schools in the City. 	City Council – Environment and Regeneration
Deliver number of initiatives to improve home safety awareness of parents and carers of under-5's – free smoke alarms, free safety equipment, first aid training, awareness raising information events	Child Accident Prevention Forum
NSCB plan 2010-11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure NSCB conduct of Serious Case Reviews is robust, fully understood and compliant with Working Together 2010 & Ofsted evaluation standards. • Develop work in relation to safeguarding children from specific vulnerable groups • Continue to review and improve safeguarding procedures and workforce developments, reflecting local and national priorities • Embed OBA so that NSCB work is outcomes-focused 	NSCB

Enjoy and Achieve

Focus for 2010-11

- Improve attainment in the early years and primary (LAA priority)
- Improve attainment at secondary and 14-19 (LAA priority)
- Increase school attendance and reduce persistent absence (LAA priority)
- Reduce rates of exclusion from school

Improve attainment (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome:

- Children get off to a good start in life
- Children and young people attend and enjoy school
- Children and young people achieve their learning potential
- People have skills and knowledge relevant to current and future job market.

What the data tells us

Foundation Stage: The percentage of 5 year olds reaching their expected level in the Early Years Foundation Stage including Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy is improving and the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in Foundation Stage and the rest has steadily decreased from 42.9% in 2005 to 38.6% in 2009.

Key Stage 1: The percentage of 7 year olds in Newcastle achieving level 2 or above:

- in **reading** increased from 80% in 2008 to 81% in 2009. Nationally it remained at 84% and in similar areas was 82.4%
- in **writing** increased from 76% in 2008 to 77% in 2009, compared with 81% nationally and 78.6% in similar areas
- in **mathematics** remained at 88% in 2009. Nationally it decreased to 89% in 2009 and in similar areas was 87.4%

Key Stage 2 (KS2):

- The percentage of 11 year olds achieving level 4 or above in both **English and mathematics** increased from 69% in 2008 to 70% in 2009. Nationally it decreased from 73% to 72% and similar areas decreased to 72.1% in 2009.
- KS2 results have improved much faster than nationally in the last five years; the gap has narrowed from 7 percentage points in 2005 to 2 percentage points in 2009.

The percentage of free school meals pupils achieving level 4+ in English and maths increased from 49.4% in 2008 to 52.0% in 2009, narrowing the gap with their peers.

GCSE: There have been significant improvements in educational attainment and progression at GCSE in Newcastle in recent years. In 2009:

- 72.5% of 16 year olds achieved 5 or more GCSEs or equivalents graded A*-C compared with 70% nationally and 71.7% for similar areas.
- 41.9% of 16 year olds achieved 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and maths compared with 49.8% nationally and 45.6% for similar areas.
- The rate of improvement for those achieving 5 or more GCSEs graded A*-C including English and maths has been significantly greater in Newcastle than nationally in the last five years; the gap has narrowed from 11.4 percentage points in 2005 to 7.9 percentage points in 2009.

A/AS level

There have been significant improvements in educational attainment and progression at A/AS level and equivalent (Level 3 qualifications) in Newcastle in recent years. In 2009

- The average point score by students achieving all Level 3 qualifications increased to 735.8 points in 2009 compared to 739.1 nationally and 679.7 for similar areas.
- The average point score for Newcastle College Level 3 learners aged 16-18 was 807.7 which made it the highest performing general further education college in England.

As well as improving achievements, more young people are staying in learning beyond the age of 16 and increasing numbers are progressing to university.

- Participation in education and work-based learning at age 17 has steadily increased in Newcastle to 86% in 2009, higher than the national average, similar areas and the highest rate of core cities.
- Achievement of level 2 qualifications (5+ GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalent) by the age of 19 has steadily increased from 58.7% in 2004 to 70.6% in 2008. Newcastle's rate of improvement is greater than the national rate during the same period and the gap has narrowed from 8% in 2004 to 4.4% in 2009.
- Achievement of Level 3 qualifications by the age of 19 has steadily increased in Newcastle from 37.6% in 2004 to 44.9% in 2009.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

The factors that have the greatest effect on educational achievement are:

- child poverty or deprivation

- special educational needs
- school attendance

There are still considerable gaps to national levels in some areas particularly in those achieving 5 or more GCSEs including English and maths. Significant numbers of vulnerable children and young people who underachieve have poor school attendance.

Some other groups have lower overall attainment than average, despite the fact that they often make good progress:

- boys
- those with English as an additional language
- looked after children and young people
- children and young people with low attendance
- excluded pupils
- mobile pupils (those who change schools frequently)
- some children and young people from BME communities

Children and young people from some BME communities have higher than average attainment.

There can also be significant differences between schools both locally and nationally.

What is the story behind the data?

- 71.4% of the 227 childminders inspected by Ofsted were judged to be good or outstanding (up to June 2010) compared to 63.5% nationally and 58.4% in similar areas.
- 68.4% of the 136 childcare providers (including private voluntary and independent nurseries, play groups, after-school childcare, play provision) inspected by Ofsted were judged to be good or outstanding (up to June 2010) compared to 68.9% nationally and 58.9% in similar areas.

- All six (100%) Newcastle nursery schools were graded by Ofsted as 'outstanding'.
- A reduction in the number of primary schools below the floor target (of 55% of pupils attaining at least Level 4 in English and maths at the end of Key Stage 2) from 19 in 2007 to 9 in 2009.
- A reduction in the number of LA maintained secondary schools below the floor target (of 30% of pupils attaining at least 5+A*-C in English and maths at the end of Key Stage 4) from 6 in 2005 to one in 2009.
- There is an improving picture at Key Stage 4 for the performance of vulnerable groups for 5+ A*-C including English and maths:
 - pupils on FSM performed slightly better by 0.8% (gap of 24.5% points)
 - for children who are looked after LAC the gap was narrowed by 10.5% points (gap of 16.6% points)
 - black minority ethnic (BME) pupils outperformed white pupils by 11.4% points, though there are differences between particular groups
 - pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) narrowed the gap by 2.4% points (gap almost 30% points)
 - boys narrowed the gap on girls by almost 1% (gap of approximately 1.8% points)
 - only 6% of persistent absentees achieved this level, while for those who were not persistent absentees, the figure was 51%.
- National challenge and Gaining Ground schools have made substantial improvements.
- Some schools have very high pupil mobility.
- 66.2% of primary schools were judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding (up to June 2010) compared to 66.4% nationally and 68.1% in similar areas.

- 69.2% of secondary schools were judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding up to June 2010 (4 out of 10 were outstanding) compared to 62.7% nationally and 60.1% in similar areas.
- Newcastle College is one of the largest FE colleges in the country and was judged by Ofsted to be outstanding.
- 200 new Diploma learners started on programmes, with a total of 430 Diploma learners overall.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Schools across Newcastle learn from each others good practice and that elsewhere
- There is increasing personalisation of the curriculum to meet individual pupil needs
- Improvements to moderation are leading to greater confidence in the Foundation Stage Profile results.
- More data analysis is being done which enables better targeting of underperforming groups.
- Training and development of Early Years practitioners has contributed to results so that all but one area of the EYFS profile shows an upward trend this year.
- Analysis of the five programmes to target support and challenge for primary schools according to need shows a big impact with good improvements in standards overall.
- Increased focus on primary mathematics, improving staff subject knowledge and detailed audits of maths in targeted schools.
- Training for Assessing Pupil Progress (APP) means teachers are becoming more confident in assessing pupils formatively and planning is better targeted.
- Detailed analysis of data for different vulnerable groups helps schools to provide specific challenge, targeting and support.
- Training and awareness-raising sessions with staff and over 600 pupils in schools has led to increased referrals to the

young carers service and more young people receiving support.

- Building leadership and management capacity programme has led to improvements in participating schools.
- Whole school leadership support in place for new Ofsted Framework with professional development, Advanced Skills Teachers and opportunity for best practice sharing.
- Schools are using ICT to:
 - improve teaching, learning, pupil engagement
 - increase innovation and creativity
 - improve collaboration
 - enhance parental engagement
- Beech Hill and Moorside primaries and Kenton School have been selected as National Support Schools and the Head teachers are recognised as National Leaders in Education.
- Capital improvements to learning environments including Building Schools for the Future(BSF), PFI schemes and Primary Strategy for Change with all secondary schools due to have been rebuilt or refurbished by 2012, along with three of our special schools and a substantial number of primary schools.
- Extended Services through Schools are providing childcare, parenting support, family learning, a wide range of activities for children including study support, access to specialist support services and community access to adult learning. 81 schools are providing the full core offer and 15 are providing some elements.
- 15 schools are exploring creative learning opportunities as part of the national Creative Partnerships programme.
- 67% increase in take-up for the Summer Reading Challenge 2009 and 32% increase in the number of books taken out by children over the summer period.
- New state of the art Learning Centre opened by Newcastle United in 2009 is delivering Playing for Success, an after school study support programme for 120 under achieving

young people aged 10 to 14 to raise literacy, numeracy and ICT skills.

- Eight of our 11 secondary schools now teach Diplomas with ten subjects currently on offer for 2010.
- Walker Technology College, Excelsior Academy and Linhope taking part in a QCDA pilot on Foundation Learning, involving 155 pupils. Foundation Learning is the new framework that will replace a range of current provision at Level 1 and below.
- Gifted and Talented pilot in Walbottle and Benfield targeting young people on FSM in Year 10 to raise aspirations
- Newcastle United Enterprise Academy launched in 2009 to raise self esteem and aspirations of 750 pupils over two years by using the football club as a real life case study to improve students' perception of business.
- Science City 3-year programme to give young people the opportunity to be involved in science activities that can improve their neighbourhoods and encourage them to study science, train in scientific skills and find jobs.
- Family learning courses are offered in almost 80 schools, Sure Start Children's Centres and other settings. In the last year 1370 parents and carers and 1431 children have engaged together in learning activities. 95.5% success rate for all Family Programmes (achievement and retention). 54% of all learners are from the 10 most deprived wards

How we are measuring performance

- NI 92 Narrow the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in early years foundation stage (EYFS) Profile and all other children.
- NI 72 Achievement of at least 78 points across the EYFS with at least six in each of the scales
- NI73 and 75 – KS2 -4 attainment
- NI93, 94 - progress

- NI99-105 and 107-8 - Vulnerable groups attainment – LAC, SEN, BME
- NI90 – take up of 14-19 diplomas
- NI70-82 L2 and L3 qualifications at 19

Lead partnerships

- Early Childhood Services Partnership
- Education Improvement Partnership
- 14-19 Partnership

Partners

Schools, Newcastle College, early years providers, City Council, work based learning providers, HE institutions, Aimhigher, private sector and third sector, Local Education Partnership (LEP).

Related documents

- 14-19 Strategy and action plan
- Primary Strategy for Change
- Schools causing concern
- School improvement strategy

Increase school attendance and reduce persistent absence (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: Children and young people attend and enjoy school

What the data tells us

- Secondary school persistent absence rates in Newcastle decreased from 10.40% of pupils in 2006/07 to 7.9% in 2008/09. However, rates of persistent absence are still considerably higher than national (4.9%) and similar areas' (5.9%). Provisional data for 2009/10 indicates that the secondary school persistent absence rate fell to 6.2%.
- Primary school persistent absence has decreased from 3.02% in 2006/07 to 2.1% in 2008/09. Although the gap has narrowed, rates of persistent absence are still considerably higher than national (1.5%) and similar areas (1.8%). Provisional data for 2009/10 indicates that the primary school persistent absence rate increased slightly to 2.17%.
- In the 2008/09 academic year, there were 964 secondary-aged children and young people who were persistently absent in Newcastle (absent for more than 63 sessions of all possible half days during the year). This represents a reduction of 293 from 2007/08. This figure provisionally fell to 781 (a reduction of 183 pupils) in 2009/10.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

Characteristics of pupils with poor attendance are broadly similar across primary and secondary phase:

- No difference between genders
- Higher rates among pupils eligible for FSM

- Higher rates for pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- Higher for those living in the 10% most deprived areas and worse for pupils from the 1% most deprived.

Young carers are a vulnerable group with more frequent absence from school.

What is the story behind the data?

- There is a significant minority of persistent absentees who, despite interventions, continue to have very poor attendance. In some families there are low aspirations where education is not a high priority and there is a culture of non-attendance.
- In 2009, only 6% 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 51%
- Analysis of the reasons for absence shows that illness is by far the most common reason for absence in Newcastle and nationally; holidays in term time (with or without permission) are not very significant in comparison

What we are doing that is making a difference

- The National Strategies self evaluation and analysis tools have been applied to identify and target support and intervention
- The introduction of a 'traffic light' system to monitor absence rates has made an impact with parents who may have previously thought that attendance levels were acceptable.
- More schools are using absence data effectively to target strategies and interventions, being more challenging to some parents, drawing up action plans and pupil profiles.
- Children's Fund BME attendance project has been working with schools with large numbers of pupils from ethnic minority backgrounds to promote school attendance

- Families Plus project works with families of primary aged children, where families have chaotic lifestyles to ensure that children and young people get to school. Fathers Plus work with fathers to promote their role in their children's education and improve school attendance.
- Family Intervention Projects (FIPs) work with the most challenging families and tackle issues including school absenteeism. 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 problems
- Integrated team working around a school cluster provides the opportunity for a focus on attendance at an early intervention stage with additional family support for more complex cases.
- Truancy patrols and fast track prosecutions have proven successful
- All but two schools participate in LA led initiatives for promoting attendance which reward pupils with good attendance.

How we are measuring performance

- NI 87 - Persistent absence

Lead partnership: Behaviour and Attendance Partnership

Partners

Newcastle City Council, schools, Newcastle College, training providers, voluntary and community sector

Related documents

- Behaviour and Attendance Strategy

Reduce rates of exclusion from school

SCS Outcome:

- Children and young people attend and enjoy school
- People engage in law-abiding and positive behaviours.

What the data tells us

- Fixed term exclusions are reducing and lower than national and similar areas
- Newcastle's permanent exclusion rates have been consistently higher (bottom quartile) than national and similar areas' rates. To date (January 2010) there have been zero permanent exclusions for the current academic year

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

Characteristics of permanent and fixed-term excluded pupils are similar. They are more likely (based on 2008/9 data) to be:

- Male
- In secondary school notably in academic Years 9 and 10
- White British – Proportion of BME excluded is less than the proportion of BME in school population
- Have special educational needs (SEN)
- Live in the 10% most deprived wards
- The only notable difference is eligibility for FSM. The majority of pupils receiving fixed term exclusions were not eligible for FSM but those who were permanently excluded were.

What is the story behind the data?

- To date (June 2010) there have been zero permanent exclusions and 896 fixed-term exclusions for the current academic year 2009/10.
- In 2008/09 only half the pupils receiving fixed term exclusions came from wards within Newcastle.
- Persistent disruptive behaviour remained the largest reason for receiving a fixed-term exclusion in 2008/9
- 11 out of 13 (84.6%) of Newcastle secondary schools were judged good or outstanding for behaviour at their most recent OFSTED inspection (2009). This is better than national (78.6%) and similar areas (80.5%).

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Pupils are supported through negotiated access to alternative placement when permanent exclusion would have been likely otherwise. This has helped reduce to zero the number of permanent exclusions in the current academic year
- All secondary schools have a Learning Support Unit (LSU) and have significantly redesigned their curricula to provide more personalised learning and access to alternative curriculum

How we are measuring performance

- NI114 - Permanent exclusions
- Fixed term exclusions
- NI86 – Secondary school inspection judgements for behaviour
- School inspection judgements for behaviour – other schools

Lead partnership: Behaviour and Attendance Partnership

Partners

Newcastle City Council, schools, Newcastle College, training providers, voluntary and community sector

Related documents

- Behaviour and Attendance Strategy

Enjoy

SCS Outcomes: People are creative and enjoy cultural, sporting and leisure activities; People are informed about services, activities and opportunities; People have access to good quality services, facilities and activities within their neighbourhoods

What the data tells us

- 26,162 children and young people (November 09) are accessing free sports and leisure activities through FUSION programme.
- From the 2009 TellUs Survey, the percentage of children and young people's satisfaction with parks and play areas rate in Newcastle is 52.4% (very good or fairly good). Children in Newcastle are more satisfied with their play areas than similar areas' (50.4%) but we are still below the national rate of 54.1%.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- Children and young people from low income backgrounds have access to a more limited range of activities in a much smaller geographical area
- Disabled children and young people have told us they would like to take part in inclusive activities near where they live, so that they can develop and maintain friendships

What is the story behind the data?

- There are now 94 static playgrounds, plus kick about areas and skate parks in Newcastle.
- 10 Green Flag Awards for 10 of Newcastle's major parks

- 29 new or refurbished outdoor play spaces have been completed through Fair Play Pathfinder Programme improving children and their family's access to challenging and enjoyable play opportunities in their local communities

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Through the BIG Lottery Play Portfolio children were heavily involved in deciding which projects were through participatory budgeting and we have completed:
 - capital projects - one new MUGA installed in Denton Ward and 5 new play areas
 - a Street Play Project in Cruddas Park
 - holiday play provision in Gosforth and play work with children with disabilities across the city
- The council has opened two young people's gyms and extended free swimming to include under 18s
- Adventurous and outdoor residential education opportunities at affordable prices are delivered at Hawkthirst Centre, Kielder, in a partnership between the city council and the Scout Association
- 8,246 people took part in the second Juice culture festival for children and young people as participants. 26,194 people attended festival events as audience members.
- *"Down Our Street"*: an Intergenerational creative writing project in Benwell, Shieldfield, West Denton and Kenton brought more

than 60 younger and older people together, ranging in age from eight to eighty

- Newcastle Families Information Service achieved new national standard regarding how it supports parents and carers with information and help to access childcare, parenting support, benefits, and activities to enjoy as a family.
- The Newcastle School Sports Partnership run a number of programmes to introduce new sports and activities to children and young people and make being active fun, such as dance, traditional playground games, orienteering, golf.

How we are measuring performance

- CYP satisfaction with parks and play areas
- Increased audience and participant numbers in Juice Festival
- Number of children accessing and benefitting from outdoor play

Lead partnership: Play; Integrated Youth

Partners

City Council - Play service, Leisure, Libraries, Arts development; voluntary and community sector; private sector

Related documents

- Play strategy

What will we do in 2010-11?

The following key actions will make the greatest contribution to improving performance but do not reflect **all** actions taking place.

Actions	Lead agency
Educational attainment	
Improve boys' performance at Foundation Stage by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing 'boy friendly' environments; • Improving access to outdoor learning • Further developing the Newcastle Quality Improvement Framework leadership and quality improvement systems for EYFS and developing an annual audit and review cycle for each setting 	Early Years settings and schools
Embed the 'Supporting Schools to Succeed' policy that has been informed by the new Ofsted framework	Education Improvement Partnership
Intensive support and challenge from Primary Strategies Team for primary schools facing significant challenge	City Council – Children's Services
Primary and secondary schools to deliver a range of support and personalised learning programmes to narrow the attainment gap, including between boys and girls, FSM, SEN, LAC and BME and the rest	Schools; Children's Services
Strengthen assessment and moderation of pupils with SEN working well below expected levels for their age	City Council – Children's Services; Special Schools
National Curriculum Assessment (NCA) challenge for the secondary school remaining below floor target	City Council – Children's Services; Secondary National Strategies
Establish National Challenge Trust at All Saints College	City Council – Children's Services
Strengthen the role of culture in learning environments by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • embedding the Cultural Ambassadors' network in all schools • increasing number of schools participating in arts mark, and • supporting major cultural projects and partners in the development of participation and learning initiatives relevant to the schools' curriculum 	City Council – Adult and Cultural Services; Children's Services
Create further opportunities to support the development of literacy and reading: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase numbers of children joining the Summer Reading Challenge • Improve links with schools to support literacy programmes for children and young people. • Love Books Conference to work with teachers and other providers to improve literacy programmes 	City Council – Adult and Cultural Services
Support schools to develop the global dimension in the curriculum and international links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen existing twinning links with Gelsenkirchen 	City Council – Adult and Cultural Services

Actions	Lead agency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comenius Regio bid in partnership with Malmo • Connecting Classrooms project with Mexico • Partnership with Swallows project 	
Continue to renew and improve school buildings through Primary Strategy for Change, next phase of Building Schools for the Future and regeneration schemes such as the new Walker Riverside school	Local Education Partnership; City Council, schools
Promote take-up of the Home Access scheme to provide free computers by low income families	Schools; City Council
Develop the 14-19 strategic partnership to support the new commissioning role of the LA, for all post-16 learning across the city from 1 April 2010	14-19 Partnership
<p>Further develop the 14-19 learning offer in response to statutory developments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deliver a guaranteed place to every 17 year old in education, training or employment • support learning providers to further develop Information Advice and Guidance • trial approaches to Raising the Participation Age as part of national pilot • expand Foundation Learning provision across a wider range of providers • increase take-up of Young Apprenticeships • narrow the gap in participation between young people from deprived areas and the rest, • increase participation of young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities • continue to build progression routes to HE and deliver a range of programmes to raise aspirations 	14-19 Partnership
<p>Further develop work with families who are home educating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • review support and access to school-based activities and other facilities • update procedures and guidance for parents and policies in light of new legislation 	City Council – Children’s Services
Attendance and exclusions	
Develop a range of flexible needs led provision for children and young people with social emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD).	B&A Partnership
Increase the number of schools and settings that are delivering social and emotional aspects of learning and development (SEAL / SEAD) programmes by 5% (4-5) per year	City Council – Children’s Services
Ensure that children and young people have access to a wide variety of learning and accredited personal development opportunities which take into account their individual interests and abilities, both in and outside of school.	B&A Partnership
Act upon the proposals within the Back on Track document in respect of children and young people designated as Hard to Place and apply the ‘In-Year Fair Access Protocol’ consistently	Secondary Schools
Ensure full information regarding the needs of children and young people is shared in a timely manner between schools at transition for example Learning Passports, Common Transfer Form	City Council – Children’s Services

Actions	Lead agency
Extend the range of high quality alternative provision to meet the needs of children and young people, in both primary and secondary schools	B&A Partnership
Apply a 'zero' permanent exclusion policy which is supported by all schools and further reduce fixed term exclusions	B&A Partnership
Ensure that all children and young people at risk of exclusion are identified early and that integrated working tools, including CAF are used to access support to meet individual needs	B&A Partnership
Review current Alternative Provision commissioned by schools and the local authority to determine if it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meets the needs of CYP • provides quality and ensures safeguarding • provides accredited curriculum • provides sufficient capacity to meet our statutory duty of 25 hours 	B&A Partnership
Use persistent absence (PA) networks to identify and share good practice and support implementation in schools around use of traffic lights, and Team around the Family (joint strategies, casework, CAF)	City Council – Children’s Services; schools
Continue to promote, recognise and reward improving and excellent attendance and punctuality.	City Council – Children’s Services; schools
Enjoy	
Seasonal programme of free Fusion sports and leisure activities for young people including new ideas requested by children and young people: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – archery, – “soccer in the city” every school holiday, – “splash” – new water based activity involving scuba, water table tennis, sea doos and inflatable jet skis, – a World Cup programme involving 1200 children in football and classroom work themed around the world cup, – piloting of a reward scheme for attending Fusion activities 	City Council – Environment and Regeneration
Celebrate the creativity of children and young people and increase audience and participation in the annual Juice Festival and opportunities for children and young people in the cultural Olympiad	City Council – Adult and Cultural Services
Deliver Play Builder and Play Pathfinder programmes to improve children’s play spaces for children aged 8-13: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop a large staffed adventure play park in Exhibition Park with particular emphasis on disabled children, girls and BME children • upgrade play areas in Gala Field, Newbiggin Hall and Walker Park into adventure playgrounds • develop more adventurous play spaces across the city • employ play ‘animateurs’ (facilitators) who will ensure children are safe and supervised • train local volunteers and public sector staff to support children’s play in the community 	City Council – Children’s Services and Environment and Regeneration
Engage young people in creative and cultural activities:	City Council – Adult and

Actions	Lead agency
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop youth dance across the city providing dance in communities where it is not already accessible for young people and work aimed specifically at males. • Groups of young people from Kenton, Walbottle, Linhope and Excelsior Academy will work with artists to develop a series of short Alcohol Awareness Campaign films to raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol misuse amongst young people • Refugee Week Education and Arts Programme City wide • 'Arts Factory' a YOT project 	Cultural Services and Children's Services, Youth Dance England, Dance City, YOT
Increase the range of information about activities, events and services for young people and promote through a variety of media	City Council – Children's Services

Make a positive contribution

Focus for 2010-11

- Reduce rates of youth offending and re-offending (LAA priority)
- Provide targeted youth support (TYS) and positive activities for young people
- Ensure Children and Young People participate in their communities and in decision making

Reduce rates of offending and reoffending

SCS Outcome: People engage in law-abiding and positive behaviours; People live in safe neighbourhoods with low levels of anti-social behaviour and crime; People feel safe and are not fearful of becoming a victim of crime.

What the data tells us

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 of FTEs in 2009/10 compared to previous years with a provisional figure of 459 in 2009/10.

The number of young people aged 10-17 years who entered the criminal justice system in Newcastle for the first time between April and September 2009 was 21% less than in the same period in 2008. However, 2,990 per 100,000 is still well above the national rate of 1,472 and above similar areas' average rate of 2,010 per 100,000 10-17 year olds. Provisional results for 2009/10 show a

further reduction to 1,934 per 100,000.

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

- Youth offending rates are high compared to national average but are reducing and similar to other core cities
- Newcastle YOT is recognised as high performing.
- There are low rates of custodial sentencing for young offenders (1.9% compared to national average of 5.7% and 8-11% in all other core cities) but this can have a negative impact on the reoffending rates
- Low rates of engagement in ETE – impact on reoffending
- 99.4% of young offenders had access to suitable accommodation in 2008/09, above national (95.4%) and similar areas' (96.7%). The provisional figure for Newcastle for 2009/10 is 99.1%.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- 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 reside in deprived areas.
- Based on provisional 2009/10 information (1,042 young offenders) 93.1% of youth offenders aged 10-17 years of age are White.
- All 18 young people receiving a custodial sentence in 2009/10 were White British.

Risk factors for youth offending include:

- Mental health

- Substance misuse
- Housing / homelessness
- Having a parent in prison
- Not being in education, employment or training (NEET)
- Deprived background
- Major problems at school (behavioural, truancy and bullying)
- There is an over-representation of White British young people

What is the story behind the data?

In the 2008/09 Place Survey:

- 24.2% of residents in Newcastle indicated drug use or dealing with drugs was a problem in Newcastle which is below the national average rate (30.5%) and well below similar areas' rate (34.7%)
- 20.7% of residents in Newcastle indicated anti-social behaviour was a problem in their community compared with 20% nationally and 24.2% in similar areas.
- 29.9% of Newcastle residents felt that the police and local council were successfully dealing with local concerns about anti social behaviour in their area, as did 26.3% nationally and 27.5% in similar areas.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Earlier Intervention with young people aged 8–16 via Positive Activities for Young People Key Workers.
- More integrated working between Connexions, Youth Service staff and other partner organisations.
- Local figures suggest a substantial decrease in the numbers of FTEs in 2009/10 compared to previous years. This results from a range of initiatives and partnership working, including Community Resolution and Triage.

- Increasing CAMHS support- for those young people whose offending is associated with emotional and mental health issues
- Improved number and quality of referrals from YOT into substance misuse services (from 84 to 112 over the year). This contributes to continued downward pressure on underlying issues behind youth crime and re-offending.
- YOT services now available 365 days per year to enable increased number of interventions at critical times such as evenings and weekends
- Deter young offender (DYO) strategy implemented for all 'high risk' young people in conjunction with Northumbria Police
- Intensive resettlement service works with and supports young people post-custody and beyond any statutory intervention to prevent a return to custody
- Restorative justice worker employed through the YOT to reduce reoffending through increased contact between young offenders and victims of youth crime
- Partnership agreements with secondary schools to improve ETE engagement of young offenders
- Activity Agreements established with young offenders not engaged in ETE with a dedicated Connexions adviser
- Basic skills screening established for all YOT clients with additional support to those most in need
- Positive Futures programme is a sport and activity programme run by Newcastle YMCA targeting 10-19 year olds at risk of youth offending or substance misuse.
- Kickz delivered by Police, council, YOT, Hat Trick and NUFC Football Foundation is breaking down barriers between police and young people and reducing crime and ASB by engaging young people in football playing and coaching opportunities.
- The City's Youth Offending Team (YOT) works with young people when they have entered the youth justice system, but is also responsible for reducing young people who get involved in

criminal activity. Range of youth crime prevention initiatives include:

- Youth Inclusion Support Partnership (YISP), which is citywide and supports 8-17 years olds who have been referred as at risk of offending or ASB. It focuses on changing thinking and behaviour in relation to ASB and crime.
- Junior Youth Inclusion Programmes (JYIP) run by the YOT and the Scotswood Area Strategy, involve a mixture of 1 to 1 work, group work and activities and are targeted at a core group of children (and their peers) aged 8 to 13 deemed most at risk of ASB and criminal activity.
- Senior Youth Inclusion Programme (SYIP) works as the JYIP but is aimed at 13-17 year olds. Scotswood Area Strategy deliver this programme in Scotswood, Elswick and Benwell; and Catch 22 deliver across the East and outer West
- Over 80 young people aged 12-17 attended Phoenix Project training run by Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service to raise awareness of fire safety and anti-social behaviour including deliberate fire-setting.
- Choices programme is an annual programme of arts activity for 10 to 18 year olds run by the YOT with Helix Arts as part of the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP). An alternative to custody, it raises aspirations, opportunities and skills and so reduce offending.

How we are measuring performance?

- NI111 - First time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10-17
- NI19 - Rate of reoffending
- NI45 - Proportion of young offenders in ETE
- NI43 – young offenders in custody
- Young offenders in suitable accommodation
- Numbers of young offenders engaged with DnA (drugs and alcohol) service

Lead Partnership: YOT Board

Partners: YOT, Probation, Police, Newcastle City Council, schools, Newcastle College, training providers, voluntary and community sector

Related documents

- YOT improvement plans

Provide targeted youth support (TYS) and positive activities for young people

SCS Outcomes: People are creative and enjoy cultural, sporting and leisure activities; People are informed about services, activities and opportunities; People have access to good quality services, facilities and activities within their neighbourhoods; People have fair and equal access to places, buildings, services and opportunities.

What the data tells us

Newcastle has high but reducing numbers of young people who:

- are frequently absent from school
- are excluded from school for a short period
- become pregnant under the age of 18
- become involved in crime or anti-social behaviour
- abuse alcohol or other substances
- are not engaged in education, employment or training beyond 16

Being in one of the above categories increases the risk of being in more than one.

- Children and young people's participation rates in high quality PE and sport in Newcastle have increased from 43% in 2005 to 80% in 2008. This is broadly in line with national (81%) and similar areas (79%).
- 63.5% of young people in Newcastle are engaged in positive activities. This compares well with similar areas and is 97th overall nationally (Tellus 2009).
- 60% of children and young people in Newcastle have taken part in group activities led by an adult outside school lessons such as sports, arts or a youth group. This is in line with national and above the rate in similar areas (Tellus 2009).

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- Children and young people from low income backgrounds only have access to a more limited range of activities in a much smaller geographical area
- Disabled children and young people have told us they would like to take part in inclusive activities near where they live, so that they can develop and maintain friendships in the area they live. All services need to be welcoming, inclusive and accessible to make this happen.
- Of the 26,162 children and young people with Fusion cards (November 2009) allowing them to access free leisure activities:
 - 43% are aged under 11, 39% are 12-16 years old and 17% are 17-25.
 - 53% are male and 47% female
 - 10% are from black and minority ethnic backgrounds.
 - Take-up is spread citywide with highest membership from children and young people in the following wards – Byker (9%), Walker (7%), and Denton (7%)

What is the story behind the data?

Most young people do well at school, make a successful transition to adult life and go on to build successful careers and families. But some young people experience problems in their teenage years and need support to overcome these difficulties.

Newcastle residents identified activities for teenagers and facilities for young children as important priorities for improvement locally (Place survey, 2008/09); and children and young people have identified this as one of their top priorities, including transport to access activities and opportunities.

Positive activities and opportunities are important for all children and young people alongside targeted work for those who need it most.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Partners are working together to co-ordinate and target support for young people who are at risk of poor outcomes through Targeted Youth Support, the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, and the Youth Crime Action Plan.
- 26,162 children and young people (November 09) have accessed free sports and leisure activities through FUSION, free swimming.
- Two mobile units (The Lorry and The Van) take youth services to the areas where young people are.
- The youth service also offers detached or street work and in particular a Friday Night provision intended to engage young people who are more difficult to engage. The Friday night work is a national initiative which supports the implementation of the Youth Crime action plan is delivered in partnership with Northumbria Police, and voluntary and community sector. Friday night work is focused on 8 wards in the City: Elswick, Walker, Byker, Fenham, Scotswood/Benwell, Woosington, Denton and Westgate. Positive activities and street work also takes place on other evenings more frequently in the summer, and is usually deployed in response to issues raised at SNAPs meetings. Data on weekend activities is shown in the table below.

Newcastle Youth Crime Action Plan	
Friday Night and Saturday Activities (1 October 2009 - 31 December 2009)	
Number of sessions delivered	175
Duration of each session (hours)	4
Number of Wards where projects and activities are taking place	8
Number of visits or contacts from young people	4,242
Total number of young people engaged in activities	963
Number of ex-offenders employed	4
Number of young people referred to other agencies	4
Number of young people referred from other agencies (for example police, NE Refugee Service, schools, Youth Offending Team, parents for example.)	156
Number of organisations delivering sessions	8

- Newcastle is one of 20 pilot areas taking part in PLINGS (Places to go and things to do), an Information and Signposting project which is developing ways of bringing together information for young people through web-based and other media
- VCS partners in Newcastle play a key role in offering children and young people from deprived communities a range of varied opportunities, for example Stepney Bank Stables provide free

horse riding lessons and training to young people that volunteer their time to help out.

- There are now 94 static playgrounds, plus kick about areas and skate parks in Newcastle.
- The council has opened two young people's gyms and extended free swimming to include under 18s
- Adventurous and outdoor residential education opportunities at affordable prices are delivered at Hawkthirst Centre, Kielder, in a partnership between the city council and the Scout Association
- Two clusters of schools (Heaton Manor and the Gosforth Pyramid) have piloted ways of delivering the Extended Services Disadvantage Subsidy in a targeted way to children and young people who are economically disadvantaged. The subsidy helps children and young people who could not otherwise afford to do so, take part in out of school activities.
- Developing MyPlace for young people including a new City Centre facility and meeting place with young people-focused services and support and additional mobile resources for young people
- Youth Opportunities Fund of over £500,000 is allocated through a panel of young people to deliver positive activities for children and young people as well as some small direct grants

How we are measuring performance?

- Increased engagement from targeted groups of young people
- NI57 - Participation in PE/sport
- Access to 5 hrs+ culture?
- NI110 – positive activities
- NI199 – CYP satisfaction with parks and play areas
- Numbers of young people volunteering

Lead Partnership: Integrated Youth Strategy Programme Board;
Youth Crime Action Plan Board;

Partners

City council, voluntary and community sector, YOT, Police, schools

Related documents

- Integrated youth strategy
- Play strategy

Ensure Children and Young People participate in their communities and in decision making

SCS Outcomes: People play a part in shaping the future of Newcastle; People contribute to their communities; People of all backgrounds are informed and empowered to engage in decision making about their lives; Children and young people's rights are recognised and championed.

What the data tells us

- The number of young people aged 16 to 25 years old who volunteered during April to September 2009 was 276. During the same period (April – September) in 2008, Newcastle had 252 young people volunteering.
- 63.5% of young people in Newcastle are engaged in positive activities. This compares well with similar areas and is 97th overall nationally (Tellus 2009).
- Over 6,000 young people voted in the UK Youth Parliament elections to select their choice of 42 candidates for Newcastle's Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs).
- Nearly 80 organisations and projects are Investing in Children (IIC) members and have identified how children and young people have changed the way they work.
- 34% of young people feel their views are listened to in the running of their school 'a lot or 'a little'. This is higher than nationally and in similar areas (Tellus 2009)

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

For some groups of children and young people it is more difficult to get their voice heard.

What is the story behind the data?

Newcastle is already recognised as having a strong reputation in this area for a range of work including: U Decide participatory budgeting; Investing in children; school councils in every school; participation of children and young people in assessments and decisions about their own lives; peer education and support; engagement in consultations; levels of engagement by young people in UK Youth Parliament elections.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- We intend to build on these strong foundations and are establishing a Youth Council and working with UNICEF to establish Newcastle as a Child-Friendly City and community.
- A new Participation Strategy for children and young people was agreed by the Children's Trust Board in summer 2009
- A Listening to Young Children Officer is working across partners to ensure the voices of children under 5 are heard in the city.
- An independent Youth Council has been established in Newcastle, managed through Children North East. Recent elections saw 26 candidates elected with 8,695 votes cast.
- Children and Young People's priority issues are at the heart of this plan. We have worked with a diverse group of young people through the participation strategy since 2005
- Nearly 80 organisations and projects are Investing in Children members and have all identified how children and young people have changed the way they work
- Young carers are reshaping the services that support them and how their voice is heard, such as meeting with local MPs, media promotion, developing a job description for "young carers" champions in schools
- Streetwise and the young people's maternity scan clinic have achieved the You're Welcome quality standard which

demonstrates they have involved and acted on young people's views and provide young people friendly services

- 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
- Youth Opportunities Fund of over £500,000 is allocated through a panel of young people to deliver positive activities for children and young people as well as some small direct grants
- YHN's work to listen to and involve young people with tenancies has been recognised as a strength by the Audit Commission

How we are measuring performance?

- Increased number of volunteering opportunities available for under 16 year olds and increased participation
- Use of UNICEF Child Friendly Communities toolkit
- The numbers and ways in which children and young people are consulted about things which are important to them

- CYP sense of engagement (Measured by TellUs)
- The percentage of Year 8 and Year 10 pupils who respond positively when asked if their views are listened to (TellUs 4)
- Number of liC Members
- Number of young people involved and proportion from vulnerable groups and communities in the new Youth council

Lead Partnership: Children's Trust Board

Partners

All Children's Trust partners; Youth Council; Children in Care Council

Related documents

- Children and Young People Participation Strategy
- Integrated youth strategy

What will we do in 2010-11?

The following key actions will make the greatest contribution to improving performance but do not reflect **all** actions taking place.

Actions	Lead agency
Youth offending	
Deliver bespoke learning provision through Newcastle College to improve engagement of young offenders in education and training	YOT; Newcastle College
Further reduce crime and anti-social behaviour by expanding preventative work (Youth Inclusion Programmes) City wide	YOT
Implement the Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) projects including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community reparation on Friday evenings and weekends • The Triage process of restorative interventions to young people that diverts them from the criminal justice system. 	YOT; Police
Improve systems so that young people have opportunity to formally input to all YOT assessments	YOT
Basic skills screening of young offenders to include assessment of their preferred learning style	YOT
Improved consistency and quality of Risk of Harm assessments to ensure safeguarding and reduce likelihood of reoffending or risk of harm to others	YOT
Make communities safer by addressing alcohol and youth related crime and disorder and providing effective local policing to address neighbourhood concerns and reduce fear of crime including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • targeting and managing offenders who have the worst impact on communities and are responsible for the most crimes • further develop an education strategy to deter youths from crime and disorder, and reinforce parents' responsibilities through making use of parenting contracts as well as youth service referrals and targeted diversionary work • address the problem of some people unfairly stereotyping all young people as anti-social, using the media to highlight successes and promote positive messages about the law-abiding majority • use targeted patrols and technology to combat high-risk drivers who should not be on the roads • better investigation of domestic abuse, vulnerable children and adults, 'honour-based violence' and hate crime 	Northumbria Police; City Council
Targeted youth support (TYS) and positive activities	
Develop the My Place project to provide a City Centre hub for young people incorporating a cafe, a theatre, recording space, Streetwise, counselling and other services for young people. A mobile unit will focus on a universal offer for young people, bringing My Place into neighbourhoods and communities.	City Council – Children's Services and Environment and Regeneration; VCS partners

Actions	Lead agency
Development of a “youth offer” for all young people in Newcastle of a range of high quality accessible activities, ensuring the continued involvement of young people in how resources are allocated	City Council – Children’s Services
Continued delivery of YCAP funded Friday and Saturday night positive activities - mobile units (The Lorry and The Van), detached work and street work	City Council – Children’s Services
Involve young people in the design and delivery of new volunteering opportunities, promote and raise awareness of volunteering opportunities and hold a celebration event to recognise young people’s contributions	Newcastle Youth Volunteering Board
Increase the range of information about activities, events and services for young people and promote through a variety of media	City Council – Children’s Services
Recognise, celebrate and promote the value of children and young people’s commitment and contributions, to challenge negative stereotypes – including celebrations for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young achievers • Looked after children • Volunteers 	City Council – Children’s Services
Also see the ‘Enjoy’ section	
CYP Participation	
Commonwealth Youth Summit to develop young people’s political literacy and public-speaking skills	Royal Commonwealth Society (RCS)
Complete Child Poverty action research project to identify the issues as experienced by children and young people and actions to be addressed	Commissioned
Develop a profile and voice for young people in emerging BME communities in Newcastle, through the Future Leaders Programme.	City Council – Children’s Services
Implement Participation Self Assessment and Champions Network	City Council – Children’s Services
Take part in UNICEF child friendly communities initiative pilot	City Council – Children’s Services; Chief Executive’s; UNICEF

Actions	Lead agency
Establish independent Youth Council with diverse representation from across the city	City Council – Children’s Services / Children North East
Expand Investing in Children Membership programme to 100 sites	City Council – Children’s Services
Implement a programme of training, networking and publicity around listening to young children, ensuring the city meets its duties under the Childcare Act 2006	City Council – Children’s Services
Increase the number of health settings with You’re Welcome accreditation	NHS North of Tyne
Improve participation of and representation of all Looked after Children through the Children in Care Council with clear links and a voice for LAC on the Youth Council	City Council – Children’s Services
Provide opportunities for young people and families to be involved in a range of positive activities and decision making on an individual basis and through Youth Voice and contribute to strategic plans within Newcastle	YHN
Hear by Right standards will be used to assess all customer facing housing services	YHN

Achieve Economic Wellbeing

Focus for 2010-11

- Tackle the causes and reduce the impact of child poverty (LAA priority)
- Increase proportion of Young People engaged in education, employment or training (LAA priority)
- Increase numbers of Young people going on to Higher Education (LAA priority)

Tackle the causes and reduce the impact of child poverty (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: People are free from poverty and its impact.

What the data tells us

Almost a third of children in Newcastle live in poverty. Children raised in poverty and material deprivation:

- are at higher risk of living in poverty as adults, and of experiencing negative outcomes
- are more likely to be born prematurely and have low birth weight which can lead to impaired development and health problems in adult life
- are more likely to die from unintentional injury, from exposure to fire or in a pedestrian accident
- are less likely to have opportunities to play safely and access to leisure opportunities
- are less likely to do well at school, achieve qualifications and participate in further or higher education or training

- are more likely to live in poor quality housing and in a worse physical environment
- The percentage take up of formal childcare by low income working families has improved from 11.6% in 2004/05 to 14.5% in 2007/08 but is well below national (17.8%) and similar areas (18.6%) and in the bottom quartile. The gap between Newcastle and national has widened to -3.3% points.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

The risk of a child living in poverty increases if a child is living in:

- a household where no parent is working
- a lone parent household
- a household where someone is disabled
- a large family (with four or more children)
- a family headed by someone from an ethnic minority, particularly someone of Pakistani or Bangladeshi origin

The proportion of children with special educational needs (SEN) in Newcastle is higher in deprived areas. The proportion of children from black and ethnic minority groups and pupils with a first language other than English living in the most deprived areas is broadly similar to other parts of the city.

What is the story behind the data?

The current economic downturn has worsened the situation and means more children and young people may fall into poverty. In Newcastle in the last year, the unemployment rate in the city has risen from 4.8% (May 2008) to 7.8% (April 2009), equivalent to an additional 3,343 people claiming benefits. This is above both regional (7.1%) and national (4.8%) rates. Unemployment has risen most in areas of the city where the rate was already high.

Other conditions have worsened in the past year:

- A significant increase in court orders for repossessions.
- A large increase in the number of households presenting as being at risk of homelessness.
- The Welfare Rights service saw its caseload increase by 29% over the year. The number of enquiries from unemployed residents more than doubled.
- The Money Matters team saw a 47% increase in clients seeking debt advice.

What we are doing that is making a difference

The Newcastle Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan (draft) sets out how partners will work together on following:

1. Increasing employment through Newcastle Futures
2. Improving the financial wellbeing of families
3. Regenerating communities
4. Supporting families experiencing difficulties
5. Raising attainment and aspirations of children and their parents
6. Addressing health inequalities

Newcastle's work in this area has been recognised with the award of Beacon Status in 2009/10 for preventing and tackling child poverty.

Some of the targeted programmes and support include:

- Newcastle Futures – a partnership between Newcastle City Council and Job Centre Plus - continues to provide intensive support to those furthest from the labour market. This includes setting up three 'resource centres', helping with job search, skills assessment, mental health and debt advice.

- Working closely with other public sector agencies and the third sector, the Council has launched its 'Future Jobs Programme', which focuses on creating jobs for young people.
- The Council has increased its apprenticeship programme to 123, from 57 in last year.
- Increased provision of debt and housing advice by services such as the Welfare Rights Service and Newcastle Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) to reduce the chances of repossession and help parents learn about financial literacy.
- Those at risk of homelessness are seen by an expert debt management advisor within 3 working days. Despite a rise of a third in the number of Mortgage Court Orders, and in the number of people identified as being at risk of homelessness, instances of homelessness have not increased.
- The Council is bringing together landlords and support agencies to help reduce evictions. This, together with a training programme for over 400 staff at YHN and other agencies, has seen 38% reduction in landlord court orders, 100 less households evicted from general needs housing and 200 less from supported housing per year.
- Over £6million has been secured over the last four years to improve the quality of buildings where people live whilst being supported to overcome homelessness
- Quids for Kids campaign seeks to maximise the income of families with the most vulnerable children. Additional benefits of £1.1 million gained in the last year for children and young people with disabilities or who are Looked After. A project for the BME community has gained nearly £500,000 in benefits.
- Agencies including Newcastle City Council, Warmzone and the NEA are working to combat Fuel Poverty. Households with a child under 16 are eligible for free cavity wall and loft insulation. Energy efficiency measures are estimated to have reduced fuel bills in the city by more than £3 million.

- Enterprise packages to support small businesses and encourage entrepreneurship, and increased grant aid provision for the community and voluntary sector
- A family learning service that is nationally recognised for its innovation, quality and responsiveness to the needs of parents. Family learning courses are offered in almost 80 schools, Sure Start Children’s Centres and other settings. In the last year 1370 parents and carers and 1431 children have engaged together in learning activities. 95.5% success rate for all Family Programmes (achievement and retention). 54% of all learners are from the 10 most deprived wards
- New range of bespoke courses (in numeracy; family finance; Early Learning and health, fitness and safety) customised to meet the specific needs of families in challenging circumstances. 149 adults were referred with 62 achieving accreditation
- Bespoke Family Learning courses for Foster Carers. Work acknowledged by OFSTED as best practise. Foster Carers acting as peer support and champions to encourage other Foster carers to join Family learning courses
- Extended Services through schools are providing childcare, parenting support, family learning, activities including study support, access to specialist support services and community access to adult learning. 81 schools are providing the full core offer and 15 are providing some elements.
- Pilot of free childcare places for two year olds is targeting those living in the most disadvantaged areas, those with Child Protection Plans, children with complex needs plans and those who are homeless.
- Sure Start West Riverside Children’s Centres were judged to be “Good with Outstanding features” in a pilot Ofsted inspection confirming the contribution to improving outcomes and narrowing the gap for young children and families.

How we are measuring performance?

- NI116 - Proportion of children in poverty (family income)
- NI118 - Take up of formal childcare by low-income families
- NI 152/153 – Working age people on benefits
- NI102 - Attainment gap - FSM
- NI187, 158 – quality of housing
- NI156 – households living in temporary accommodation

Lead Partnership: Child Poverty Project Board

Partners

Newcastle Partnership (LSP), Newcastle City Council, Job Centre Plus, Learning and Skills Council, Your Homes Newcastle (YHN), Voluntary and Community Sector, schools, Health, Sure Start Children’s Centres, universities, Newcastle College, BNG.

Related documents

- Newcastle Child Poverty Strategy and action plan (draft)
- Homelessness strategy

Increase proportion of Young People engaged in education, employment or training (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: People are engaged in education, employment or training

What the data tells us

- 1019 young people aged 16 to 18 and resident in Newcastle (11.5%) were not in education, employment or training (NEET) in November 2009. This varies from 7.8% of 16 year olds to 14.4% of 18 year olds.
- Reduction in NEETs (official figures relate to Newcastle-based institutions wherever their home postcode) from 15% in 2003 to 7.8% in 2009.
- Newcastle regularly performs better than similar areas but the NEET figures remain higher than the national average of 6.4% in 2009
- We consistently exceed the target for the percentage of young people aged 16-18 whose activity is Not Known. In 2009 this was 7.8% against a target of 8.7%.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

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

What is the story behind the data?

There is a higher proportion of young people who are NEET in the most deprived areas of the city.

The percentage of young people who are NEET and who are Care Leavers or have learning difficulties or disabilities has improved in the past 12 months but the percentage of teenage mothers who are NEET remains very high.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Earlier Intervention with young people aged 8–16 via Positive Activities for Young People Key Workers.
- Support to NEETs via Activity Agreement key workers.
- More integrated working between Connexions, Youth Service staff and other partner organisations.
- Newcastle is running one of the Raising Participation Age pilots, which is focusing on the most vulnerable young people and those at most risk of becoming NEET.
- Activity Agreements established with young offenders not engaged in ETE with a dedicated Connexions adviser
- Basic skills screening established for all YOT clients with additional support to those most in need
- Enterprise champions who will work with young people from disadvantaged communities in secondary and special schools, helping to develop social enterprises in schools and to integrate enterprise into the curriculum.
- Young Apprenticeships programmes provide work related learning within a specific vocational context, through partnerships with training organisations and employers.
- The Extended September Guarantee is delivering an appropriate learning offer for all Year 11 and Year 12 leavers.
- ‘Get up and go’ event held by Connexions for Year 11 and 12 school leavers and NEET young people included Rolls Royce, Armed Forces, Nacro, Rathbone, TTS (Motor vehicle training) and BL Hairdressing.
- Newcastle is a pilot to develop a ‘transitional’ Employment & Skills Plan across a range of converging learning, skills,

employment and economic policy agendas which will form part of the Local Economic Assessment in 2011.

How we are measuring performance?

- NI117 – NEETs
- NI91 - participation of 17 year olds in education and training
- NI45 - Proportion of young offenders in ETE
- Not Knowns
- NI90 – take up of 14-19 diplomas
- NI70-82 L2 and L3 qualifications at 19
- Number of apprenticeships

Lead Partnership: 14 to 19 Partnership

Partners

Schools, Newcastle College, EBP, Newcastle Futures, City Council, work based learning providers, private sector and third sector

Related documents

- 14-19
- Integrated Youth Strategy
- NEET prevention and remedial strategies
- Economic plans

Increase numbers of young people going on to Higher Education (LAA priority)

SCS Outcome: Children and young people achieve their learning potential; People have skills and knowledge relevant to current and future job market.

What the data tells us

The number of young people going into Higher Education has increased significantly in recent years, particularly from Newcastle College. However, the gap between young people from low income backgrounds and their peers in Newcastle progressing to Higher Education has increased from 19% in 2005/06 to 21% in 2006/07.

68% of young people in the Tellus 4 survey said they would go to university compared to 62% nationally in similar areas.

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

Young people from deprived backgrounds are less likely to go on to university.

What is the story behind the data?

- The gap between young people from low income backgrounds and the rest progressing to higher education in Newcastle is 21.3% (2008/09) which is above similar areas' (19.6%) and above national figure of 19.4%.
- There is a significant increase in applications to universities by 18 year olds in Newcastle schools and College. Although this is positive, there has been no increase in Government funding

and there is a risk that more young people may be unable to attain a university place.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- All schools are implementing Aimhigher Curriculum Plans and working with targeted cohorts of young people in Years 8 to 13 to raise aspirations and entry to Higher Education including:
 - university visits (197 students)
 - Aimhigher roadshows (425 students from 5 schools)
 - motivational workshops (300 students)
 - parent and carer events (160 parents)
 - university sports events (60 students)
 - theatre based activities (2,360 students)
 - progression coaching and learning mentors
 - the Inspire primary school transitions project
- Since 2000, the proportion going to HE has increased from 1,702 to 2,948 in 2008. This represents an increase of 68% in maintained schools, 15% in independent schools and 100% from Newcastle College.

- Gifted and Talented pilot in Walbottle and Benfield is targeting young people on FSM in Year 10 to raise aspirations

How we are measuring performance?

- NI106 – progression to HE from low income backgrounds

Lead Partnership: 14 to 19 Partnership

Partners

Schools, Newcastle College, City Council, HE institutions, Aimhigher, voluntary and community sector

Related documents

- 14-19 Strategy and action plan
- Aimhigher plan

What will we do in 2010-11?

The following key actions will make the greatest contribution to improving performance but do not reflect **all** actions taking place.

Actions	Lead agency
Child poverty	
Conduct a benefit, tax credit and free school meals take up campaign to encourage income maximisation	City Council – Adult and Culture Services, Children’s Services
Embed child poverty considerations in Area Based Regeneration strategies	City Council – Environment and Regeneration
Develop and implement the ‘school gates’ project	Job Centre Plus, Newcastle Futures, Welfare Rights, CAB, Family Learning, YHN
Identify opportunities and venues for establishing self organised learning environments	Play, youth service, Kids Kabin, Newcastle university
Complete a child poverty needs assessment incorporating the views and experiences of children and young people in Newcastle	City Council – Chief Executive’s, Children’s Services
Implement Extended Disadvantaged subsidy in schools to maximise opportunities for those most at risk of poverty	City Council – Children’s Services
NEETS	
Implement Extended September Guarantee including identification of young people without an Offer of Learning for intensive support to influence provision	City Council - Connexions
Develop enhanced packages of support to facilitate care leavers participation in employment, education or training.	City Council – Connexions; social care
Improve joint working with partners including information sharing in NEET hotspot areas	City Council – Connexions
Deliver NEET Preventative and Remedial Strategies with targeting of identified and potential NEET young people and groups	City Council – Connexions
Manage transition of NEET young people to adults services	City Council – Connexions; Newcastle Futures

Actions	Lead agency
Deliver bespoke learning provision through Newcastle College to improve engagement of young offenders in education and training	YOT; Newcastle College
Progression to HE	
Deliver Aimhigher programme	City Council, schools
Complete the Gifted and Talented pilot in Walbottle and Benfield targeted at Y10s on FSM	Schools; City Council

Vulnerable groups

Focus for 2010-11

- Looked after children and care leavers
- Children with learning difficulties and or disabilities

Looked after children and care leavers

SCS Outcome: People have security, stability and are cared for; Children and young people achieve their learning potential; People have fair and equal access to places, buildings, services and opportunities

What the data tells us

Newcastle has a much higher number of looked after children than national or similar areas. Children looked after rate per 10,000 children aged under 18 in Newcastle provisionally remained at 88.1 per 10,000 in 2009 compared to national (55) and similar areas' rate (81.2). Newcastle's provisional Children Looked After rate in March 2010 was 101 per 10,000.

The City Council is legally the 'corporate parent' for all Looked After Children (LAC) and has responsibility for their welfare and ensuring they achieve successful outcomes. Generally children and young people in care and leaving care are more vulnerable than other children and young people.

We have been using Viewpoint since 2002 as a system for consulting with children and young people in Newcastle and gathering their views to feed into reviews and assessments. During the time period from April 2008 to March 2009, 264 children and young people completed Viewpoint questionnaires.

The most consistently positive responses related to:

- Feeling safe and happy at their placement
- Knowing how to get help
- Having access to material goods, such as new clothes, pocket money, items for school and personal care items

The most consistently negative responses related to:

- Not being satisfied with family contact arrangements
- Not having a bank account
- Not saving money
- Discussion of Pathway Planning arrangements
- Not going to their next review
- Friends not being able to visit their placement as much as they want

Between 2008 and 2009, the performance indicators on the stability of placements declined, but they have improved in the year to March 2010.

- 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 (NI61) is good and above national and similar areas.

Educational outcomes for children and young people in care in Newcastle improved in 2009 at all ages:

- the percentage scoring at least 78 points in FSP with at least 6 in each of PSED and CLL increased from 0% in 2008 (7 children) to 30% in 2009 (10 children).
- the percentage achieving Level 4+ in English and maths at KS2 increased to 60.0% in 2009
- the percentage achieving 5+ A*-C including English and maths at GCSE increased from 15.4% in 2008 to 28.6% in 2009
- the percentage achieving 5+ A*-C in Newcastle (excluding Excelsior Academy) increased from 50.0% in 2008 to 66.7%
- the percentage achieving 1+ A*-G grades (or equivalent) increased from 74% in 2008 to 79% in 2009

For our care leavers:

- 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 are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- In March 2010, 16% of Looked after Children (LAC) population are from BME.
- Children and young people who are looked after:
 - Are more likely to be bullied at school

- 12% of referrals to drug and treatment services were looked after children and young people. A lower proportion of Newcastle LAC (3.7%) have a substance misuse problem than national figures (4.9%) and a much higher proportion receive an intervention within the year (91.7% compared to 34.9% nationally)
- Are five times more likely than their peers to have a mental health disorder. A national ONS survey found that 45% had a mental health disorder
- Children who have suffered neglect (the most common reason for being looked after in Newcastle) have three times the expected rate of mental health disorder
- Research shows that care leavers experience high levels of unemployment and are at risk of homelessness and social exclusion. Newcastle has better performance on the proportion of care leavers who are in education, employment or training and living in suitable accommodation than comparators

What is the story behind the data?

- 62% of children and young people in Newcastle enter care due to abuse or neglect. 11% due to family in acute stress, 9 % due to absent parenting and 8% due to family dysfunction. 5% enter care due to parental illness or disability (March 2010)
- 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%)
- A high proportion of LAC children (85%) are from the 30% most deprived areas in Newcastle, with 54% living within the 10% most deprived areas.

- The majority of looked after children are from seven wards Byker, Elswick, Walker, Benwell & Scotswood, Kenton, Wingrove and Westgate.
- 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 adoptive placements
- Good quality post-adoption support minimises disruption in adoption placements
- Dedicated social work teams for 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', and three are 'satisfactory'.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Virtual school for LAC with Head teacher tracking attainment, working with schools and others and School Improvement Partner providing challenge and support – includes direct support to young people in school through the Educational support team and the establishment of a Virtual School exam centre
- Personal Educational Allowance used to provide targeted support and one to one tuition for Looked after Children
- Home Access Targeted Group project is increasing access to IT resources for looked after children

- Refusal rate for over 12s in health checks has been significantly reduced due to promotional activity
- Health promotion training and healthy eating programme piloted at Slatyford Lane Children's Home, to be rolled out across all accommodation providers and with care leavers.
- Positive Activities Steering Group established with participation from Arts and Cultural providers. Communication strategy ensures link workers receive information on arts and cultural opportunities.
- Phillipson Street residential children's home has been refurbished
- Annual celebration events as requested by Looked After Children
- Volunteer scheme successfully piloted at Slatyford Lane Children's Home and to be rolled out across others
- Initial analysis of tuition funded through targeted use of the Personal Educational Allowance indicates a high rate of LAC achieving their national curriculum targets
- City council providing priority interviews for council apprenticeships for LAC. 2 young people took up apprenticeships in 2009
- City Council provided work placements for 10 LAC on new Teenager to Work programme.
- Teenage fostering scheme launched in September 2009
- Foster a Future campaign lead to significant improvement in the recruitment of foster carers
- Foster carers offered range of training and support including parenting programmes
- Looked after children are involved in recruitment processes to appoint social work staff
- Pledge to LACYP agreed with sign up across political parties and from partner agencies

- Children in Care Council established and monitoring Newcastle's Pledge for LAC
- Corporate parenting strategy continues to develop as annual forward plan identifies key areas for improvement
- Improved care planning ensures that permanency decisions and plans are made about Looked After Children in a timely way
- Newcastle was one of the first local authorities to assess and approve same sex adopters and is acknowledged by Ofsted for its inclusive attitude and good practice in this area.
- Dedicated CAMHS service for LAC identifies and treats mental health disorders when necessary and supports and trains carers and practitioners to recognise risk factors and promote resilience. Since 2006 the team has worked with 261 LACYP, with current caseload of 132. This compares to caseload of 30-40 in Newcastle CAMHS before Aspire team.

How we are measuring performance?

- NI66 - Children looked after cases which were reviewed within required timescale
- Children and young people feel safe and settled in placements which meet their needs:
 - Number of placements within period of time (NI62)
 - Care leavers in suitable accommodation (NI147)
 - Timescales to achieve adoption and permanency (NI61)
- NI99/100 – KS2 attainment of LAC
- NI101 – GCSE attainment of LAC
- The percentage of children and young people looked after who had annual health and dental check
- NI58 - Emotional health of LAC
- NI148 - care leavers in education, employment or training.
- NI147 – care leavers in suitable accommodation

Lead partnership: Corporate Parenting Group

Partners

Children's Services, Children in Care Council, Health, YOT, Schools, Elected members

Related documents

- LAC strategy

Children and young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities

SCS Outcome: People have excellent quality treatment and care if needed; Children and young people achieve their learning potential; People have fair and equal access to places, buildings, services and opportunities; People are included in communities.

What the data tells us

The number of children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) in Newcastle LA maintained schools (school action, school action plus or statement) increased from 21.2% (7,864) in 2007 to 23% (8,343) of school population in 2010. The majority of pupils who are statemented or at school action plus have moderate learning needs (28.7%), behavioural, social or emotional difficulties (23%) or specific learning difficulties (14.3%).

What are the specific issues for different vulnerable groups?

- 98% of disabled children in the UK live at home and are supported by their families
- Disabled children are more likely to live in poverty. Only 16% of mothers with disabled children work, compared to 61% of other mothers
- It costs up to three times as much to raise a disabled child, as it does to raise a child without disabilities. For example, childcare costs around £5.50 per hour for a disabled child, compared to around £3.50 for other children
- Caring for a disabled child can cause relationship problems. According to one study, 31% of couples report some problems,

13% cite major problems and 9% actually separate. Stress, depression and lack of sleep are other commonly experienced problems

- Only 8% of families get services from their local social services
- Disabled children are 13 times more likely to be excluded from school.

What is the story behind the data?

- Due to increased survival rates of babies born pre-term, the numbers of children with complex health care needs is increasing.
- Within the city increasing numbers of pupils with SEND are achieving 2 levels of progress in the core subjects of English, Maths and Science. However, there is still progress to make in the percentage of children with SEND achieving the threshold level 4 at the end of Key Stage 2.
- Ofsted judgements for the achievement of pupils with SEND across schools are very positive. 4 of the 5 special schools are judged to be good or better by Ofsted with 3 judged to be outstanding.
- 64% of parents with disabled children in Newcastle were satisfied with experiences of services (health, education and care and family support) higher than national or similar areas.
- 91.3% of final statements (60 out of 69) of special educational needs in 2008/09 were issued within 26 weeks, excluding cases where exceptions have occurred where advice from those from whom it has been requested was not received within time. This is in line with national and similar areas'.
- 72.4% of all final statements (63 out of 87) of special educational needs – including exceptions - were issued within 26 weeks. Nationally it was 82% and similar areas' average 83.9%.

What we are doing that is making a difference

- Participation is central to service development with an established annual conference, joint practices and parent/carer training, Every Disabled Child Matters Charter, Disabled Children Register and newsletter.
- Short Break Transformation – clear information re. gaps in service and clear direction for improving outcomes in this area with sign up from children and young people, parents and carers.
- Barnardo's community based workers work alongside other short break services to offer tailored made support 24/7
- The Access Fund provides financial assistance to allow disabled children and young people to access local services as their non-disabled peers and improve social opportunities
- Work to support transition includes an audit of work placements/experiences for young people, a review of quality and identification of new opportunities
- 32 families comprising 34 children have joined the Newcastle Individual budget Pilot (Dynamite)
- National Deaf Children's Society launched specialist mental health service for deaf children in Newcastle working with schools and community
- 1 teacher and 2 HLTAs from special schools in Newcastle achieved National PSHE Programme accreditation. The 2 HLTAs attended training for a new special education puberty and sexual health resource, which they will disseminate to a newly established PSHEe support network for special schools in Newcastle.
- Three of our special schools (Thomas Bewick, Trinity and Sir Charles Parsons) have been, or are in process of being, rebuilt or refurbished.

- All of the learners on the discreet employment preparation programme for young people with LDD run by Newcastle College found some form of employment on leaving in 2008.
- Success rates for learners with disabilities at Newcastle College have been consistently around five percentage points above those of other learners for many years.

How we are measuring performance?

- NI54 - Services for Disabled Children (parental satisfaction rates)
- NI103 – number of statements of SEN that are completed within 26 weeks
- Educational attainment of children and young people with special education needs
- 16 – 19 years with learning difficulties and disabilities who are not in education, employment and training (NEET).
- Number of families receiving a personal budget
- Increase in CAFs undertaken for 0-5 year old disabled children
- Increase in number of CYP receiving short breaks

Lead partnership: SEN and Disability Outcomes Partnership

Partners

Health, City Council, Schools, Voluntary and Community Sector, Parents and Carers, Newcastle College

Related documents

- Every Disabled Child Matters Charter
- SEN and Disabilities Strategy

Other vulnerable groups

Young carers

Newcastle Young Carers Service (NYCS), delivered by Barnado's, works with about 80 young people at any one time. NYCS offers a wide range of support to young people with caring responsibilities, working with individual carers and families to tailor services to need which is identified through a whole family assessment.

Services include:

- 1-2-1 support with young people
- facilitation of family communication
- advocating and engaging with other agencies to ensure that services are in place to support young carers
- group work providing peer contact and support and/or focused on particular issues or tasks
- targeted time out sessions offering opportunities for young carers to meet in a social context
- support to access mainstream activities
- work with other agencies to raise awareness of young carers

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. Outcomes have improved for both the adult service users and the young people with caring responsibilities. For the young people these have included reduced levels of caring responsibility, freeing up both time and emotional energy to focus on the task of

being a child; a reduction in the impact of caring where this has continued – increased resilience; and greater monitoring and therefore ability to identify caring responsibilities leading to improved targeted.

Training and awareness-raising sessions with staff and over 600 pupils in schools has led to increased referrals to the Young Carers service and more young people receiving support.

Asylum seekers and refugees

The Kaleidoscope project is run jointly between Educational psychology (EPS) and Education Welfare services (EWS). It was set up to support refugee and asylum seeker children and families, though this has expanded to include a wider range of families, for example Roma. The project is intended to address:

- The mental health of some young people; in particular the complexity of some children's difficulties
- The needs of parents/ carers in relation to new school systems
- Schools' lack of experience and capacity to address the needs of new, unique and challenging populations

The project is multi-agency and has well-established links with other statutory and voluntary agencies surrounding individual case referrals including health, education and housing providers.

Some schools have introduced a range of measures to help international new arrivals such as peer mentoring, parent coffee mornings for example for the new intake families of Czech-Roma pupils at Atkinson Road Primary in September 2009.

Third sector organisations such as Action for Children/Families First, Shelter and the Rights Project offer practical support and advice to migrants experiencing difficulties.

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

The Unaccompanied Minors Seeking Asylum team currently provides support to 24 young people aged 16-17 and 83 young people aged 18-24. 16 young people aged between 21-24 attend further or full time higher education. Under 18s attend ESOL classes and a number of other courses arranged by Connexions. All those in Newcastle Local Authority Care receive Leaving Care Support under Section 20 of The Children Act 1989.

Children's Services are currently supporting 48 **families with no recourse to public funds** and are at risk of destitution. The financial support consists of payments for accommodation and living expenses.

Homeless families and young people

In 2008/09, 1042 families contacted the Housing Advice Centre for advice and support related to the potential threat of homelessness. Of these, 192 families (18.4%) were placed in temporary accommodation. A further 131 singles/ couples under 18 were also placed in temporary accommodation.

In 2007, 38 young people under 19 were identified as homeless in Newcastle. This figure is likely to significantly underestimate true prevalence since not all young people who experience homelessness come to the attention of the local authority. Of the 38, eight (21%) had an identified mental health problem.

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. 99.4% of young offenders had access to suitable accommodation in 2008/09, above national (95.4%) and similar areas' (96.7%).

YHN Young People's Service delivers a range of services in support of homeless families and young people under its four priorities:

- Safer communities - ASB diversionary activities, FIPs, respect programmes
- Support and care for vulnerable young people - referrals to advice and support, embedding CAF, peer education, supported housing
- Providing opportunities to achieve - Skills to work Strategy in partnership with Newcastle Futures, increasing volunteering opportunities, hosting work placements, a partnership with Sports Universities North East England (SUNEE) to provide access to coaching and sports facilities weekly, 'Bike it' project which will provide children and young people with opportunities to repair & maintain donated cycles so they can use personally and on organised activities.
- Listening and involving young people – Youth Voice Code of Conduct development and assessment of services, adoption of Hear by Right framework

What will we do in 2010-11?

The following key actions will make the greatest contribution to improving performance. Please note these do not reflect **all** actions taking place.

Actions	Lead agency
Looked after children and care leavers	
Remodel MALAP (Multi-Agency Looked After Partnership) to better support the full range of outcomes for Looked after Children and Young People and clarify relationships with Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and the Children in care Council	City Council – Children’s Services
Improve participation of and representation of all Looked after Children through the Children in Care Council with clear links and a voice for LAC on the Youth Council	City Council – Children’s Services
Joint working between Connexions (Integrated targeted services) and the Leaving Care team to improve opportunities for care leavers and increase the proportion who are engaged in education and training	City Council – Children’s Services
Improve children’s homes as demonstrated by Ofsted inspection outcomes	City Council – Children’s Services
Increase opportunities and choice of things to do – roll out volunteering opportunities and further development of positive activities	City Council – Children’s Services
Extend the successful Teenagers to Work programme to give more young people an opportunity to undertake work experience at council	City Council
Roll out healthy eating promotional programme to foster carers and residential homes	City Council – Children’s Services
Children and young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities	
Develop and transform range of Short Break provision in response to needs of parents and carers and children and young people	City Council – Children’s Services; NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Ensure smooth transition to adult services, with particular emphasis on young people requiring continuing care, and those with autism or ADHD.	City Council – Children’s Services; NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside

Actions	Lead agency
	Community Health; Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Build on current good practice involving parents and carers in recruitment and induction of staff	City Council – Children’s Services
Complete Individual Budget pilot for children and young people in transition	City Council – Children’s Services
Increase aspirations of young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities and participation in learning post-16	14-19 Partnership
Strengthen assessment and moderation of pupils working well below expected levels for their age to raise attainment of bottom 20% and narrow gap by 3% points	City Council – Children’s Services with Special Schools and SEN Hub
Recruit teaching staff from special education to the National PSHE Accreditation Programme Phase 8 to enhance planning and delivery of good quality PSHE ahead of statutory status in September 2011.	City Council – Children’s Services
Increase take-up of benefits and grants by children and young people and their families through targeted promotional activity by key workers, Families Information Service and Welfare Rights Service	City Council – Children’s Services; Welfare Rights
Shape local specialist educational provision to meet current and predicted need and reduce out of authority placements	City Council – Children’s Services
Redevelop ‘Changing Our Futures’, the project that works with children in primary schools to help them gain an understanding of what disability is	Skills for People
Integrate services for children and young people with complex needs	NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health; Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust
Other vulnerable children and young people	
Develop a corporate homelessness preventative plan based on developing the new 45 unit temporary housing facility as a hub for the delivery of services to prevent homelessness	City Council – Adult and Cultural Services;
Provide a complete service for all young people aged 16-25 in need of accommodation and support until they are able to live independently and to provide a service for families whose tenancies are at risk: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent homelessness for 16 and 17 year olds by carrying out CAFs and delivering the Homeless 	YHN

Actions	Lead agency
Prevention Peer Education Programme to all pupils in secondary schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide supported accommodation and intensive floating support for up to two years. • Complete the new supported housing development in Coxlodge for young families. • Provide support to families who are at risk of eviction so they change behaviour and stay in their home. • Provide opportunities for young people and families to be involved in a range of positive activities, volunteering and decision making through Youth Voice 	
Building on a successful pilot with Adult Services Disability Team, engage all adult treatment services to think family to actively identify and support potential young carers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate protocols for data sharing in respect of young carers between Adult and Children's Services • Include identification, recognition and support as an expectation (monitored) in contracts 	City Council - Adult and Cultural Services; Young Carers Service
Continue to engage young carers in service developments, staff interviews and further develop the role of young carer 'champions' in schools in line with the job description written by young carers	Young Carers Service
More holistic assessment and support of children and families with "no recourse to public funds"	City Council

Chapter 4: Integrated processes and frontline delivery

Workforce reform and development

Who is in the children and young people's workforce?

The Newcastle children and young people's workforce is currently estimated to be between 15,000 and 20,000 people.

This covers 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.

In line with the *2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy (DCSF, 2008)*, our strategy takes account of those:

- working with children, young people and their families, or who are responsible for their outcomes all of the time; and
- those working with children, young people and their families part of the time, or who are responsible for their outcomes as part of their jobs.

Workforce reform agenda

The impact of services for children, young people and families is largely dependent on the quality and capacity of the people who lead, manage or deliver those services.

2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy

"The people who work with children, young people and their families make crucial judgements every day – when to encourage, when to intervene, when to step back, when to involve other professionals, when to share information, and how to use their professional or occupational expertise to make the most difference for each and every child and young person.

At its best, practice with children, young people and their families means working in partnership with them to inspire, to identify and tackle problems early, and to change lives for the better. The best people who work with children and young people are ambitious for every child – working to ensure that each meet their full potential and achieves across all five outcomes."

Newcastle Children's Trust has developed a strategy for reform, deployment and development of our local workforce, working across all partners. This meets the national reform agenda:

- capacity to deliver and keep children safe - the right people in the right place at the right time
- complementary roles focused around children and young people - people understand what each other does, trust and respect each other and collaborate effectively
- high quality, appropriately trained workforce - the right people with the right skills
- integrated working practices - the right tools, processes and culture
- behaviours focused on positive outcomes for children and young people
- share common values and language – no jargon
- with a shared identity, purpose and vision



Taking this forward locally

- We have set up a multi-agency Workforce Reform Board and named a Strategic Integrated Workforce Lead to support planning and delivery of our priorities for Workforce Reform.
- We have provided opportunities for practitioners and managers from different services, organisations and backgrounds to train, share practice and problem solve together.
- More than 1800 practitioners and managers have attended Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Lead Professional (LP) training, and more than 2000 CAFs have now been completed across a wide range of sectors and services.
- Local 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. 835 practitioners and managers attended in 2009.
- More than 80 people have taken part so far in a shared Induction Programme (based on Common Core skills and

knowledge for the children’s workforce) for practitioners from different organisations and occupational backgrounds. Feedback from participants continues to be very positive and the pooling of resources and expertise has reduced costs to individual partner organisations.

- We have piloted Key Working for 10 families of disabled children aged 0-4 with complex needs to improve coordination of services available to them. All parents interviewed said they felt they had benefited from having a key worker, and the majority said it had helped to join up services for their benefit.
- We completed an Early Years, Childcare and Play Workforce Strategy to take forward sector specific workforce reform and development.

What we will do over the next three years

- Continue to embed Common Assessment Framework (CAF) as a shared assessment and planning framework across the workforce.
- Develop the skills and capacity in our workforce to undertake the role of Lead Professional, as a key role in coordinating support for a child or young person and their family when a range of services is involved.
- Support the development of leaders and managers to ensure the delivery of integrated provision for children, young people and their families.
- Provide opportunities for our workforce to acquire a common core of skills and knowledge.
- Undertake sector specific workforce reform and development including the Early Years, Childcare and Play Workforce; the Young People’s Workforce and the Social Care Workforce.
- 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.

- Develop our approach to Key Working, by increasing the number of multi agency practitioners trained and supported to undertake this role and increasing the number of families of children with complex needs accessing this service.
- Set up area based integrated teams to drive and support new ways of working, support early intervention and provide coordinated and targeted support to meet additional needs.
- Continue to work together to improve our knowledge and understanding of the children and young people's workforce in Newcastle to support planning.

For more information see the Newcastle Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy 2010 - 2013.

Integrated working and front line delivery

Children's Trust partners recognise the importance of early intervention and prevention in work with children and young people to reduce the incidence of abuse and neglect, family breakdown, social exclusion and to prevent problems escalating.

Newcastle's Early Intervention and Prevention Approach (NEIPA) introduced the 'windscreen' as a conceptual model to help understand the relationship between universal, targeted and specialist services. The model is supported by an Assessment of Level of Need tool, which aims to provide practitioners with assistance in identifying the most appropriate response and to understand the thresholds for services. This model was reviewed and updated in May 2009.

The adoption of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is the cornerstone of the NEIPA. A key dependency is the development of models for integrated frontline delivery.

Locality model 2006 - 2009

In 2006 Newcastle Children's Trust introduced the locality model for integrated frontline delivery and established three locality areas in the City.

In 2009 a review was carried out by OPM (Office for Public Management) which identified some positive achievements of this approach:

- It established a framework within which services can move forward and has laid the foundation for the next steps.
- It has brought together individuals who may not have otherwise worked together - this in turn has helped to improve understanding of what people and services do across the city and has been useful for sharing information and ideas.
- It has helped to create a shared vision for what locality working should and shouldn't look like in Newcastle including a better alignment with existing area-based working, local democracy and decision making processes.
- In Newcastle the SureStart Children's Centre clusters are an excellent example of multi agency working between health, council, Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and Job Centre Plus and deliver excellent outcomes for children, young people and families in an integrated way. Some are VCS-led.

But the review reported a consistent view among stakeholders of the perceived barriers to the model's effectiveness:

- Perceptions that a change process had been imposed, which key staff and agencies did not feel engaged in.

- The three locality areas did not take account of existing successful integrated working arrangements.
- A lack of understanding about the objectives and processes across agencies and a lack of clarity about links into current structures and to improved outcomes.
- Confusion about accountability, governance and the role of the locality manager.

Integrated front line delivery 2009 - 2011

Newcastle Children's Trust Board accepted the recommendations from the review of locality working and:

- Has replaced the term 'locality working' with 'local area working'.
- Is refocusing local area working around current cluster arrangements that are already working well.
- Has adopted a model of integrated working based on:
 - the co-location of multi-disciplinary teams managed by an integrated services manager
 - a rigorous 'assess and decide' function and consistent application of thresholds
 - case work management which acknowledges specialism but delivers the Lead Professional role; and
 - a workforce which can be deployed across the windscreen depending on the needs of children and young people.

Key developments

- Through Sure Start Children's Centres across the city, a range of partners are working together to support children and their families, particularly those who are most vulnerable.
- Families at Risk Intensive Support Service (FRISS) brings together different family intervention projects whereby a

dedicated 'key worker' coordinates a multi-agency package of support and works directly with family members to help them overcome their problems (more information about FRISS is included in Section 2 under "Stay Safe")

- Newcastle City Council is in process of creating Integrated Targeted Services involving 600+ staff and £45million to create co-located multi-agency teams in local areas. Senior managers have all now been appointed and work is underway to implement the new model by September 2010.
- It is expected that there will be a team attached to each secondary school and their cluster primary schools. The actual detail of the resources attached to each team and how they are allocated will depend on a needs analysis of the local areas and this will emerge in the coming months.
- The City Council, with partners, is also carrying out an 'Assess and Decide' review of all its assessments of children, young people and families to identify where it may be able to streamline the approach, rationalise the number of processes or steps within them, and embed the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) as a key assessment tool.
- Following this work, we will be in a better position to reorganise the allocation of resources to provide service users with the services they need, at the right time, in the most cost-effective way. Expected benefits are:
 - easier access to services for children, young people and families with additional support needs
 - streamlining of processes and the effective co-ordination, targeting and allocation of available resources, to support front line delivery
 - an enhanced culture of early intervention and preventative work, with safe referral to Children's Social Care when required
- The new 'Head of Assess and Decide' is leading on developing a more cohesive process for assessment and

managing casework. They will also look at the IT and systems infrastructure needed to enable this.

Resources and Commissioning

Newcastle's Commissioning Framework has been in place for two years and is being used with increasing maturity by partners across the Children's Trust.

Our joint commissioning approach is based on a shared commitment across all agencies working with Newcastle children and young people that all money is children and young people's money and all staff work to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families. Through joint commissioning we will make sure that every penny counts, that there is no duplication of services between different agencies, and that we deliver services which meet the needs of children, young people and their families.

Newcastle Children's Trust Board (CTB) has agreed to establish a Finance subgroup, comprising the Finance leads from each of the partner organisations on the Children's Trust Board.

The role for the Finance Sub-Group, on behalf of the CTB, is to:

- undertake greater scrutiny of resources associated with individual Children's Trust strategies and decision-making
- develop stronger approaches for evaluating value for money when considering performance and outcome reports
- ensure that crisp decision-making processes exist for evaluating grant and funding opportunities
- develop responses to the Efficiency agenda (anticipating tighter public sector financing settlements), and specific

responses and exit strategies as a consequence of potential areas of funding loss

We want to capitalise on the support and expertise offered by the National Commissioning Support programme, to further develop this key agenda, including:

- strengthening governance arrangements, linked to the review of Children's Trust governance arrangements
- developing opportunities for schools as commissioners of services; and
- developing a portfolio of services to support effective early intervention and prevention services, linked to the Assess and Decide Transformation project.

Our self evaluation at this stage is that whilst financial benchmarking information exists in relation to some parts of the Children's Trust Board activity (for example, Section 52 reporting analyses the expenditure on the Children's Services Directorate within Newcastle City Council), this information is of limited benefit until we have a comprehensive financial picture. The Children's Services mapping exercise is of limited value at this stage of its evolution, as it is not consistently applied to provide comprehensive benchmarking with other areas.

In 2008/09 more than £270 million was spent by the City Council, Newcastle PCT, schools and post-16 funding on Children's Services, excluding individual care/spot purchasing.

In addition, our voluntary and community sector partners bring access to charitable and grant aid funding and staff resources. Private sector partners offer direct support including work experience and funding donations, training and employment opportunities and capital investment.

Commissioner	Total Budget		
	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
	£M	£M	£M
Newcastle PCT*	42.9	43.4	43.4
Newcastle upon Tyne LA	63.9	63.9	59.6
Newcastle Schools Budget	123.9	126.3	130.9
16-19 LSC funding (LA from April 2010)	13.5	14.03	14.3
Newcastle College (16-18)**	30.1	33.1	38.1
	273.3	280.73	286.3

*Newcastle PCT budget figures from Children's Services mapping exercise. 2010/11 estimate based on 2009/10

**Newcastle college LSC allocation August 2009

In addition to staff time, some of the main funding streams committed to delivering our priorities include:

- Aimhigher
- Aiming Higher for Disabled Children
- Area Based Grants
- Beacon legacy product
- Big Lottery funding
- Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and PFI
- Carers grant
- Child care specific grants
- City Council
- Cultural Ambassadors Programme
- Culture365
- DCSF Intensive Intervention Programme
- DCSF MyPlace
- DCSF National Strategies
- DCSF Playing for Success
- Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

- Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant (EMAG)
- European Regional Development Funding
- European Social Fund/Learning and Skills Council
- Extended services grant and Disadvantage Subsidy
- Fresh; Smoke Free North East
- Healthy Schools
- Heritage Lottery
- Job Centre Plus
- LifeChecks grant
- LPSA reward grant
- National Challenge
- Newcastle School Sports Partnership
- Parent Support Grant
- Play Pathfinder, Bigger Bolder Play;
- PCT Choosing Health
- Prevention of Violent Extremism (Youth Justice Board)
- Primary Strategy for Change
- Safe Newcastle
- Section 106 Planning Gain
- SSCFNE
- Standards Fund
- Sure Start Children's Centre grant
- TAMHS grant
- Teenage Pregnancy Grant
- Think Family grant
- Your Homes Newcastle (YHN)
- YOT Partnership
- Youth Crime Action Plan
- Youth Dance England/Dance City
- Youth Justice Board
- Youth Opportunities Fund

Appendix 1 - Glossary of Terms

APP Assessing Pupil Progress	EMAG Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant
ARC Additionally-Resourced Centre (for SEN)	EPS Educational Psychology Service
ALMO Arms Length Management Organisation	ESOL English Speakers of Other Languages
ARCH Agencies Against Racist Crime and Harassment	ETE Education, Training and Employment
ASB Anti-Social Behaviour	EWS Education Welfare Service
AST Advanced Skills Teacher	EYFS Early Years Foundation Stage
BME Black and Minority Ethnic	FE Further Education
BSF Building Schools for the Future	FIP Families Intervention Programme
CAF Common Assessment Framework	FIS Families Information Service
CAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	FLLN Family Literacy Language and Numeracy
CASH Contraception and Sexual Health	FTE First Time Entrants
CCTV Closed Circuit TV	FSD Family Services Directory
CLDD Children with Learning Disabilities or Difficulties	FSM Free School Meals
CPD Continuing Professional Development	G&T Gifted and Talented
CPP Child Protection Plan	GCSE General Certificate of Secondary Education
CTB Children's Trust Board	GP General Practitioner (Doctor)
CVA Contextual value added	HE Higher Education
CWD Children with Disabilities	HLTA Higher Level Teaching Assistant
CYP Children and Young People	IAG Information, Advice and Guidance
CYPP Children and Young People's Plan	IBA Identification and Brief Advice
D'n'A Drugs and Alcohol Service	IIC Investing in Children
DCSF Department for Children, Schools and Families	Ind/NMSS Independent or Non-Maintained Special Schools
DSG Dedicated Schools Grant	ISSP Intensive supervision and Surveillance Programme
DVPP Domestic Violence Protection Project	IYS Integrated Youth Strategy
DWP Department of Works and Pensions	JCP Job Centre Plus
DYO Deter Young Offender	JSNA Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
EAL English as an Additional Language	JYIP Junior Youth Inclusion Programmes
ECM Every Child Matters	LAA Local Area Agreement
EET Education, Employment and Training	LAC Looked After Children
EOHC Emergency Oral Hormonal Contraceptive	LARC Long Acting Reversible Contraceptive

LDD Learning Difficulties and Disabilities
LGBT Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
LP Lead Professional
LSU Learning Support Unit
MALAP Multi Agency Looked After Children Partnership
MARAC Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference
MMR Measles Mumps Rubella
MYP Members of the Youth Parliament
NAPI Newcastle Action for Parent and Toddler Groups
NCTB Newcastle Children's Trust Board
NEET Not currently in Education, Employment or Training
NEIPA Newcastle's Early Intervention and Prevention Approach
NHS National Health Service
NHSP National Healthy Schools Programme
NI National Indicator
NPCYP Newcastle Plan for Children and Young People
NRF Neighbourhood Renewal Fund
NRPF No Recourse to Public Funds
NSCB Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board
NUFC Newcastle United Football Club
OFSTED Office for Standards in Education
OPM Office for Public Management
PCT Primary Care Trust
PEIP Parenting Early Intervention Programme
PEP Personal Education Plan
PFI Private Finance Initiative
PI Performance Indicator
PROPS Positive Response of Overcoming Problems of Substance Mis-use
PSA Public Service Agreement
PSA Parent Support Adviser

PSED Personal Social Emotional Development
PSHE Personal, Social and Health Education
RTA Road Traffic Accidents
SCARPA Safeguarding Children at Risk, Prevention and Action
SCS Sustainable Community Strategy
SEAL Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning
SEBD Social, Emotional and Behaviour Difficulties
SEN Special Educational Needs
SHA Strategic Health Authority
SNAPS Safe Neighbourhoods Action and Problem Solving Groups
SNS Secondary National Strategy
SIP School Improvement Partner
SRE Sex and Relationship Education
SSCC Sure Start Children's Centre
SSS Sustaining Successful Schools
SYIP Senior Youth Inclusion Project
TAC Team around the Child
TaMHS Targeted Mental Health in Schools
TPST Teenage Pregnancy Support Team
TYS Targeted Youth Support
UKYP United Kingdom Youth Parliament
VCS Voluntary and Community Sector
VSRG Voluntary Sector Reference Group
YCAP Youth Crime Action Plan
YHN Your Homes Newcastle
YIP Youth Inclusion Programme
YISP Youth Inclusion Support Partnership
YJB Youth Justice Board
YOT Youth Offending Team
YPSG Young People Steering Group

If this information is needed in another format or language, please contact Newcastle City Council.

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