

City of Portsmouth's Children and Young People Plan 2006/07 – 2008/09

*“Every Child and Young Person in
Portsmouth Matters”*



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL



The Children and Young People Plan has been endorsed by:-

Chair of Headteachers' Joint Executive

Children & Young People Strategic Partnership / Children's Trust

Connexions

Health

Highbury College

Police

Portsmouth City Council

Portsmouth College

University of Portsmouth

Voluntary and Community Sector

Youth Offending Team

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1 **Background**

1.1 Portsmouth has set high aspirations and expectations in its approach to the new integrated agenda for Children's Services:-

- tackling underlying causes with effective preventative work;
- developing an embedded culture of continuous improvement in priority outcomes;
- achieving above average rates of progress in many key indicators whilst recognising that in some areas current outcomes are not high enough;
- Effectively challenging all key agencies to work in partnership to improve further outcomes and the lives of children and young people in the city.

1.2 Portsmouth is very confident that it starts the Children and Young People Plan (CYPP) from a position of strength:-

- an already effective strong multi-agency strategic planning framework underpinning the work of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and helping to deliver an Extended School's Strategy and Children's Trust approach across the city;
- 2005 APA judged both the contribution of the local authority to delivering Children's Services and capacity to improve as 3 (good);
- national reputation for innovation;
- many building blocks for future improvement are in place and impact is evident;
- the city is successfully addressing its historical legacy of low aspirations, attainment and attendance and high fixed term exclusions and low outcomes for Looked After Children (LAC);
- the 2004/05 Annual Audit and inspection letter highlighted that "positive performance is evident in services such as education.

1.3 In 2005 there was strong collective multi-agency agreement to the ten key Annual Performance Assessment (APA) priorities:-

- improve standards in English, Maths, Science at KS 3 and 4 and particularly for boys across the all key stages;
- improve attendance;
- reduce fixed term exclusion;
- improve life chances for looked after children;
- improve child protection assessment, and care planning;
- tackle recruitment and retention issues;
- develop school led Community Improvement Partnerships;
- support those with ADHD;
- improve support to those with learning difficulty and challenging behaviour;
- reduce numbers of young people offending and re-offending.

1.4 Portsmouth is confident that it has made excellent progress to date re implementing the Every Child Matters agenda including:-

- Lead Member for Children's Services since May 2003.
- Strategic Director for Children, Families and Learning responsible for Children's Services – since April 2005.
- Very strong interagency leadership from senior officers and members.
- Effective Children and Young People Strategic Partnership and Joint Commissioning Group.

1.5 Portsmouth can demonstrate both a proven successful track record and very good capacity for future improvement.

Innovation

- The widely consulted Portsmouth 8 outcomes predated ECM 5 outcomes by some 2 years and reflect the citywide commitment to improving outcomes for children and young people.
- Children's Trust Pathfinder has supported improved integrated working and led the development of new ISA processes and a joint commissioning plan.
- The range and commitment to involving young people in service development matches best practice nationally.
- Portsmouth has already developed 5 Community Improvement Partnerships across the city which are led by schools and supported by all agencies to better deliver the ECM outcomes.
- Portsmouth's Learning Community has been embedded within all schools.
- The range and commitment to involving young people in service development matches best practice nationally eg Council of Portsmouth Schools providing a platform for the views of children and young people.

Raising Aspirations

- Success of young people is celebrated via Rock Challenge, pupil "Oscars" and LAC awards evenings.
- University of Portsmouth delivers the "Up for it" programme which provides a wide range of high quality opportunities for young people in schools; helps deliver the Enterprise in Schools agenda and offers outreach work from the New Theatre Royal.
- Largest and most successful Pompey Study Centre and Children's University nationally.
- Top band for care leavers in education employment and training. Care leavers now engaged in higher education.
- Sure Start, Family Learning, Excellence Cluster all greatly contribute.
- Connexions "Go for it" programme is supporting bursaries for young people to act as ambassadors amongst their peer group.

Wider Community Outcomes

Children's Services can demonstrate a clear impact on:-

- Increasing single parents back to work through Sure Start programmes.
- Family learning supporting employment, health and learning outcomes.
- Improving community involvement and cohesion.
- Improving community safety co-ordinated by Safer Portsmouth Partnership.
- Children's Fund is providing multi-agency support to vulnerable children and families in the most deprived wards in the city. Local evaluation work has demonstrated service impact which includes improvements in lateness and exclusions from school and reduction in child behaviour problems.

Improved Outcomes

- Above average rates of progress in many key stage (KS) indicators, attendance, permanent exclusion.
- Reduced road accidents involving children.
- Children and young people report reducing bullying through the Keele Survey.
- Teenage pregnancy reduced.
- Significant reduction in children on the Child Protection Register without a qualified social worker.

1.6 The National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services was developed in England because of identified needs in:-

- Access to services.
- Teenage pregnancy, low birth weight, infant mortality, admission to hospital.
- Life expectancy.
- Educational attainment.
- Physical environment, housing, smoking, pollution, injury, crime.
- Child protection.
- Breastfeeding, nutrition, immunisation.

These areas present a similar challenge in Portsmouth. The implementation of the eleven standards within the National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services offer an opportunity to ensure the achievement of the Portsmouth 8 and Every Child Matters outcomes for all children. Actions relating to the implementation of these standards can be found in the commissioning plans.

2 Vision

2.1 All in Portsmouth will work together to ensure that all Children and Young People should grow up:-

- having the right to an active say in any development
- healthy
- emotionally secure and confident
- having succeeded as far as they can at school
- having facilities and opportunities to play safely
- having stayed out of trouble
- living in a safe place
- having the opportunity to succeed in achieving their dreams.

3 2005 Annual Performance Assessment

3.1 The Annual Performance Assessment (APA) of Council Services for Children and Young People from 2005 replaced the previous separate Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) assessments of Social Care (Children and Families) and Education by CSCI and Ofsted respectively. The APA will be used to:-

- provide rating for children and young people's block of the CPA;
- provide a disaggregated judgement of Children's Social Services and Education;
- scope subsequent joint area reviews.

3.2 During the APA, CSCI and Ofsted had regard to:-

- performance indicators;
- Portsmouth City Council self assessment including:
 - an analysis of the current overall outcomes for children and young people;
 - the contribution of council education and social care services to achieving and improving outcomes for children and young people;
 - salient features of service management, including the effectiveness with which services work together and consultation with children and young people;
 - a succinct review of contextual features including information on service provision and budgets;
- examples of impact but not detailed evidence;
- other evidence which includes reports from CSCI, Audit Commission, the Youth Justice Board, Ofsted and the DfES;
- views of stakeholders particularly children, young people, parents and carers.

3.3 The 2005 Annual Performance Assessment final judgements are:

Areas for Judgement	Final judgements
The contribution of the local authority's social care services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people	2
The contribution of local authority's education services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people.	3
The contribution of the local authority's children's services in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people.	3
Capacity to improve of council services for children and young people	3

(nb scale 1-4, 4 highest)

3.4 The Annual Performance Assessment judged:-

- Being healthy – “outcomes for children and young people in this area are good”.
- Staying safe – “overall outcomes for children and young people in this area are good although there are areas which need to be improved”.
- Enjoying and achieving – “outcomes in this area are satisfactory with some good features”.
- Making a positive contribution – “overall outcomes in this area are good”.
- Achieving economic wellbeing – “outcomes in this area are satisfactory with some good features”.
- Service management – “service management is good”.

3.5 In addition 13 areas of improvement were identified:-

Area for Improvement
<i>Being Healthy:</i> - Some deficiencies in CAMHS
<i>Staying Safe:</i> - High number of children on Child Protection Register - Initial referral and core assessments - Long term stability of looked after children - The level and speed of adoptions - Recruitment of foster carers
<i>Enjoying and Achieving:</i> - Level of absence in primary and secondary schools. - Achievement at KS3 and 4 - Poor progress made by pupils from 11 to 16 years - Re-integration back to school for children and young people in alternative provision
<i>Making a Positive Contribution:</i> - Final warnings and convictions of looked after children - Contributions of looked after children at statutory review
<i>Achieving Economic Wellbeing:</i> - High number of young people leaving school with no GCSE passes

3.6 In November 2005 the Executive Member for Education, Children and Families approved an action plan to address the above 13 areas of improvement.

4 Assessment of Need

- 4.1 The prime focus of the CYPP is to identify which outcomes for children and young people most need to be improved and how and when this will be achieved.

To ensure that the CYPP improvement priorities were both based on rigorous analysis and enjoyed widespread interagency support, the CYPSP Executive approved the following programme:-

July/August 2005 - Long list of potential CYPP priorities drafting including:-

- full JAR data
 - with last 3 years local/national performance
 - projection of next 3 years local/national performance
 - assessment re Red, Amber, Green
 - assessment robustness of data
- non data/risk/environment issues
- practitioner's feedback
- 2005 APA
 - self assessment/priorities
 - draft areas for improvement
- Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership 2005 conference feedback
- PCT analysis/commentary.

September 2005

The above long list of 300 potential CYPP priorities was distilled into a short list of 20 priorities based around the Portsmouth 8/Every Child Matters and service management framework.

October 2005

There was an extensive consultation process involving all statutory agencies, key partners, independent sector representatives, relevant working parties and groups which included both the long and short lists of potential CYPP priorities.

There was a specific "one day in October" Youth consultation event and several presentations/question and answer sessions.

The feedback was overwhelmingly supportive of the overall process/range of CYPP priorities.

November 2005

At an interagency CYPP Action Planning Day there was collective agreement to further refine the CYPP priorities around:-

- fewer Portsmouth 8/Every Child Matters 5 priority outcomes each with an associated basket of indicators
- a limited number of crosscutting activities that would benefit most Portsmouth 8/Every Child Matters outcomes
- a few key interagency/service management issues

4.2 The final CYPP priorities which are detailed in section 5 received the following series of endorsements:-

- 22 November - DfES/CSCI/Ofsted/GOSE/SHA all endorsed the format, contents and relevance at the annual Priorities meeting
- 1 December - Education & Lifelong Learning Partnership Board
- 6 December - Joint Commissioning Group
- 7 December - PCC Strategic Directors' Board

4.3 On 20 December the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Executive formally approved these priorities as the basis of the CYPP.

4.4 The Children and Young People Plan was endorsed by the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership on 31 January 2006.

5 Improvement Priorities

5.1 The prime focus of the Children and Young People Plan is the following seven Portsmouth 8/Every Child Matters outcomes, 3 crosscutting actions and three service management issues:-

Priority	Portsmouth 8 Outcome	ECM Outcomes	Basket of Indicators	APA area for improvement
1. <i>Improve adolescent health</i>	- Healthy	- Being Healthy	- Teenage pregnancy - Sexually Transmitted Diseases - Fitness - Healthy eating - Smoking - Alcohol - Substance misuse - A & E / emergency admissions	
2. <i>Improve emotional and mental wellbeing</i>	- Healthy	- Being Healthy	- CAMHS response times - Suicides - Self harm	1
3. <i>Prevent, protect and support vulnerable children (T3/4)</i>	- Emotionally secure and confident	- Staying Safe	- Number of children on Child Protection Register	2
	- Living in a safe place		- Initial referral and core assessment - Children with disabilities	3
4. <i>Improve attainment</i>	- Having succeeded as far as they can at school	- Enjoying and Achieving	- Achievement at key stage 3 and 4	8
	- Play safely		- Poor progress made by pupils from 11 to 16 years - Boys attainment - Key stage 2 - Mathematics	9

Priority	Portsmouth 8 Outcome	ECM Outcomes	Basket of Indicators	APA area for improvement
5. <i>Access to education</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having succeeded as far as they can at school - Play safely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enjoying and Achieving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Levels of absence in primary/secondary schools - Reintegration back to school for children and young people in alternative provision - Reduce fixed term exclusion - Reduce number of pupils on part-time timetable - Numbers of pupils in special schools - Number of school age children not on roll of a school 	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10</p>
6. <i>Reduce antisocial behaviour</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having the right to an active say in any development - Having stayed out of trouble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making a Positive Contribution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First time offending - Re-offending - Numbers in custody - Bullying/ homophobic/ racist incidents 	
7. <i>Ready for employment/adult life</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having the opportunities to succeed in their dreams 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economic Wellbeing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High number of young people leaving school with no GCSE passes (or equivalent) - NEET - Children leaving school with GCSE passes (or equivalent) in English and Maths - Care leavers 	13
8. <i>Improve involvement and participation of CYP</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crosscutting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crosscutting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Volunteering - Perception/ image/Keele - Access and transport to facilities and services 	
9. <i>Improve outcomes for LAC</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crosscutting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crosscutting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support diversity - Long term stability - Number of LAC - Recruitment of foster carers - Level and speed of adoptions - Final warnings and convictions - Contributions to statutory reviews 	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12</p>

Priority	Portsmouth 8 Outcome	ECM Outcomes	Basket of Indicators	APA area for improvement
10. <i>Early identification, prevention and support to children and families (includes parenting) (T1/2)</i>	- Crosscutting	- Crosscutting	- Breastfeeding - Reduced smoking during pregnancy - Childcare/nursery provision - Take-up of specialist support services	
11. <i>To improve interagency collation and analysis of aggregated data on progress measures linked to improved outcomes for children and young people. To include data at city-wide and community (eg CIP) level and to include data for 'special interest' partnerships</i>	- Service Management	- Service Management		
12. <i>To support preventative work through the development of effective Information, Sharing and Assessment (ISA) processes</i>	- Service Management	- Service Management		
13. <i>To develop and monitor the Local Workforce Strategy</i>	- Service Management	- Service Management		

- 5.2 Whilst the above priorities are the prime focus of the current CYPP it is recognised that it will be also important to:-
- ensure that the performance/improvement of currently “green” services is maintained;
 - ensure that “amber” services do not decline to “red”.

6. Commissioning Plan

- 6.1 The Commissioning Plan for each of the CYPP priorities set out in paragraph above is attached as appendices 1-13.
- 6.2 Each commissioning plan has been prepared by a lead officer from the Joint Commissioning Group of the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership including contributions from all relevant agencies, partners and working groups. The methodology/format is based on “Turning the Curve” which focuses upon a statement of needs/trends, story behind the current position, what works, planned actions and resource implication.

In some cases these are detailed resourced action plans which build upon agreed successful inter agency strategies. For some more recent priorities the plans set out the key steps required to urgently develop and implement an agreed strategy and action plan.

- 6.3 These Commissioning Plans will need to be further reviewed and refined during 2006 to match available resources within each key agency and partner bodies.

7 Arrangements for Cooperation

- 7.1 The Children and Young People Plan has the full support and endorsement of the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Executive which includes all agencies who have a statutory duty to cooperate. The Joint Commissioning Group ensures that all key agencies and partners work effectively at an operational level to deliver the commissioning plans and improve the wider outcomes for children and young people.
- 7.2 In addition, these priorities and commissioning plans are also fully endorsed by all schools in the city and further the school based Community Improvement Partnerships will provide a key focus for implementing many of the strategic priorities at a local level.

8 Consistency of Strategic Plan

- 8.1 The Children and Young People Plan fully aligns with Portsmouth's Community Strategy priorities. Portsmouth City Council, Primary Care Trust, Connexions, Police and all other key agencies and partners have used the 13 Children and Young People Priorities as the basis of their 2006/07-2008/09 Business Plans.
- 8.2 In addition each relevant key agency has contributed to the commissioning plan for each of the 13 priorities.
- 8.3 It should be noted that the Children and Young People Plan has replaced some 20 previous statutory/non statutory plans, which will be incorporated as necessary in the relevant agency's business plan.
- 8.4 The Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Executive (which comprises the Director level representative from each key agency) has affirmed their agency's commitment to delivering the agreed commissioning plans.

9 Interagency Alignment of Resources

- 9.1 Within Portsmouth the Children's Trust Pathfinder and Joint Commissioning Group have developed a vibrant culture of agencies aligning/contributing/pooling resources to successfully achieve agreed priority outcomes successfully.
- 9.2 The current Children and Young People Plan is in the main based on the well researched strategies/action plans of existing interagency working groups. For some new priorities this process is less developed and part of the commissioning plan process will include agreeing the process/level of interagency realignment of resources.

- 9.3 At time of writing (January 2006) most key agencies including Portsmouth City Council have not yet finalised both their overall budget and their allocation to specific services.

It is intended therefore that these commissioning plans will be reviewed in the second quarter of 2006 in the light of agreed 2006/07/08 agency budgets.

10 Ensuring Improved Outcomes

- 10.1 The Children and Young People Plan will be performance managed at the following levels:-
- Each Commissioning Plan will be regularly monitored (ie actions taken/outcomes achieved) by the lead responsible group. Any major potential/actual issues will be reported to the next Joint Commissioning Group.
 - The Joint Commissioning Group will each month both monitor by exception overall progress of each of the 13 Commissioning Plans and also review 2 in depth to ensure adequate progress is being made and will take remedial action as necessary. Any significant non delivery will be reported to the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Executive.
 - The Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Executive will at each meeting receive a formal progress report on the achievement of the improved outcomes arising from the 13 Commissioning Plans.
 - The Executive Member for Education, Children and Families will receive regular progress reports on the Children and Young People Plan.
- 10.2 In addition each agency will:-
- regularly review their agreed contribution to the commissioning plans has been delivered and
- monitor and ensure all existing key JAR datasets performance indicators are improving and where not inform JCG of the key elements of the recovery plan.