

# Oxfordshire's



Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013

Annual Review 2010-2011

# Introduction

January 2010 saw the start of Oxfordshire's second Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2010-2013.

The Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Trust Board (OCYPT) requested a six monthly monitoring report of progress against the CYPP's delivery plan in July 2010.

This report updates that six monthly review as the annual review and has been prepared for the OCYPT Board meeting on 4 February 2011. It is recommended that the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (OSCB) also receives this report at their next meeting.

As we are only one year into the plan, this review is recognising progress in service development as well as outcomes. The CYPP is an improvement plan; therefore this report does not include the full spectrum of activities across the partnership. However, we are continuing to build upon the outcomes of external review of Oxfordshire's children's services.

Our 2010 Children's Services Assessment stated that "Children's Services in Oxfordshire County Council continues to perform well" and an unannounced inspection of our children's social care service in November 2010 found no areas for priority action but some areas for development. An action plan is currently being developed as part of this review and will be incorporated into the Year 2 priority action plan for the CYPP.

During this first year of the CYPP, children's services in England have been affected by the national financial situation and recent changes to national policy, for example both the CYPP and this review are no longer statutory.



At our discussion at the Trust Board on 4 February 2011, we will need to review actions across the partnership to ensure that our resources are used as efficiently and effectively in an integrated manner to ensure that outcomes improve for children and young people in Oxfordshire.

As part of Oxfordshire County Council's response to the changing environment and in response to user feedback, reducing resources and in recognition that our most important work is prevention and early intervention, a new early intervention service is being proposed as part of a new Children, Education & Families directorate.

Its vision is:

“Oxfordshire County Council will develop one integrated early intervention and prevention service capable of working locally with children, young people and families facing exceptional social difficulties; flexibly providing the right length, type and intensity of intervention and skills required to meet needs.”



# Introduction continued

In response to this Children and Young People's Plan review, the Children's Trust Board will need to respond to these challenges and changes and, where necessary, refine and refocus actions and resources to maintain good progress and improve those areas where improvement is still slow through both targeted and universal services. The Performance Sub-Group will continue to challenge performance and call on lead officers to show, via report cards, actions taken and next steps.

Partnership working with the health authority, police, district and city councils and other local authorities and the voluntary sector continues to be strong with good evidence of joint working operationally and strategically. For example, Common Assessment Framework (CAF) / Team Around the Child (TAC), Children's Centre developments, Success Project and Joint Housing Partnerships for vulnerable young and homeless.

Opportunities for children and young people to make a positive contribution continues to be outstanding and exemplary (Feedback from the Deputy Children's Commissioner). Work has focused on ensuring that children and young people are consistently involved in the decision-making around the delivery of services and in the evaluation and impact.

A RAG rated analysis of progress against the published milestones has also been included at the end of the report.

## Oxfordshire's second CYPP has three overarching priorities:

**1. Keeping all children and young people safe**

**2. Raising achievement for all children and young people**

**3. Narrowing the gap for our most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups**



**Raising achievement for all children and young people**



# Progress against the three priorities and service management

## 1. Keeping all children and young people safe

We know that good partnership working with families, by well trained and supported workers from a range of professions with the capacity to deliver effective and appropriate interventions to children and their families / carers, are the most important factors in keeping children safe, especially the most vulnerable and those at greatest risk of social exclusion.

Children's social care practitioners, with support from partners, are the front line practitioners responsible for safeguarding children Identified as at most risk. Therefore, tracking and monitoring the practice and performance of this workforce is critical. While clear policies and processes are in place and work is underway to simplify and improve recording practice, improving performance in the context of rising referrals, children with child protection plans, care proceedings and children entering the care system, is challenging. Good performance is being maintained in a number of areas, and outcomes are improving (for example, all children's looked after reviews for this year have been on time and more recently a focused action has resulted in improved timeliness of initial assessments and core assessments).



We also know that while Safeguarding requires a clear and distinct focus, it also needs to be complemented and reinforced by good quality early intervention and prevention work. Difficulties need to be addressed as soon as they arise and services geared towards the needs, circumstances and environment of the whole family. The development of a proposed new early intervention and prevention service is a response to this need.

Making safeguarding a part of everyone's business is critical and, particularly post Baby Peter, a huge challenge. Locality Senior Practitioners and the new service – FACEIT – are increasingly supporting partners to work safely with children without needing to refer to children's social care. To ensure social care remains focused on those children most at risk, this is essential. This is being underpinned by the development of new assessment tools guidance and training delivered by the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children's Board.



# What we have achieved

Over 80% of children at highest risk of abuse have been identified, assessed and been subject of child protection conferences within 15 working days of S47 enquiry.

The rate of referrals (23%) is in line with statistical neighbours.

The number of looked after children in November 2010 was 31.9 per 10,000 which is below the rate in similar authorities (despite a 20% increase in the number of local children entering care).

Our foster care recruitment campaign has resulted in an additional 10,500 extra days provided by the service.

The number of children exiting care to adoption and special guardianship rose from 35 in 2008/09 to 38 in 2009/10.

The proportion of fostered children placed in their friends and family networks rose by 9% (1.3 percentage points) between 2008/09 and 2009/10.

Long-term placement stability has risen from 66% in 2008/09 to 75% in 2009/10 to 79% in 2010/11 (end of December 2010, Quarter 3).

64% of looked after children showed improvement in emotional health, as measured by their score in the strengths and difficulties questionnaire. The overall 2009/10 result was the same as 2008/09 at 15.7, but has improved to 14.9 in 2010/11.

In comparison with looked after children nationally being entered for GCSEs and GNVQs, Oxfordshire improved 7.3% from 2008 to 2009, but in 2010 the gap widened from 2.3 percentage points to 13.8 percentage points.

Overall educational performance of looked after children was similar to national performance and better by 3 percentage points at 5 A\*-G GCSEs in 2009, but declined in 2010 to 2 percentage points below national (48.9% to 50.6%).

16% of care leavers went to university - up from 10% in 2008/09.

The first quarter of 2010/11 saw a rise of one percentage point in the rate of custodial sentences for young people, but this dropped again in Quarter 2 and is now in line with 2009/10 at 5.4%. There has been a 55% reduction in reoffending amongst young people identified as high and at frequent risk of offending in Cherwell through a new multi-agency scheme which has now been rolled out to other parts of the county.

The housing pathway cited as a best practice example by the Communities and Local Government (CLG), has led to 20% savings in the cost of supported housing, a reduction in young people becoming homeless, and better targeted use of provision with a 150% increase in the numbers of 16 and 17 year olds using supported accommodation (Qtr 2, T 2010/11) and a reduction in the number of care leavers in unsuitable accommodation from 8% to 4%.

In Oxford City homelessness claims, acceptances and households in temporary accommodation have all significantly reduced since 2005-06. In March 2010 there were 330 families in temporary accommodation in Oxfordshire, compared to 861 in Oxford City alone, four years ago.

Training programmes for schools in anti-bullying have been launched at events focusing on cyber-bullying and homophobic bullying. Schools are implementing Risk and Resilience programmes with support from educational psychology and behaviour advisers.

Specialist training provided by OSCB, including sexual abuse training, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) / Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPAs) and the disclosure project. Significant improvements in the availability, quality, and responsiveness to need and demand of the three levels of core safeguarding training provided through OSCB; in addition a wider range of specialist courses covering sexual abuse, disability, domestic abuse, substance misuse and working with difficult, dangerous and evasive clients.



# What we have achieved continued

The John Radcliffe Hospital, with OSCB support, has developed a protocol to ensure dangerous offenders are safely managed when attending or visiting hospital.

Partnership working between the police and the Pre-Court and Prevention Team (YOS) has reduced the first time entrants to the criminal justice system from just under 1,200 in 2005/06, to 272 in 2009/10, and 116 in the first half of 2010/11.

More than 85% of school-age young people known to the YOS are engaged in full-time education.

Reduction of 6% in re-offending amongst young people identified as high and frequent risk of offending, through the use of multi-agency panel.

Tellus4 2009: 13% increase in satisfaction with park / play areas in Oxfordshire compared with 8% nationally and highest increase in South East.

OSCB working with the Drug and Alcohol Team (DAAT) on the development of a parental misuse strategy; two Sounding Boards were held to collate feedback on parental substance misuse.

Three Family and Children Early Intervention Teams (FACEIT) are established and currently delivering to 174 children (over 100 families). Take-up of CAF and TAC/TAF process in Oxfordshire has been high. Around 1400 children in Oxfordshire have been the subjects of CAF and 1,182 children have been involved in the TAC/TAF process.

On target to have all 45 children's centres designated full core offer (FCO) by March 2011.

New Teen Parent Care Pathway Training undertaken between maternity services and children's centre staff.

The Oxfordshire Children's Domestic Abuse Risk Assessment matrix has been implemented: over 40 social workers trained and integrated into children's Domestic Abuse champions' training since January 2010.

120 community adult mental health practitioners trained between December 2009 and February 2010 in Think Family (whole family approaches to safeguarding children).

Safeguarding Quality Assurance Framework has delivered 41 case audits this year.

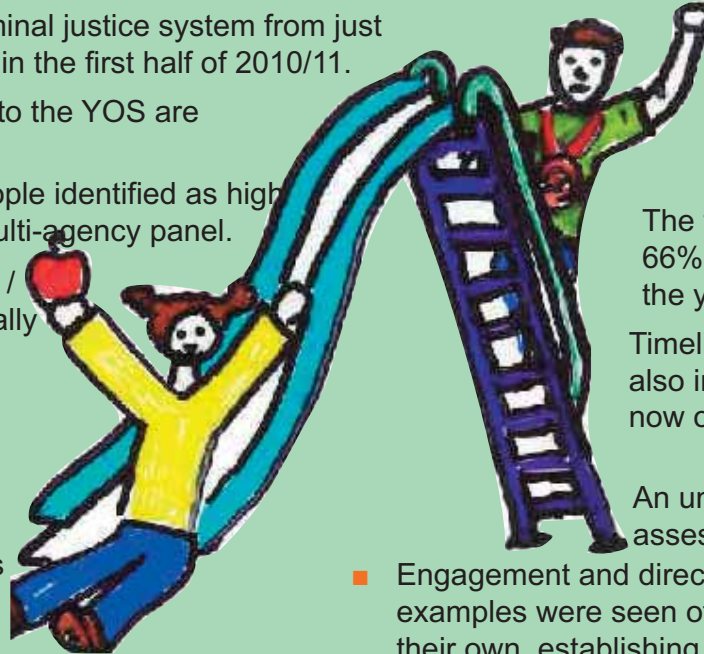
Development of tools and awareness training and associated guidance as part of the OSCB Neglect Strategy for Oxfordshire.

The timeliness of core assessments (35 days) was 66% for 2009/10, but is now above target at 83% for the year to date (95% in November 2010).

Timeliness of reviews of looked after children has also improved steadily throughout 2010/11, and is now on target at 93% (98% in November 2010).

An unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment teams in November 2010 found:

- Engagement and direct work with children is highly effective and many examples were seen of excellent, determined work in seeing children on their own, establishing their views and incorporating these within assessments.
- Links between the range of interventions, including common assessment framework, team around the child and child in need, are clear and effectively coordinated. Inspectors saw examples of seamless, effective transfers between the responses to changing need. A particular strength is the 'step down arrangement from child in need to a less intensive level of intervention.
- Inter-agency relationships are very effective, in particular between social care and the police in the prompt identification and planning of child protection enquiries. Housing specialists, many schools and numerous other agency practitioners are also robustly engaged in the delivery of coordinated plans and services across the 13 localities.



## Areas requiring more focused work

Reducing emergency hospital admissions – the overall emergency admissions rate for Oxfordshire in 2009/10 was higher than the latest available for our statistical neighbours, but, below the national figure: Oxfordshire: 108; statistical neighbours: 101.4; national: 119.1.

In 2009/10 it was 108 per 10,000 - higher than the latest figure available for our statistical neighbours (101), but better than the national rate (119). However, 2010/11 has seen a worsening with a rate of 64% per 10,000 in the first six months.

OSCB increasing the engagement and ensuring good communication links with the education sector.

Child protection issues:

- CP plans lasting over two years
- Repeat child protection plans.

Key themes identified and being addressed include managing the increase in workflow; better engagement with families and improving practice issues; improving assessment and understanding of the cumulatively harmful effects of neglect; reviewing those looked after children in child protection planning.

Too many young people are being admitted to hospital following an episode of self-harm.



## What we need to do next

- ▶ Implement an action plan for the areas for development identified in the 2010 Unannounced inspection.
- ▶ Reduce emergency hospital admissions, focusing on children and young people who are admitted following a period of self-harm.



- ▶ Roll out the OSCB Neglect Strategy across the county including multi-agency training.
- ▶ Through OSCB, ensure that partner agencies have mechanisms in place to ensure that their staff all have an appropriate level of safeguarding training.
- ▶ DAAT and OSCB to set up a reference group of families affected by parental substance misuse.
- ▶ Although there have been some significant improvements on the target to reduce / prevent homelessness, there are some concerns for the future due to recent national policy changes which will need addressing.



## 2. Raising achievement for all children and young people

Raising achievement is a major priority for the county council and the Public Service Board. The results in Oxfordshire show that whilst there have been achievements in some areas and our results are slightly above the national figure, we should be achieving far more in our schools and our young people should be leaving formal education in Oxfordshire with greater outcomes. We are working with our Early Years providers to make sure that foundations are secure for the future. In 2009, our performance at Key Stage 2 showed a decline and performance at Key Stage 4 puts us in the bottom of our statistical neighbour group, although school performance has improved in five A\*-C GCSEs including English and maths. In 2010, our performance at both Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4 has improved as follows:

- Oxfordshire's attainment at Key Stage 2 for pupils attaining Level 4 and above in both English and maths has risen to 74.8% this year – an increase of 2.4%.

This is the largest increase in four years and mirrors the increase in the statistical neighbour average - it is 0.4% higher than the national increase.

- There has also been an increase in students attaining five or more A\*-C passes at GCSE, including English and maths of 4.0 percentage points on last year and for students attaining any five A\*-C passes at GCSE – a 5.6 percentage point increase.

- A number of strategies have been put in place, most noticeably in the Class of 2010 Project which was a joint and concerted effort across the county council to provide schools, pupils, parents and carers with support for exam preparation. We continue to build on these strategies as we work with the next cohort to be measured in this way.

- Young people taking A Levels in our maintained schools still do better than young people nationally. However, on average, Oxfordshire learners are achieving one A Level less than statistical neighbours.

Although the average grade per entry continues to rise, we are still ranked 10th out of 11 statistical neighbours.



- We developed a strategic response to our building stock to support improvements in learning and teaching. We are now looking to realign our plan in the light of government efficiencies to continue to support this aim.



# What we have achieved

The Class of 2010 Project was introduced to support all Year 11 students. Currently we are tracking a number of young people to see which interventions supported them most in preparation for the Class of 2011. We have identified a number of schools where young people with equivalent chances are more successful in achieving five A\*-C.

We are now finding ways for these schools to assist other schools where fewer young people, with the same chances of achieving this level, actually do in reality.

LA intervention was more sharply focused on fewer high priority schools where improvement had stalled, or targets were not achieved in 2009; this has contributed to improvements in these schools.

The National Challenge materials have been used with a significant number of schools, including the adoption of strategies such as the Venn diagram, 'war cabinet' of deputy headteacher, heads of English and maths and, in some cases, head of science and head of Year 11.

Primary schools in Cowley and Blackbird Leys have been in a pilot to raise children's aspirations.



School Improvement Advisers have been deployed to work in those schools where children are underachieving, to support leadership and to improve quality of learning and teaching, for example New Marston, St Mary's – Banbury.

The work of School Improvement Advisers has impacted directly on schools in Ofsted categories to contribute in assisting them to successfully come out of category, for example Ducklington, and to improve results, for example Launton – a 20% improvement in Level 4 English and mathematics from 2009 results.

Greater targeting of resources to those schools with greatest need including those who appear to be providing adequate education but are capable of so much more.

The 14-19 Strategic Group is now undergoing a joint review with the Learning & Skills Partnership to work out the best way for partners to work together to improve the skills of our oldest learners and prepare them for higher education or work.

Free swimming for children and young people under the age of 17 years in Oxford City.

Oxfordshire Play Partnership agreed an Embedding Play action plan. It was successful in its bid for support from Play England as part of its Embedding Sustainable Play Programme.

Four local Play Partnerships have been established with good partnership working.

Play Pathfinder on track to meet targets for 28 new / refurbished play areas by June 2011.



# What we have achieved continued

£341,000 revenue and £312,000 capital was allocated through the Youth Opportunity Fund to support increasing positive activities for young people.

£200,000 spent on small grants to support activities for children and young people.

Over 13,000 young people have been involved in giving their views about services in some way.

Childminder Ofsted inspection outcomes are stable at around the mid point for statistical neighbours but, behind the regional average. The Oxfordshire Quality Childminder Network has been successfully relaunched and expanded. The First Claim Framework is being embedded in team working following a successful trial.

Oxfordshire Education Business Partnership Business Ambassadors' Scheme is continuing to grow and a network of training providers has also been established. This work will become more and more focused on increasing opportunities for young people to undertake an apprenticeship.



First Children's Parliament, Nov 2010

A first Oxfordshire Children's Parliament was held in November 2010, enabling young children to have a first taste of having their views heard and taken seriously.

All 27 Extended Services Partnerships are providing 100% full core offer.

Tracking and targeted support is being provided for all children in care via the Virtual School for Looked After Children at risk of exclusion.

Breaking the cycle of deprivation work and the Family Intervention Project have continued to improve cross-agency work with vulnerable families.

More than 6,000 children and young people were identified earlier as eligible this year for Extended Services Disadvantage Subsidy across 291 schools. Delivery programme and evaluation measures are in place.

A Safe Place to Be out of school provision has been developed in each secondary school.

Oxfordshire services were again very active on Takeover Day 2010, with at least 34 active Takeovers going on across the county. For instance, taking over headteacher and teacher roles in schools, running gigs in youth centres, shadowing police colleagues, taking over theatres, contributing to Stop and Search training.



## Areas requiring more focused work

Take up of positive activities by young people as measured by the Tellus4 survey has slipped, but it should be noted that this was based on a very small sample of responses. NB The Tellus Survey has now been cancelled by the government.

Improve childminders and childcare in primary and secondary schools and in children's homes so that more are 'good' or better.

The reduction of a number of schools in Ofsted categories.

Attainment within some specific pupil groups.

Accelerate the rate of improvement in standards for 16 year-olds and qualifications at the age of 19 and close the attainment gap.



## What we need to do next

- ▶ Emphasise the importance of play and having fun and in particular those with least access to the opportunities.
- ▶ Continue to work with our schools and settings to raise standards of achievement at all key stages so that we make greater progress.
- ▶ Ensure appropriate provision for all young people when the age of participation is raised and that all their learning needs are met.
- ▶ Implement the Class of 2011 Project, building upon the evaluation of the Class of 2010 outcomes.
- ▶ Develop children and young peoples' participation further so that all see they have a role in their communities and that their actions can achieve better outcomes.



### 3. Narrowing the gap for our most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups

We know that in order to ensure that children and young people from some vulnerable groups have a chance to achieve as well as their peers, they must be attending school; engaged positively in activity whilst in school; behaving well and at transition moving on to continued positive engagement in learning or work with learning. The Success Project is tracking progress against these indicators for a range of vulnerable groups and promotes action between partners working together to improve outcomes. This work is beginning to show improved outcomes with reductions in permanent exclusions and increasingly reduced persistent absenteeism. Capacity to improve is good as further preventative work beds down and becomes more sustainable through increasingly local solutions. More intensive work is needed to ensure that young people go on at age 16 into further learning and that they do not become Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) at age 17. This is particularly challenging in the context of the economic climate but there is commitment at Oxfordshire Strategic Partnership level to address this.

Significant work is taking place to intervene earlier and target support including the development of a new Early Intervention and Prevention Service within Oxfordshire County Council.

Improved outcomes are still variable, improving in some areas but slower to impact on others. Particular strengths have been identified around timeliness of process involving children with learning difficulties and disabilities. However, that has not yet translated into sufficiently improved outcomes in achievement at school. Greater focus is required in mainstream schools to narrow gaps for children with learning difficulties and disabilities.



Partnership work continues to improve and the current economic climate has galvanised efforts to make fewer resources work more effectively. Outcomes for some vulnerable groups are in pockets and less clear when looking at overall national indicators. The basket of indicators measuring progress at super output level will be an important measure of impact. There is widespread commitment at all levels and across all organisations to use combined resource to break cycles of deprivation.



# What we have achieved

Overall participation in learning up from 76.3% last year to 80.6% this year, including participation in learning and achievement of teenage parents and children looked after.

Grants awarded from Community Chest (funding for leisure / educational / social activities) included 32% children on free school meals, 22% disabled children and 22% Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups.

Reduction in young people not in education, employment or training has been a high priority. At the end of November 2010 6.1% (1,023) young people living in Oxfordshire were not in education, employment or training – a drop over the last year of 91 young people and represents a reduction of 8%. This has taken Oxfordshire's NEET figures below the national average and has narrowed the gap with statistical neighbours. 57% of young offenders are also in education, employment or training (EET). 89% of care leavers who finished Year 11 last year are in EET.

Secondary persistent absentees' levels reducing from 4.86% in 2008/09 to 4.13% in 2009/10.

Permanent exclusions significantly reduced from 81 in 2008/09 to 44 in 2009/10 (Terms 1 to 5).

88% of children looked after progressed to EET at the end of Year 11 compared with 75% last year. 84% of care leavers were in EET at 19 putting us top of statistical neighbours.

Schools in Behaviour and Attendance partnerships have implemented 'revolving door' provision for Key Stage 3 children at risk of exclusion attending the Girls Educated, Motivated and Successful Project (GEMS) and Discovery at Meadowbrook College (Pupil Referral Unit).

The Family Intervention Programme supported 60 families. On track to deliver to 81 families in 2010/11 through partnership of OCC, district councils, housing providers, PCT.

In the deprived area of Rose Hill in Oxford, defective housing stock has been replaced with mixed tenure homes. New affordable homes are being built and are on track to deliver 180 against the target of 150.



Teenage pregnancy rates have reduced in Oxford City: 11.5% and Cherwell District: 7.5% (between 1998-2000 and 2006-2008).

88 children and young people from Oxfordshire Youth Enablers (OYE!) – children and young people's disability forum – were involved in a consultation on the things that matter most to them. (Currently being analysed and will inform future funding through Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC).

The pre-Court and Prevention services, working in partnership with a wide range of agencies, supported 2,000 young people aged eight to 19 years in 2009/10.

In 2009/10 there was a 77% reduction in young people entering the criminal justice system since baseline in 2005/6.

In 2008/09 468 victims of youth crime were identified, of whom 37% engaged in a restorative processes.



# What we have achieved continued

A nurse led clinic has been established on OCVC sites in Oxford and Banbury offering support for health and well-being including contraception and sexual health.

A 32% increase in the proportion of young mothers in EET from 2008/09 to 2009/10.

29 mothers currently in Young Mums to Be or Parents with Prospects programmes: eight have graduated with Edexel accreditation.

We have implemented a care pathway for pregnant teenagers aged under 18 years which will ensure that all young mothers to be will be offered a CAF and a multi-agency package of support.

The Family Nurse Partnership programme is being delivered successfully in Oxford and Abingdon and is providing intensive home visiting support to around 100 young first time mothers and their babies.

The target of 54% for breastfeeding at six to eight weeks has been exceeded – currently at 62%.

89% of children are measured for obesity – obesity levels amongst children are on target for Oxfordshire, below the national rates.

Breastfeeding resources were provided to children's centres. Breastfeeding Local Implementation Groups have been set up in three areas of the county to support co-ordinators.



Oxford City Council is on track to meet the Decent Homes Standard for its own stock by March 2011 and housing association stock already meets or exceeds the standard already.

Amongst young people who have offended, educational attainments improved at GCSE between 2006/07 and 2008/09: One A\*-G – 41%; five A\*-C, including English and mathS – 7%.

The Vtalent programme was completed after offering 19 vulnerable / disadvantage young people work based placements and accreditation.

87% of referrals to the sexual health outreach nurse have been successfully moved onto contraception and 55% of those have chosen long-acting reversible contraception.



# What we have achieved continued

Young people with learning difficulties and disabilities (LDD) in employment, education and training has risen from 76% in November 2009, to 77% in November 2010.

A review of therapy services has taken place and an integrated therapies service with a single referral and assessment process will be operational from April 2011.

Oxfordshire was successful in its bid for another DfE Lamb Inquiry project relating to parental confidence in SEN provision from Early Support into primary school.

Over 300 parents and 100 professionals attended Oxfordshire's second successful Transition Fair for young people with LDD and their families. It is run by Oxfordshire Family Support Network in collaboration with the Learning Disabilities Partnership and Oxfordshire County Council.

The county council has agreed to an 'invest to save' proposal to reduce expenditure on Out County placements by providing residential educational provision for children and young people with autism.

Oxfordshire County Council led a cross-regional project involving six authorities to jointly commission services for children in care with challenging and complex behaviour needs. The provision has 20 beds and four day places rising to 30 residential and

Aiming High for Disabled Children has produced significant improvements, for example the number of children having short breaks has more than tripled and the number of Group Based Specialist (GBS) hours has increased by more than five times since the start of the project).

A 28% rise in pupils achieving five A\*-G GCSE grades including English and maths at Meadowbrook College: 2007: one pupil (1.4%), 2010: 17 pupils (29.8%) and one pupil (1.8%) gained five A\*-C GCSEs grades including English and maths.



An Oxfordshire student undertaking a work experience placement

Implementation of the Breaking the Cycle of Deprivation Project in Banbury and Oxford City – in particular the work around the Family Intervention Project, the NEET action groups and neighbourhood policing and approach to reducing anti-social behaviour.

The independent evaluation of the Targeted Mental Health in Schools (TAHMS) Project has demonstrated positive impact in terms of children's emotional resilience, and teachers' capacity to identify and intervene early with children or young people with mental health problems.



# Areas requiring more focused work

Attainment of Level 4 in English and maths at Key Stage 2 and five A\*-C GCSEs (including English and maths) for looked after children.

Participation and achievement are not progressing as quickly this year as last for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities and for young people who are offending.

Countywide teenage conceptions have decreased slightly (29.6 in 2007 to 29.5 in 2008) but this is not as significant a reduction as we would like.

The percentage of NEET young people is still above target (5.9%).

Attainment of children with SEN at the end of Key Stages 2 and 4.

Reduce the proportion of babies and children exposed to tobacco smoke.

Improve breast feeding rates in our most deprived areas and amongst babies born to mothers aged under 20 years.

In some parts of the county – Oxford, Banbury and West Oxfordshire, the rates of childhood obesity are higher than the rest of the county and above the national rates.



# What we need to do next

- ▶ Further join up the work of our preventative services across the partnership in order to make the most of efficient use of resources.
- ▶ Implement a proposed new Oxfordshire County Council led Early Intervention Service as an underpinning approach to intervention earlier to support vulnerable families.
- ▶ CAF/TAC processes being promoted to support improvement in attendance and engagement of persistent absentees.
- ▶ Ensure a targeted focus for the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and Action Plan. (Reduce the number of young women under the age of 18 who become pregnant.)
- ▶ To make sure tailored provision is commissioned to ensure there are the right opportunities for all groups to engage in EET.
- ▶ Implement the recommendations arising from the review of education provision for children with Autistic Spectrum conditions 2010.



## 4. Service Management

The underpinning support mechanisms to ensure effective delivery of the plan are all in place. Partners are working well together and potential for greater integration is being established. More work needs to be done to ensure commissioning and workforce development can play a full part in driving forward improvements for children and young people. There is an escalating challenge for all partners to continue to improve outcomes in the context of a reducing financial situation.

### What we have achieved

Framework for Joint Commissioning was agreed by the Children's Trust on 12 May 2010.

To increase cost effectiveness and improve outcomes for looked after children and a range of evidence based preventative and support services have been developed.

Draft Strategy for Workforce Development agreed by Children's Trust on 17 March 2010.

Workforce Development assessed as 'green' by GOSE, 2010.

A common core introduction programme is available across all organisations in partnership with Oxfordshire Children and Voluntary Youth Services. (OCVYS).

Performance Management assessed as 'good' by Ofsted and Internal Audit 2009/2010.

Charter Mark fully compliant in June 2010.

Integrated reporting against children's information systems to support improved data management, security, financial control and service planning.

Excellent mechanisms and feedback from involving parents/carers and children and young people.

The Deputy Children's Commissioner's letter said "it is rare to see participation so comprehensively embedded."

Family Information Service has improved outcomes for vulnerable families and families with disabled children and young people.

Over 13,500 children and young people expressed views on services 2009/10 and feedback is provided six-monthly through You Said ... We Did reports.



# Areas requiring more focused work

Joint Commissioning is not yet effectively co-ordinated across all partner agencies.

Although we have an agreed draft strategy for Workforce Development, data on the workforce is not yet fully collated and co-ordinated across partner agencies and due to changes in legislation the Workforce Strategy requires further development.



# What we need to do next

- ▶ Strengthen Joint Commissioning and explore pooled budgets.
- ▶ Share data on the workforce so that we can co-ordinate strategy and identify and respond to gaps and oversupply.
- ▶ Effective resource management taking into account the social return on investment.
- ▶ Ensure reduced capital programme continues to provide buildings which support delivery of new approaches to teaching and learning.
- ▶ Continue working to meet the role of the children's workforce as expressed in the plan and that it is skilled to meet the requirements of recent changes to legislation.



# Equality and diversity

Strategies and actions to improve the outcomes for equality groups are integrated in a cross-cutting manner in all sections of the CYPP and delivery plan. The impact of the delivery plan on equality groups has been under-pinned by the following:

- CYP&F's Strategic Equality and Diversity Action Plan, which is regularly monitored and was reported on in September 2010.
- As a matter of routine, all new work streams, policies and projects include an Equality Impact Assessments (EQIA).
- During 2009/10, 16 EQIAs were carried out, with actions which are now having a direct input into the delivery plan. This includes the EQIA of the CYPP itself, which the Trust Board endorsed in April 2010.
- So far In 2010-11:
  - o five EQIAs have been completed and quality assured.
  - o four EQIAs have been quality assured and are in the process of being finalised.
  - o twelve EQIAs have been drafted and are scheduled for quality assurance.
  - o four further EQIAs are planned to be completed during the remainder of the financial year.

Outcomes of the above will inform updates to the delivery plan.

- However, the beneficial impact of some EQIA action plans and services for equality groups is being jeopardised by national and local budget cuts and grant changes. Examples include 14-19 Education, Healthy Schools, Integrated Youth Support Services and the Equality and Diversity Achievement Service. We are using the recently developed Service and Community Impact Assessments (SCIAs) to assess the impact of CYP&F's proposed budget cuts on vulnerable equality groups. Ten SCIAs have been completed. Full EQIAs will be carried out once these proposals are agreed.



- Monitoring is taking place with partners, involving the multi-agency Oxfordshire County Equality Leads Group. (Achieving Authority – Equality Framework has been achieved by Oxfordshire County Council).



# Participation and views of children and young people

The Children and Young People Sounding Board discussed self-harm at their meeting in September 2010. Actions from that meeting include:

- Ensuring that messages about how to approach/support children and young people are included in the planned multi-agency training pack.
- Establish a single referral point for children and young people through the Primary Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (PCAHMS).
- A Children and Young People's Involvement Network (ChYPIN) event in October 2010, involved 24 children and young people who had been involved with Social Care Services through the Assessment and Family Support teams to talk about their experiences of social workers and their views on the timeliness of the interventions. Their views will feed into the restructuring plans and a film collage has been made for use as a training tool with the CAF training programme.
- Children in care ran their own conference in August 2010.



As well as the six-monthly You Said . . . We Did reports, Play and Participation has strengthened the follow-up of actions, outcomes and impact of our consultation and involvement mechanisms by:

- Including an expectation of a de-brief meeting after the Sounding Boards / ChYPINS etc to ensure actions are clear and followed up.
- Undertaking a six-month follow-up check with services to check on progress against actions agreed.
- "I think it's really good that it is not just adults telling us what to do when we do stuff at Play Barton (with the Participation and Play Team), but we get to make decisions too". (J 14)

“The Sounding Board is a really good place for young people (and children) to express themselves and their opinions, not just he heard, but do something about it. Nobody ever wants to hear your opinions. It's also a learning experience listening to the views of others. It's a good laugh too. ” (SB6 member)

“Young people's participation is so important. Nobody knows better than us how it really is for us. It's also a great confidence booster, to be listened to and for people to do stuff because of what you've said. Oxfordshire County Council has been brilliant at keeping to the Pledge. ” (Young Person - Chair of Children in Care Council)



# More Participation and views of children and young people

“ I have been thoroughly involved with a wide range of projects with the Oxfordshire County Council's participation and play team. They are truly brilliant! Since I have been involved my self confidence and self esteem has risen, understanding that I can achieve anything and make a difference in other people's lives, as a young person. It is an opportunity that many young people and myself have been waiting for; to be given an opportunity where we can have our views heard and our rights exercised- the participation and play team makes that happen! It is an absolute inspiration and delight to be working with the team, continuously, as they make everything they do so fun and fulfilling to be a part of! ”  
(Young person – UKYP Deputy Member)

Takeover Day – Debate in the Council Chamber of Oxfordshire County Council – quotes from local councillor and a teacher:

“ Can I say a big thank you to all those involved in organising yesterday your team and the young people them selves!!!! I am very keen to see the schools and community event being taken forward this fits in very well with the national government big society agenda and it was great that the young people came up with the idea perhaps we can get our heads together on the matter! ” (Councillor Louise Chapman)

“ The children themselves really enjoyed the experience of debating in the chambers and I felt that this was a real boost to their confidence enabling them to find their voice and share ideas and concerns about the world which they live in. I am constantly amazed by the confidence which young people exhibit. On arrival back at school the two children who took part decided that they would like to make a Power Point Presentation using photographs taken at the event and adding text, so that they could share their experience with the whole school. So last week they led an assembly to do just that. So now the whole school have had a taste of the experience. Thank you for enabling this event to take place and I hope it is the first of many. ” (Teacher)



## Appendix A Milestones 2010-11

During the course of the three year plan, we set ourselves yearly milestones.  
At the end of the Year 1 we have achieved the following:

Green - Achieved

Amber- On track

Red - not achieved

Keeping all children and young people safe	
Target geographical hot spots to reduce teenage pregnancy.	Green
Implement new FACEIT (Family and Children Early Intervention Team) service.	Green
Implement inter-agency activities to reduce risk of a 'Baby P' case in Oxfordshire.	Amber
Establish inter-agency Safeguarding Advisory Panel for 'stuck cases'.	Amber
Implement the Think Family intervention project.	Green
Allocate each young person in custody a senior Children, Young People & Families champion.	Green
Put in place multi-agency response to young people at high risk of self-harm and harm to others.	Amber
Prevent inappropriate hospital admissions for accidental injuries.	Amber
Develop commissioning strategy for school improvement.	Amber
Manage transfer of funding responsibility for 16-19 from Learning and Skills Council (LSC).	Green
Develop 'Safe Place to Be' out of school provision in each secondary school.	Green



## Narrowing the gap for our most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups

Create enhanced package of support for NEET young people, including learning programmes to engage NEET teenage parents.	Green
Deliver Aiming High programmes to provide childcare, short breaks and palliative care services for disabled children.	Green
Offer a full range of parenting support programmes.	Amber
Promote early attachment by ensuring a clear care pathway for women with perinatal mental health problems.	Green
Develop Integrated Youth Support Services for vulnerable young people.	Amber
Full implementation of Play Pathfinder programme.	Amber
Pilot the Targeted Mental Health in Schools Project (TaMHS) in 40 schools to ensure early support.	Green
Ensure all children 0-18 years old have full access to the Healthy Child Programme.	Green
Agree action plan for primary Success Project.	Green
Establish Good Behaviour Game (GBG) pilot	Amber
Inclusion Strategy in place	Green
To implement the Breaking the Cycle (BTC) programme in Banbury and Oxford 2010-11.	Amber

## Service management

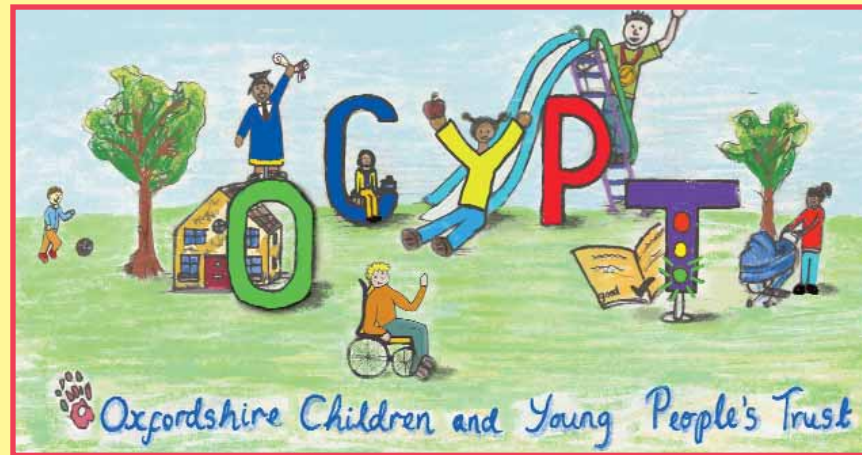
Publish and implement Children's Trust Commissioning Strategy.	Amber
Publish and Implement Children's Trust Workforce Strategy.	Amber
Fully embedded area service delivery.	Amber
Develop strong performance management processes that support investment and disinvestments decisions.	Amber

## Redundant milestones

Implement ContactPoint for Early Years.	Red
Building Schools for the Future Strategy (BSF) for Change agreed with Partnership for Schools.	Red



# Oxfordshire's Children and Young People's Plan Annual Review 2010 - 2011



Alternative formats of this publication can be made available. These include other languages, large print, Braille, Easy Read, CD or email.

Please telephone 01865 815169 to order.

Winning entry of the OCYPT Logo Competition from Carterton Community College

Artwork throughout the plan supplied by Molly, aged 4 and Holly, aged 12

If you want further information on our Children and Young People's Plan, please contact:

**Sian Rodway - Strategic Lead, Performance**  
sian.rodway@oxfordshire.gov.uk  
01865 815142

