

Summary of Key Issues 16th March 2009

Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Executive

The Children and Young People's Partnership Executive meet on the third Monday of every month. Minutes of the meeting are available at www.newcastlechildrenservices.org.uk.

Child Poverty carol.hambling@newcastle.gov.uk

The C&YPSP Executive congratulated all partners on the Beacon award for preventing and tackling child poverty. The C&YPSP Executive received the draft Child Poverty Strategy and Action Plan Framework and supported the approach taken which has identified the key elements of the strategy as:

- Increasing opportunities for parents to enter employment, education or training
- Tackling financial exclusion including benefit maximisation and debt management,
- Improving services to families particularly parenting support
- Regenerating our local communities and housing and tackling fuel poverty
- Raising the attainment and aspirations of young people
- Work with partners to address health inequalities

The C&YPSP Executive requested that work continue across the Local Strategic Partnership to develop the strategy, confirm the leads for each strand of the Action Plan and the arrangements for reporting with the other Delivery Partnerships of the Newcastle Partnership.

Be Healthy aileen.fitzgerald@northoftyne.nhs.uk andy.roberts@newcastle.gov.uk

The C&YPSP Executive received the Be Healthy outcome report which summarised the progress across a number of key strategies and performance measures. A lead has been identified for each standard of the National Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Services (NSF) and self assessment against each standard is being completed. The significant challenges remain the high level of teenage conceptions, low rates of breastfeeding and high rates of childhood obesity. It was agreed that the Be Healthy Partnership should continue to closely monitor those areas where outcomes are poor. The C&YPSP recognised the challenge associated with implementing Aiming High for Disabled Children beyond 2011 when the current funding stream ends and agreed that an assessment of the risk to the continuation of the full service offer to families is undertaken to inform resource planning.

Homeless Families Strategy and Homeless Young People neil.munslow@newcastle.gov.uk

The C&YPSP Executive noted the positive progress in some areas of the strategy e.g. the Local Authority has not used B&B accommodation for two years and the work to develop a more appropriate response to vulnerable young people and young adults. The C&YPSP Executive requested that robust reporting arrangements are established on the outcomes for families in temporary accommodation as they are a vulnerable group where all partners need to deliver measurable improvements including use of the Common Assessment Framework.

Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) Richard.elliott@newcastle.gov.uk

The C&YPSP Executive received the report on the CAA which comes into effect in April 2009. CAA has implications for all partners as it will comment on how well improvements in outcomes are being delivered, prospects for further improvement and the contribution of all agencies to improving outcomes for everyone in their local areas. It will also consider whether local priorities as set out in the Local Area Agreement and the Children's and Young People's Plan reflect the needs and aspirations of the local community. The second element of the CAA will be organisational assessments and these will extend across Councils, Primary Care Trusts, Police and Fire and Rescue Services. Regular inspection of arrangements for safeguarding children and youth offending will continue alongside the arrangements for CAA.

Annual Conference of the CYPSP and NSCB is 1st June 2009 tina.lisle@newcastle.gov.uk