

Meeting:	Cabinet
Date:	23rd April 2009
Subject:	Children and Young People's Plan
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Paul Clark, Corporate Director, Children's Services
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Christine Bednell, Children's Portfolio Holder
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix 1: Draft CYPP Appendix 2: Priorities Appendix 3: Consultation

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report describes the Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2011

The Children and Young Peoples Plan:

- *Is a requirement of the Children Act 2004*
- *Represents an agreed list of priorities for children and young people*
- *Provides a vision for what the council and partners want to achieve in the coming two years.*

Recommendation:

To (1) give the Children's Services Portfolio Holder delegated authority to make further changes to the Plan prior to the final version being considered by Council; and

(2) recommend to Council that the final Children and Young People's Plan be adopted.

Reason: To improve outcomes for children and young people by approving of the work of the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership in establishing and agreed vision and priorities.

Section 2 – Report

Introduction

The decision to approve the Children and Young People's Plan fulfils the Council's Priorities to:

“Improve support for vulnerable people”

This is because it represents a unified vision and harmonious multi-agency agreed actions to improve outcomes for all children and young people as well as those who are vulnerable.

Options considered

The Children and Young People's Plan is a statutory requirement and there are no options available.

Background

Harrow Children and Young People Strategic Partnership (HCYPSP) produced the first Statutory Children and Young People's Plan for the period 2006-2009. Annual evaluations of the plan, and new government guidance provide local and national reflections to inform the next plan. The new plan is about the key strategic priorities for the partnership. It does not address the detail of every service provided. It addresses the priorities considered important by the partnership together. The Children and Young People's Plan sets the vision and determines priorities for the next two years.

Current situation

The current Children and Young People's Plan expires in April 2009 and will be replaced by the new plan at the same time.

The next plan is a two year plan as all Local Authorities will be expected to produce a new plan in 2011

Consultation has been carried out with Children and Young People, Parents and stakeholders.

Why a change is needed

The old plan is now outdated.

The new plan is a legal requirement.

It will update and modernise the vision and priorities for children and young people agreed by the Council and partners.

The plan needs to be accessible and readable. It will be available on the web and in hard copy. A simple poster and leaflet design will make it more user friendly.

Implications of the Recommendation

Considerations

Resources, costs: There are no additional costs incurred as a result of the Children and Young People's Plan. The Children's Services Management Team core business represents the Local Authority's contribution to the Children and Young People's Plan.

Staffing/workforce: There are no immediate implications for the workforce.

Equalities impact- The priorities set in the Children and Young people's Plan are based on sound evidence informed needs assessment which enhances the ability to provide services which reflect local demographic need in accordance with the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Children's needs assessment processes.

Legal: The plan is a statutory requirement.

Community safety: The plan is a strategic overarching priority agreement for children and young people for the coming 2 years. The "Stay safe" element describes strategic priorities for safeguarding children and promoting their welfare.

Financial Implications

The Plan does not result in additional expenditure but highlights the priorities for existing budgets.

Performance Issues

The council and partners have agreed Key Performance Indicators allied to the priorities set. These are incorporated into the Council's performance improvement programme and Harrow Strategic Partnership LAA performance monitoring.

Environmental Impact

The council's draft Climate Change Strategy identifies that fuel poverty is a factor which adversely affects children, with improved energy efficiency resulting in a reduction in asthma case; improved health and fitness; improved performance at schools; and a reduction in crime and vandalism.

The government's fuel poverty programme has the aim of ensuring that no vulnerable households (which includes households with children) are in fuel poverty by 2010. We will work with national and regional partners to ensure that this target is met in Harrow.

Risk Management Implications

The plan requires sustainable resourcing in the full 2 year period.

The CYPP is a legal planning document and represents a commitment by all agencies to meet agreed priorities. It places a commitment on the Local Authority to ensure it resources the priorities it is accountable for and that it provides leadership and direction to partners to ensure they deliver the priorities they are accountable for. There is therefore no recourse to making savings which would adversely impact on priorities set in the CYPP. All partners are expected to ensure that efficiency savings allow for maximum use of resources to meet these priorities. Making saving which adversely impact on these priorities would amount to a breach of government guidance leaving the council at risk of public criticism in the event external scrutiny.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name:.....Emma Stabler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date:26.3.09		
Name:Helen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date:14.4.09		

Section 4 – Performance Officer Clearance

Name:.....Tom Whiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Divisional Director (Strategy and Improvement)
Date:19.3.09		

Section 5 – Environmental Impact Officer Clearance

Name:...Andrew Baker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Divisional Director (Environmental Services)
Date:2.4.09		

Section 6 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Betty Lynch, Strategic Development Manager, x 2370
Background Papers: None.