

A BRIEF OVERVIEW AND ABOUT GETTING INVOLVED

What is the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)?

Harrow Council must co-ordinate and publish an over-arching plan for all services to children and young people by 1 April 2006. This must be done on behalf all our partners who are the organisations, agencies, groups and individuals who provide services to children and young people. The plan will cover the following five main areas of well-being for our children and young people:

Every child matters....

We aspire to a local community where all children and young people enjoy the highest quality of life. This means that there will have to be changes. The focus of the plan is to ensure that every child in Harrow is

Healthy
Stays safe
Enjoys and achieves
Makes a positive contribution
Achieves economic well-being?

The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)

The CYPP is a three-year plan for children and young people that will be delivered by statutory services and their partners. It is a strategy for change. A strategy is more than a vision statement-it defines a clear set of actions that everyone can work to.

We want to make our services easier to access, to be locally based and able to meet religious and cultural needs. Overall services will be inclusive and available to all. But when children have particular or different types of needs there will be services available. This will include making sure those children and young people who are at risk, vulnerable or suffering are protected and offered the right kind of support.

Not More Plans?

Although Harrow Council is charged with the duty to write the CYPP, the plan covers work delivered by service providers and other partners outside its control. It will drive better joined-up working and change for children amongst a number of organisations, not just Council services. The CYPP replaces 17 other plans but it will be short! It will be an over-arching guide to improvement and change for children. We want to find new and better ways of working with children and young people such as joining up services, commissioning services together etc.

The core of the plan is our understanding of the needs of local children and young people and why we have chosen particular services to be directed at them. It will highlight which groups and individuals are doing less well than their peers. Action plans will indicate what needs, services and priorities are to be tackled over the next three years. That is to say, which children are falling short in the 5 areas of well-being. It is important to recognise that although Harrow is actually a great part of London, the good headlines mask the fact that there are pockets of disadvantage and some children are not doing so well.

What the plan must do

Some examples of priority groups will include the educational needs of Children Looked After and the transition of children with special needs into adult services. We may wish to deal with the verbal abuse that pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds have revealed. Issues around children and young people - in their leisure time; travelling around their locality; being part of their community. Children who have difficulty in social adjustment; children who start school without the skills for success. Obese children may feature but we want this consultation to help identify all of the priority groups.

Improvement "action plans" will reflect the priorities and focus of various services including School Development Plans aimed at improving the situation for these children.

The Plan will form a key part in the subsequent inspections of our work for children and young people so it has to be realistic and backed up by genuine change for children.

Getting involved...the consultation process

Remember, this Plan is a beginning not an end. The first draft CYPP will outline the needs of children and young people, as we understand them now. The consultation period will take place between 15th September and 28th October 2005. We will be trying out new ways of working so the Plan will be revised and changed each year.

Thus, we are seeking the views of community groups and on four main concerns:

1. We need to know if we have got it right?
2. Have we understood the needs of children and young people?
3. Have we missed anything?
4. Are our intentions likely to make a difference?

Responses will be analysed and directly inform the proposed CYPP. All respondents involved in the consultation process will be sent a copy of the final CYPP and a summary of how the consultation process was used, if they provide a name and address.

Throughout the process of putting together the CYPP, Harrow Council has closely followed government guidance, which stresses the importance of involving children and young people in developing the plan.

Which groups are involved in the consultation process?

The following extensive list sets out the different range of organisations that we will consult with.

Children	Young people
Parents	Carers
District councils	Police authorities
Local probation boards	Youth offending teams
Strategic Health Authorities	Primary Care Trusts
Connexions Partnerships	Local Learning and Skills Councils
Diocesan authorities	School organisation committee
Relevant voluntary organisations	Relevant community organisations
Local safeguarding board	Maintained and independent schools
Local strategic partnership	Drugs Action Teams
NHS trusts	Relevant local private sector providers
Local cultural, sport and play organisations	

HARROW CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2006-2009
SUMMARY FOR CONSULTATION

BEING HEALTHY

PHYSICALLY HEALTHY

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of success
1.1 Give all children a healthy start by developing antenatal health care services which are easy to access and suitable for all Harrow mothers.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A healthy and more confident start for more babies and their mothers. • Fewer infant deaths and fewer babies with low birth weights.
1.2 Ensure more children grow up healthy: by improving oral health and achieving higher levels of vaccination.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reductions in the % of children with tooth decay. • Lower rates of disease.

MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
1.3 Make it easier for parents/carers to access support and advice which will help the early development of mental and emotional well being of their children.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More parents and carers finding greater support and advice
1.4 Improve links between Health Visitors and other staff working with young children to ensure that behavioural problems and developmental delay are picked up early.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer young children being temporarily excluded from school. • More children receiving early support.
1.5 Ensure that all staff working with children work closely together to identify and act quickly to address mental health problems, particularly amongst children and young people known to be at greater risk.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer exclusions from school. • Higher levels of attainment. • Reduced waiting times for access to mental health advice and support. • Fewer suicides and self-injuries by children and young people.

SEXUALLY HEALTHY

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
1.6 Increase the number of confidential sexual health services available to young people in settings which suit their needs.	From 2007	Fewer sexually transmitted infections. Increased attendances. Fewer teenage pregnancies.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
1.7 Make it easier for children and families to obtain all the services they need to ensure good health by developing network of accessible frontline health services and multi-purpose children's centres linked to local schools.	Beyond 2007	Improved take-up of appointments 9 Children's Centres open and meeting people's needs Health improvements. More adults participating in educational activities
1.8 Improve sport and leisure facilities in Harrow taking account of the differing cultural needs of its diverse population	Beyond 2007	Higher levels of fitness. Lower levels of obesity.

CHOOSE NOT TO TAKE ILLEGAL DRUGS

Priority Actions	Timescale	Indicators of Success
1.9 Promote awareness of the risks of drug-taking as part of the school curriculum.	Beyond 2007	Fewer young people under 25 using class A drugs. Fewer incidents of harm caused by use of Class A drugs.

STAYING SAFE

SAFE FROM MALTREATMENT, NEGLECT, VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
2.1 Ensure that staff in all the agencies dealing with child protection are trained to a high standard and work together effectively.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower turnover of staff. • Earlier identification of children in need and quicker access to services for them. • Continuity of care for children and young people. • More informed child protection referrals.
2.2 Raise community awareness and provide information about how to keep children safe.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Carers and wider community more aware of how to safeguard children. • Registrations on the Child Protection Register?

SAFE FROM ACCIDENTAL INJURY AND DEATH

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
2.3 Improved safety measures such as pedestrian and cycle training.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in child deaths and injuries (0-15 year olds) caused by traffic.

SAFE FROM BULLYING AND DISCRIMINATION

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
2.4 Work in schools to promote awareness of bullying and discrimination amongst children and young people and ensure that support for victims is readily available.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initially an increase in reporting from 11-15 year olds with subsequent reductions as strategies and confidence improves?

SAFE FROM CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
2.5 Reduce the fear of crime outside school by increasing the safety of outdoor leisure areas.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater use of outdoor leisure facilities. • Positive feedback from Children and young people in consultation / satisfaction surveys.
2.6 Encourage awareness of issues in high schools through increased support from police officers allocated to schools.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fewer incidents of theft. • Reduced fear of crime.

HAVE SECURITY, STABILITY AND ARE CARED FOR

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
2.7 Develop joint working with Harrow Primary Care Trust on the planning and purchasing of services for children and young people to get them a better deal.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater variety of services available for children and young people • Services and support meet the needs of children more effectively • Better value for money.
2.8 Strengthen children's care services so that children in need are identified and receive help more quickly and in ways which ensure there is continuity of care.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better recruitment and retention of social workers • Better social work qualifications • Fewer changes in Social Workers for each child
2.9 Provide more secure and stable home settings for Children Looked After by the Council	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More Children Looked After stay in the same placement for more than 2.5 years
2.10 Increase the use of permanent, alternative family arrangements for children who cannot return to their birth families.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase in the numbers of children accepted for adoption within 2 years.
2.11 Reduce uncertainty and time delays for children and young people whose futures must be decided through the legal process.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the number of care cases dealt with by the courts within 40 weeks.

ENJOY AND ACHIEVE

READY FOR SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
3.1 Improve standard of pre-school services by developing quality assurance scheme for all pre-school services and improving the training and qualifications of child care staff.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All services attain the quality mark. • Increase in development levels for young children at the end of the Foundation Stage. • Better quality learning and development for young children.
3.2 Increase take-up of child-care places and flexible support for adults who work or study.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in the take-up of child-care places for children under 4 years of age. • Increases in attainment of children in the areas of Harrow where achievements have been lower than average.
3.3 Develop schools as a community resource with support and advice for parents.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More parenting courses available. • More parents attending courses.

ATTEND AND ENJOY SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
3.4 Reduce exclusions and unauthorised absences from schools by developing better ways of helping children who experience disaffection.	From 2006	<p>Fewer pupils out of school.</p> <p>Increases in attainment for those groups who have not done as well as their peers</p> <p>Fewer crimes committed by children who should be in school.</p>

ACHIEVE STRETCHING NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS AT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
3.5 Improve levels of attainment and learning outcomes for the small numbers of pupils who do significantly less well than their peers, e.g. Children Looked After.	From 2006	Improved rates of attainment at levels 2 and 4.

ACHIEVE PERSONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENJOY RECREATION

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
3.7 Increase the availability and use of indoor and outdoor leisure facilities across Harrow by improving their quality, safety and accessibility & ensuring they meet the needs of all communities.	Beyond 2007	More children and young people using provision Reduced fear of crime. Healthier citizens.
3.8 Ensure all high schools and colleges to offer the community 12 hours of community sports access per week.	From 2007	More schools offering community access and more local residents using them. Healthier citizens.

ACHIEVE STRETCHING EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS AT SECONDARY SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
3.9 Raise levels of attainment and improve learning outcomes for the small numbers of pupils who do significantly less well than their peers, e.g. Children Looked After.	From 2006	Improved rates of attainment especially for those groups who have not being do so well Increase in attainment of Level 5 at Key Stage 3, more 16 year olds achieving 5 GCSEs Grades A*-C
3.10 Increase numbers of students achieving GNVQ/NVQ Level 2 qualifications and participation in vocational courses.	From 2007	Fewer young people not in training & employment Rises in levels of qualifications gained Higher satisfaction rates amongst local employers

MAKE A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

ENGAGE IN DECISION-MAKING AND SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
4.1 Engage children and young people in decision-making at and beyond school by promoting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • involvement in school councils • interaction with organisations providing services to Harrow citizens 	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in schools with Youth Councils. & pupils participating in school elections • Increase in numbers of children and young people participating in activities, which influence service development. • Changes in public services that meet the needs of users.

ENGAGE IN LAW ABIDING AND POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
4.2 Improve behaviour and attendance at school by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using recommended strategies for behaviour management • Targeting and working with those groups of children where numbers of exclusions are highest. 	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved performance and levels of attainment • Reductions in permanent exclusions.
4.3 Help parents/carers take responsibility for the behaviour of children by promoting and providing accessible, local family support programmes	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased take-up by parents and carers on parenting programmes. • More confident and supported parents & carers.
4.4 Reduce numbers of young people committing an offence.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in numbers of children and young people committing offences. • 75% of the victims of youth crime to be offered the opportunity to participate in restorative processes and 75% to be satisfied with them.
4.5 Promote education, training, employment and the constructive use of leisure time as key components in reducing offending.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in children and young people use of leisure facilities. • Increase in provision of local leisure facilities.

DEVELOP POSITIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND CHOOSE NOT TO BULLY OR DISCRIMINATE

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
4.6 Develop police officer link scheme in high schools to encourage young people to report bullying and discrimination and ensure it is dealt with effectively.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial increase but later reduction of incidents reported in schools.

4.7 Develop volunteering and peer mentoring schemes for young people to be able to make a contribution to their school and community in a safe context.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased numbers of young people as mentors or attached to a mentor. • Increased numbers of young people engaging in voluntary schemes outside school.
---	-------------	--

DEVELOP SELF-CONFIDENCE AND SUCCESSFULLY DEAL WITH SIGNIFICANT LIFE CHANGES AND CHALLENGES

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
4.8 Enhance Personal Health and Social Education (PHSE) programmes in schools through joint working with professionals who are not part of the school staff such as the police, school nurses etc.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys show increase in confidence and positive views about the future. • Increase numbers of young people using the Connexions service in schools and finding positive pathways towards employment and training.

DEVELOP ENTERPRISING BEHAVIOUR

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
4.9 Increase the number of young people achieving GNVE/NVQ Level 2 qualifications through an expansion of vocational courses based in High Schools.	From 2007	<p>Increase in 18-24 year olds with their own businesses.</p> <p>Increase in numbers of young people exploring business start-up.</p>

ACHIEVE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

ENGAGE IN FURTHER EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT OR TRAINING ON LEAVING SCHOOL

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
5.1 Help Children Looked After aged 15 or over to gain more qualifications at school.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher levels of qualifications for Children Looked After.
5.2 Reduce number of young people not in education, training or employment.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved long-term prospects for the minority of pupils at risk of social exclusion.

READY FOR EMPLOYMENT

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
5.3 Increase numbers of 16-18 year olds in structured learning leading to NVQ level 2 or equivalent.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in numbers of young people not in employment, education or training.
5.4 Gather more and better quality information about young people not in education, training and employment in order to support them more effectively.	From 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved results in helping young people to return to training and education and avoid social exclusion, ill-health etc.

LIVE IN DECENT HOMES AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
5.5 Work with housing providers to improve access to decent and secure living accommodation for homeless young people aged 16-19 who are not in education, employment or training.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of young people not in education or training. Improved health. Reduction in schoolgirl pregnancies.
5.6 Review the impact of social housing and planning policies.	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced numbers of children and young people living in poor housing
5.7 Provide cleaner, safer, greener public spaces within walking distance of home of most families.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved responses from resident surveys. Increased use by families.
5.8 Work with voluntary and community groups to increase community events in open recreational areas that make it safer and more enjoyable for family use.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased numbers of community events organised by voluntary and community groups. More children and young people involved in the above.

ACCESS TO TRANSPORT AND MATERIAL GOODS

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
5.9 Encourage development and use of bus routes where children and young people feel safe and able to access leisure facilities.	Beyond 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More children and young people accessing facilities such as the Harrow Leisure Centre.• More young people using buses in the evenings.

LIVE IN HOUSEHOLDS FREE FROM LOW INCOME

Priority Action	Timescale	Indicators of Success
5.10 Improve information to parents and carers to enable them to make suitable provision for their children, access relevant benefits and services that enable them to go out to work	From 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More children in quality child-care.• Increased numbers of parents/carers returning to work or training.• Increase in take up of child-care places

Questions for consultation

1. Are the priority actions the right ones for the purposes of the Children and Young People's Plan? Please make any comments you wish relating to the priority actions listed (please list the action point e.g. 1.1)
2. If you have identified any gaps in the identified priorities, please describe these, listing timescales and indicators of success, where possible.
3. If you have identified additional priority actions please provide or identify any available evidence to support these you have available?
4. What are you or your organization/partnership doing in respect of this outcome, and where are the current gaps in provision?
5. Are the indicators of success the right ones for the priority actions listed? Please list additional indicators or suggest changes to those listed indicating the action point e.g. 2.1
6. Do you have any further comments you would like to make?

Respondent details

If you would like to receive a copy of the Children and Young People's plan as well as a short report outlining how the consultation process contributed to the final document please provide the following information. This will also help us to consider if we have received a cross section of replies and will inform future consultation methods. It will not be used for any other purpose.

Agency/Organisation:	
Name:	
Designation:	
Resident in Harrow?	
Age group you work with or have particular interest in: a) children b) young teenagers (8-13) c) older teenagers (14-19)	
Name:	
Address:	
Date	