

25 March 2010		ITEM 7
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN		
Portfolio Holder: Cllr Sue MacPherson		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Yes	
Accountable Head of Service: Colin Stewart, Head of Quality Assurance and Performance Management, Children, Education and Families		
Accountable Director: Jo Olsson, Corporate Director Children, Education and Families		
This report is Public		
Purpose of Report: To consult on Thurrock Children's Trust's Children and Young People's Plan (2010-13)		

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Thurrock Children's Trust has produced its statutory Children and Young People's Plan for 2010-13. Through this report, the Trust is consulting with this Committee for endorsement of the Plan and/or to receive amendments before going to Cabinet in the new Administration. The Plan is in the appendix.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1.1 That Overview and Scrutiny endorse and/or propose amendments to the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013 of Thurrock Children's Trust.**

2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 2.1** Thurrock Children's Trust has produced its statutory Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2010-13. This is Thurrock's fourth CYPP and has some new dimensions: the Trust partners now include Thurrock's schools and colleges.
- 2.2** The main summary document describing children and young people in Thurrock, the CYPP priorities with action plans, funding, success indicators and a glossary (child and parent friendly), are attached. (Appendix A). The whole plan, comprising the summary, detailed needs assessments, service

and team action plans, the reporting framework and key strategies linked to and underpinning the CYPP, including an Equality Impact Assessment, will be available as a suite of electronic documents on the Shaping Thurrock website.

- 2.3 Under the Children and Young People’s Plan (England) Regulations 2005, all Children’s Services Authorities must produce a statutory CYPP. This plan must be the single, overarching plan for all services affecting children and young people in Thurrock. The plan sets out how all the partner agencies within the Children’s Trust with the Council as lead partner, will improve the quality and impact of services under the headings of health, safety, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well-being. The priorities in the plan are derived from the priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy, the statutory Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, the Audit Commission’s Comprehensive Area Assessment and findings from Ofsted inspections, the TellUs4 survey we undertook with our young people in, Thurrock’s 2009 ‘Place Survey’ and the CYPP 2009-10 (‘Better and Better 2’).
- 2.4 There are four ‘pillars’ or priorities in the CYPP:
- Excellent settings, schools, colleges and services
 - Everyone succeeding
 - Protection when needed
 - Lean and fit for the future

Each has been assigned to a Head of Service who is lead reporting officer for the various partner agencies and services whose action plans will address the priorities.

3. ISSUES AND/OR OPTIONS:

- 3.1 Thurrock has high ambitions for the children, young people and families in its communities. The Sustainable Community Strategy, the Thames Gateway agenda, the need to improve school performance and children and young people’s attainment whilst ensuring their health, safety and economic well-being needs are met requires first-rate governance, leadership and resource management to ensure our ambitions are delivered. We know that in the aftermath of an unprecedented economic crisis, we will face some difficult choices, hence the need to be lean and fit for the future. It is important that there is a clear understanding of the choices and benefits arising from the decisions explicitly stated within the CYPP.
- 3.2 The CYPP priorities have been shared with partners and the plan has been subject to rigorous quality assurance and peer review by Government Office East. The draft CYPP was received and approved by Thurrock Children’s Trust on 16 March 2010. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee for Children’s Services are asked to endorse and/or amend the CYPP before it is received by the Cabinet under the new Administration in June.

4. CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

4.1 The Plan during its development has received extensive consultation in meetings with Trust partners and other professionals; this consultation with Overview and Scrutiny is part of the process.

5. IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

5.1 The priorities in the CYPP are fully aligned with Thurrock's Sustainable Community Strategy and Thurrock Council's Corporate Plan. Protection for vulnerable children and young people, narrowing the gap in attainment between children and young people of various social, economic and ethnic backgrounds, promoting a positive contribution by young people towards their lives and others' while improving social cohesion are key aims fully embodied within the CYPP.

5.2 Elements of the CYPP relating to the health and well-being of children, young people and their families, will be incorporated into the Health and Well-being Plan owned by the Healthier Communities Programme Board of Shaping Thurrock and Thurrock PCT.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial

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The resources available for the Children and Young People's Plan are detailed in the attached summary document.

6.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Lindsey Marks**
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Section 17 Children Act 2004 provides the statutory basis for Children Young People's Plans. Every Local Authority is required to prepare a Children and Young People's Plan. Each plan should set out the improvements which the Local Authority intends to make during the period of the plan for the well being of children and young people with regard to the five outcomes set out in Every Child Matters and those are:

- (a) Physical and mental health and emotional well being;
- (b) Protection from harm and neglect;
- (c) Education, training and recreation;
- (d) The contribution made by them to society; and
- (e) Social and economic well being.

The Children and Young People's Plan Regulations set out the steps that a Local Authority must undertake in preparing, consulting, publishing and reviewing the Children and Young People's Plan. A Local Authority must consult with relevant parties under section 10 Children act 2004 and with other bodies and individuals including children, young people, school and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The Children and Young People's Plan must be published by the Local Authority no later than 6 weeks after the end of the previous plan.

The Children and Young People's Plan must be reviewed annually unless the Local Authority is publishing a new plan. During the review the Local Authority shall consult and publish the result.

6.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Samson DeAlyn**
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The CYPP is the key strategy plan for the education and well being of children and young people in Thurrock. It provides a means by which partners can monitor their progress against targets for improvement in building a sustainable community for our children and young people. The actions from this plan will affect all children and young people in Thurrock. A key aim is to target actions around specific groups to ensure that the strategy meets their specific needs. The CYPP is currently going through the Equality Impact Assessment, this will ensure that any negative impact is identified and revised as appropriate. Areas identified include reducing the difference in attainment between boys and girls and improve in particular the attainment of white working class boys. Other areas include better outcomes for asylum seekers and travellers as well as the 26% of children and young people who have a special educational need.

There is an identified lack of progress around monitoring and responding to racism, bullying and hate crime incidents among young people and this being addressed through links with the Anti-Bullying Group, the Safer Thurrock Partnership and the Promoting Tolerance Group, which has an implementation plan for hate crime locally. This will create a greater focus on ways to tackle inequalities for some children and young people.

Understanding youth urban culture is also a key issue highlighted through the equality impact assessment in terms of tackling health inequalities and improving ways of accessing services. This will require different types of marketing and approaches to service delivery. Actions include reducing youth crime by focusing on what is proven to work in prevention and repeat offending as well as targeted activity that is consistent with the PREVENT initiatives and attempts to tackle violent extremism in young people and in some sections of the community.

6.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

. **CONCLUSION**

7.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is intended to significantly transform children's services in the way they are integrated, and to protect and safeguard children and young people, enabling them to receive the best possible start in life.

BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:

- Sustainable Community Strategy, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Audit Commission's Comprehensive Area Assessment, TellUs4 and Thurrock's 2009 'Place Survey', the Children and Young People's Plan 2009-10 ('Better and Better 2').

APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:

- The Draft Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013.

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