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# Section 1: Introduction

- 1.1 The national *Children's Plan: Building brighter futures* sets out a compelling vision – to make England the best place in the world for children and young people to grow up<sup>1</sup>. The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) has a key role in realising this vision by delivering services to children, young people and families that tackle barriers to learning, improve health and break intergenerational cycles of disadvantage.
- 1.2 The CYPP, monitored and delivered through the Children's Trust, is firmly positioned within the overall vision for the area contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy and should be seen as part of this wider strategic planning which is overseen by the Local Strategic Partnership.
- 1.3 Children and young people's experiences and life chances are influenced by a range of local services and initiatives that stretch far beyond those delivered by the partners in a Children's Trust. Children are much more likely to thrive if their families live in safe, cohesive and prosperous communities, and their parents have opportunities to enter, stay and progress in employment. The Local Area Agreement framework, alongside new governance and funding arrangements, gives local authorities and their partners the flexibility to implement local solutions to local problems and prioritise spending to achieve the maximum impact.<sup>2</sup> **The CYPP must be developed in this context, and understood as part of a wider local strategy, involving all partners in the Local Strategic Partnership.**
- 1.4 The Government expects all key local authority services, at district as well as at top tier level in two tier authorities to play their part in improving the lives of children and young people. This includes all those whose focus is not exclusively on children such as housing, transport, planning and leisure and other agencies concerned with economic prosperity, skills and regeneration.

1 *The Children's Plan: Building Brighter futures* <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/childrensplan/>

2 The term local authority used throughout this document means the county level or unitary authority except where otherwise specified.

- 1.5 The CYPP is central to the work of Children's Trusts – it is the defining statement of strategic planning and priorities for children, young people and families in an area. Children's Trusts need to deliver measurable improvements for all children and young people across all five of the Every Child Matters Outcomes. This means tackling inequalities and narrowing gaps by strengthening support for families and communities, schools and colleges and all providers of services for children and young people. By 2010 Children's Trusts should have in place consistent, high quality arrangements to provide identification and early intervention for all those who need additional help. And with the Education and Skills Act 2008 raising the participation age, it will be increasingly important to provide learning opportunities and support for all children and young people until they are 18, whatever their circumstances. Creating and sustaining effective partnerships to deliver these improvements will mean strengthening cooperation across all public services and with the third sector – and crucially – embedding these strategic objectives in the CYPP.
- 1.6 The CYPP sets the strategic commissioning framework within which partners will, together or individually, ensure delivery of services which improve outcomes for children and young people and families in the area. Currently, the CYPP is a local authority plan led by the Director of Children's Services (DCS) and Lead Member for Children's Services (LM). However, a key theme in this guidance is the important role of Children's Trust Boards in demonstrating wider 'ownership' of the CYPP by setting the strategic vision and jointly developing the plan with Children's Trust partners and other stakeholders. Most areas with effective Children's Trusts already have a Children's Trust Board although arrangements vary and there are different models and nomenclature across the country.<sup>3</sup> In this guidance the term Children's Trust Board applies to all these arrangements. The prominent role of the Children's Trust Board is consistent with and builds on the 2005 and 2007 CYPP regulations.<sup>4</sup> Legislative proposals are currently being developed to establish a statutory Children's Trust Board and to extend

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3 In some areas the CYPP is viewed as a partnership plan developed and monitored under the auspices of a Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership or Children and Young People's Board.

4 The 2005 and 2007 Children and Young People's Plan regulations are available at: <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2005/20052149.htm> and [http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi\\_20070057\\_en\\_1](http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2007/uksi_20070057_en_1)

ownership of the CYPP to all Children's Trust partners. New CYPP guidance will be issued to reflect any legislative changes.

## Content of this guidance

- 1.7 This guidance replaces previous guidance published in 2005 and 2007 and should be read in conjunction with: *Children's Trusts: Statutory guidance on inter-agency cooperation to improve well-being of children, young people and their families* (DCSF November 2008).<sup>5</sup>
- 1.8 **Section 2** brings together in one place a check list of the 2005 and 2007 CYPP regulations which set out the necessary steps a local authority must take in preparing, consulting, reviewing and publishing their CYPP. **Sections 3, 4 and 5** provide guidance on the scope, content and delivery of the CYPP. *Shaded text boxes provide reference to the current regulations.* Although advice in this guidance is based on the 2005 and 2007 regulations it takes into account the new local performance framework and the key messages contained in 2008 statutory guidance on Children's Trusts. In Section 3 (paragraphs 3.18 – 3.24) there is an extended discussion of the annual CYPP review. This is to clarify for local authorities the regulations on the annual review and what to consider in rolling forward a plan. The discussion takes into account the proposal, subject to necessary legislation, for all areas to have published new joint plans prepared by the Children's Trust Board by April 2011. In **Section 6** we look to the future. Local authorities may find it helpful to understand the legislative proposals to strengthen Children's Trusts – and where appropriate to consider developing their plans in the context of these proposals.

## Status of this guidance

- 1.9 This guidance is non-statutory but is based on the 2005 and 2007 CYPP regulations (see Appendix D and E). It is specifically aimed at Children's Trust partners and local authority officers with responsibility for the production, review and delivery of the plan.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/>

## Section 2: The essential requirements for CYPPs and the annual review

2.1 Section 17 of the Children Act 2004 provides the statutory basis for CYPPs and the Children and Young People's Plan regulations, published in 2005 and 2007. These regulations set out the steps that local authorities **must** undertake in preparing, consulting on, publishing and reviewing their CYPP.<sup>6</sup> These regulatory requirements are brought together below and expanded on more fully in Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the guidance.

<b>CYPP regulations require</b>
Each local authority to prepare a CYPP <sup>7</sup>
<b>Matters to be dealt with in the plan</b>
Each plan shall set out the improvements which the local authority intends to make during the period of the plan to the well-being of children and young persons in regard to the five Every Child Matters outcomes:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. physical and mental health and emotional well being;</li> <li>b. protection from harm and neglect;</li> <li>c. education, training and recreation;</li> <li>d. the contribution made by them to society; and</li> <li>e. social and economic well-being.</li> </ul>

6 There are two sets of regulations which set out what local authorities must do in regard to developing their CYPP: The Children and Young People Plan (England) Regulations 2005 and the Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007. See Appendix D and E.

7 4 star authorities under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment are exempted see paragraph 3.25.

Each plan shall include a statement on how the local authority intends to achieve the improvements in the five outcomes referred to above with specific reference to the following:

- (i) the integration of services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners to improve the well-being of children and young persons;
- (ii) arrangements made by the local authority to safeguard and promote welfare of children; and
- (iii) arrangements for early intervention and preventative action.

Each plan shall include:

- a. needs assessment against the outcomes;
- b. an outline of the key actions planned to achieve the improvements;
- c. a statement as to how the local authority's budget will be used to contribute to those improvements;
- d. a statement as to how the plan relates to the local authority's performance management and review of services for children and relevant young persons; and
- e. the arrangements under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 which the local authority propose to make for joint working with the local authority's relevant partners and other bodies the local authority consider appropriate.

#### **Timing of the publication of the plan**

Following publication of the first plan each subsequent plan shall be published no later than six weeks after the end of the plan period for the previous plan.

#### **Publishing the plan**

The local authority shall publish the plan by:

- a. placing it on the local authority's website;
- b. sending a copy of the plan to each of the persons and bodies with whom the local authority have made arrangements under section 10 the Children Act 2004; and
- c. depositing sufficient copies of the plan in public libraries and other places to which the public have access.

### Consultation during the preparation of the plan

During the preparation of the plan the local authority must consult<sup>8</sup>:

- a. such children, young people, families and carers as the local authority consider appropriate;
- b. such persons or bodies representing children, young persons or families as the local authority consider appropriate;
- c. the appropriate diocesan authority for any foundation or voluntary school situated in the local authority's area which is a Church of England or Roman Catholic Church school;
- d. schools<sup>9</sup>;
- e. the schools forums;
- f. the schools admission forums;
- g. persons or bodies providing voluntary services relating to children and young persons in the local authority's area;
- h. such groups of persons representing local communities as the local authority consider appropriate;
- i. the Local Safeguarding Children Board for the local authority's area; and
- j. each of the local authority's relevant partners under section 10 of the Children Act 2004.<sup>10</sup>

### Review of the plan

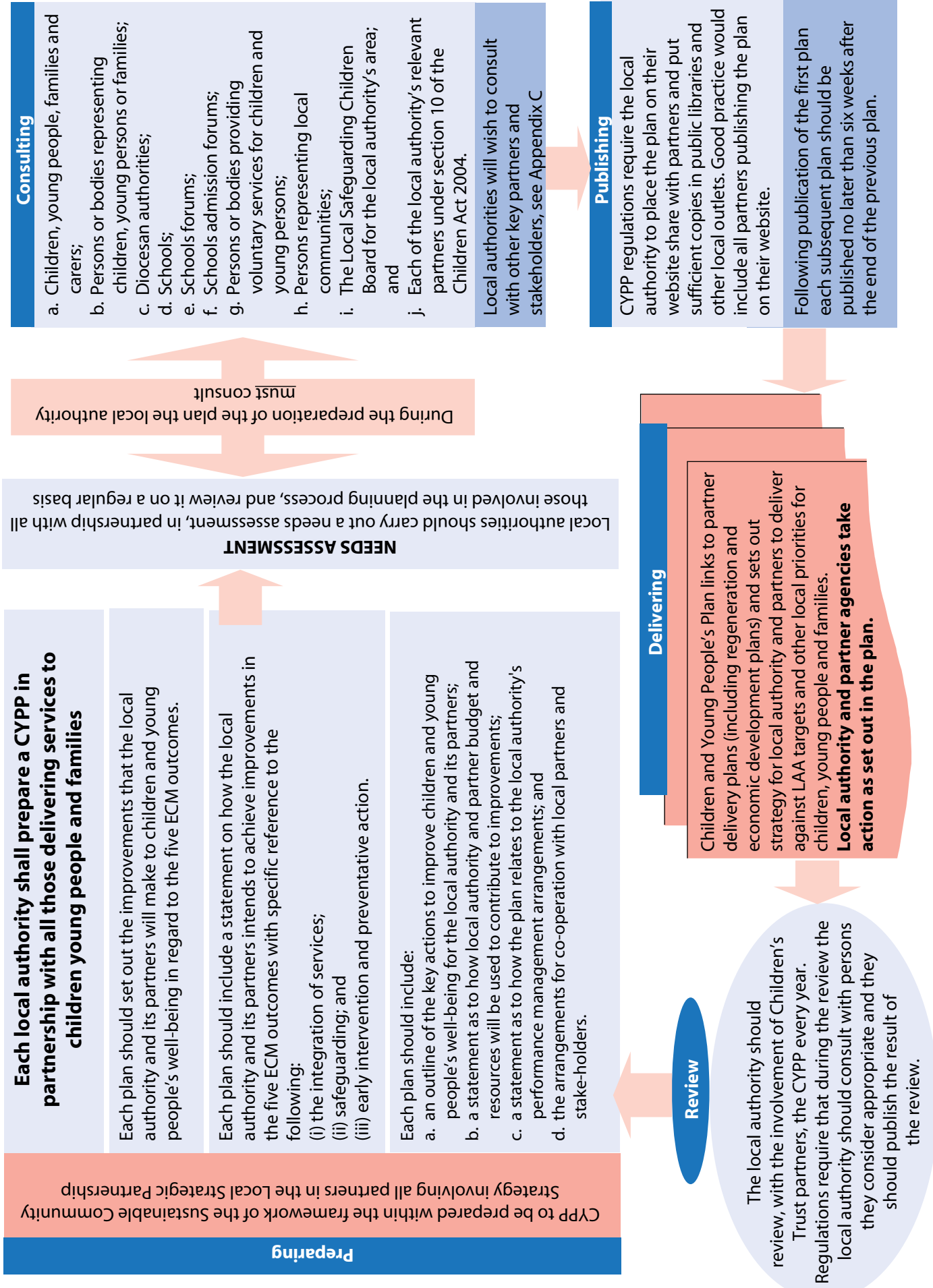
The local authority shall review the plan in each year in which the local authority is not required to publish a plan.

- a. During the conduct of such a review the local authority shall consult such persons as they consider appropriate.
- b. The local authority shall publish the result of the review in a manner they consider appropriate.

8 The requirement for the local authority to consult with the school organisation committee no longer stands as they were abolished from May 2007. The regulations covering consultation in preparation of the CYPP will be revised in 2009 subject to Parliamentary approval.

9 'Schools' has the same definition as in section 4 of the Education Act 1996, and is very broad – i.e. an educational institution outside the FE and HE sector which provides primary and/or secondary education including independent schools and Academies. Consultation will be with the person or body of persons responsible for the management of the school (so for maintained schools, this will be the governing body).

10 Now that the Education and Skills Act 2008 has received Royal Assent, the regulations covering consultation in preparation of the CYPP will be revised in 2009 to include the other persons and bodies (of any nature) who exercise functions, or are engaged in activities, relevant to the provision of 14-19 education or training in the Children Services Authority area.



## Section 3: Scope of the CYPP

The CYPP must cover services for all those in the area aged 0 to 19, young people aged 20 and over leaving care and young people up to the age of 25 with learning difficulties.<sup>11</sup>

The CYPP will set out the improvements which the local authority intends to make during the plan to the well-being of children and relevant young persons for each of the five Every Child Matters outcomes.<sup>12</sup>

- 3.1 The duty to prepare the CYPP is given to the local authority, alongside its duty under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 to make arrangements to secure co-operation between itself, 'relevant partners' and others it considers appropriate to improve the well-being of local children and young people. The duty to prepare a CYPP falls within the remit of the DCS working with the LM to develop and implement the CYPP, as set out in sections 18 and 19 of the Children Act 2004 and statutory guidance on their role and responsibilities.<sup>13</sup>
- 3.2 The CYPP is the single, statutory, strategic, overarching plan for all services which directly affect children and young people in the area, showing how the local authority and all relevant partners will integrate provision to improve well-being across all five ECM outcomes and focus on specific challenges and priorities. It is not a detailed operational plan. The CYPP will need to be underpinned by local authority and partner plans operating at different levels to accomplish specific goals and to manage delivery on a day to day basis. Both the CYPP and the annual review should be drawn up in accordance with equalities legislation.<sup>14</sup>

11 Section 10(9) Children Act 2004.

12 Regulation 4, of The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

13 Consultation (concludes 10 February 2009) on revised *Guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services and the Lead Member for Children's Services* <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/>

14 <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/disability/disabilityandthedda/dda2005/>

- 3.3 The updated *Every Child Matters Outcomes Framework* (2008) provides an overview of the ECM outcomes and aims which the CYPP will cover.<sup>15</sup> The document demonstrates how the national *Children's Plan* fits with *Every Child Matters*, the 2007 Public Service Agreements and the National Indicator Set of measures against which local area performance is assessed.

### The integration, early intervention and safeguarding statement

The CYPP must include a statement on how the local authority intends to achieve improvements with reference to the integration of services, early intervention and prevention and safeguarding.<sup>16</sup>

- 3.4 The national *Children's Plan* describes a vision of improving outcomes for all children and young people, reducing inequalities and narrowing the gap between those who do well and those who do not. To achieve this aim all areas are expected to have, by 2010, consistent high quality arrangements to identify all children who need additional help and to intervene early to support them. This includes building on the targeted youth support (TYS) reforms which every area should be putting in place.<sup>17</sup> The CYPP should recognize that supporting children and young people will also involve supporting parents and their families – drawing on work undertaken in implementing local parenting strategies and in implementing 'Think Family' reforms.
- 3.5 The CYPP has a vital role in delivering the *Children's Plan* ambitions and must provide a statement of how to achieve the improvements across each of the five *Every Child Matters* outcomes with specific references to the following:
- (i) the integration of services provided by the local authority and its relevant partners to improve the well-being of children and relevant young persons;
  - (ii) arrangements made under section 11(2) of the Children Act 2004 (arrangements to safeguard and promote welfare); and
  - (iii) arrangements for early intervention and preventative action.

<sup>15</sup> <http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?PageFunction=productdetails&PageMode=publications&ProductId=DCSF-00331-2008>

<sup>16</sup> Regulation 4, The Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007.

<sup>17</sup> For additional information on TYS see Appendix B.

## Timing and duration

A new CYPP must be prepared and should be published no later than six weeks after the end of the plan period for the previous plan.<sup>18</sup>

- 3.6 To permit maximum flexibility in joint planning, the CYPP regulations do not define the duration of the CYPP.<sup>19</sup> However, a period of three years provides a good basis for medium to long term commissioning, reflected in provider agreements and contracts. Areas which wish to have a three-year rolling plan, reviewed, updated and rolled forward annually, will in effect be creating a new three-year CYPP each year. Discussion on reviewing and rolling forward a CYPP can be found at paragraphs 3.18-3.24.

## Consultation and participation

The local authority must consult all those covered by the section 10 Children Act 2004 duty to co-operate as well as involve a range of other partners specified in regulations.<sup>20</sup>

- 3.7 CYPP regulations state that local authorities must consult with 'relevant partners' under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 and a range of other bodies and individuals including children, young people, schools and the Local Safeguarding Children Board.<sup>21</sup> Local authorities will want to consider which partnerships and groups they wish to consult in addition to those that must be consulted under CYPP regulations. For a full list of who should be consulted and suggested additional groups, for example Sure Start Children's Centres, the 14-19 Partnership and relevant local faith groups, see Appendix C.
- 3.8 It will be important to consult at a **formative stage** to provide real scope for involving bodies, agencies and communities in shaping policy, agreeing priorities and the best way of working jointly to tackle them. This means scheduling enough time for a full discussion of available local information and allowing additional evidence to be sought from a range of interested parties.

18 Regulation 5, The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

19 For the new unitary local authorities starting on 1 April 2009, Regulation 12(1)(b)(ii) of SI 2008/2867 The Local Government (Structural Changes) (Transitional Arrangements) (No.2) Regulations 2008 applies: namely that they should have a CYPP in place within 1 year.

20 Regulation 7, The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005 and Regulation 5, The Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulation 2007.

21 'Schools' means both maintained schools and independent schools, including Academies.

- 3.9 The genuine participation of children, young people, parents, carers and families is crucially important.<sup>22</sup> They should all be encouraged to look at their current service provision and be asked about their hopes and aspirations for the future – to help develop a vision of what their services, communities and neighbourhoods should deliver. Local authority good practice shows that children's voices need to be at the heart of service improvements and planning for sustainable futures.<sup>23</sup> In consulting with parents local authorities should consider the needs of fathers as well as mothers and ensure that their views and needs are actively sought and considered. Many local authorities also consult people without direct caring responsibilities, perhaps through district assemblies and parish councils, recognizing that as neighbours and as friends of families, they have the potential to make a positive impact on the lives of children. This will present particular challenges – communities have wide-ranging needs, communities and individuals may suffer complex disadvantages and views may differ. Views might be sought through Youth Parliaments and Councils, School Councils, Parent Councils and Children in Care Councils and through arranging special events.
- 3.10 Some local partners have developed their own participation standards, often based on the National Youth Agency's publication 'Hear by Right'.<sup>24</sup> Save the Children has produced publications on consulting children and young people.<sup>25</sup> The National Children's Bureau (NCB) has produced a series of six leaflets *Listening as a Way of Life* on listening to young children, with details of research, practice and methods.<sup>26</sup> The Fatherhood Institute has produced guidance on reaching men as well as women in consultations.<sup>27</sup> In respect of asylum seeking families, it may be helpful to contact the National Asylum Support Service.<sup>28</sup>
- 3.11 The CYPP will also provide the strategic direction for the local area's approach to the delivery of Sure Start Children's Centres and their services.

22 Supporting the development of children and young people's plans (CYPPs). The case-study data (NFER 2008) <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/research-areas/pims-data/summaries/analysis-of-children-and-young-peoples-plans-2007.cfm>

23 Sustainable Development focuses on resource use and ways of living and behaving that allows people to meet their basic needs and enjoy a good quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations.

24 <http://hbr.nya.org.uk/>

25 <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/en/index.htm>

26 [www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk)

27 <http://www.fatherhoodinstitute.org>

28 <http://www.asylumsupport.info/nass.htm>

Key partners across sectors should develop effective multi-agency working for centres and it is therefore important to ensure that the views of parents, providers, agencies and other interested parties are taken into account in identifying needs and planning and developing services.

- 3.12 The national *Children's Plan* emphasised schools' engagement with Children's Trusts and making a reality of the 21st century school – sitting at the heart of a wider system of children's services.<sup>29</sup> The Children's Trust Board will want to develop local solutions for including the full range of local schools and their representation on the Board as active partners in the planning and delivery of services and in the arrangements for consulting with school forums and school admission forums. Schools are required to have regard to the plan when undertaking their own strategic planning and the CYPP is part of the core data for school self evaluation.<sup>30</sup>
- 3.13 Work on the CYPP must involve the 14-19 Partnership. The 14-19 Partnership has a lead role on the 14-19 Plan, which sets the overall strategy for learning and support for young people and which is an integral part of the Children and Young People's Plan. This will help ensure that through the 14-19 Partnership local authorities are engaging with schools and colleges, employers and work-based learning providers on providing learning and support for young people and establishing the right local delivery arrangements.<sup>31</sup>
- 3.14 The third sector, which can often reach groups of children and young people and families who are not engaged with statutory services, should also be actively involved in the preparation of the CYPP. A local umbrella organisation may represent the third sector otherwise it may be necessary to design approaches to consultation in a way which is as inclusive of the third sector as possible. Aside from contributing experience and views, the third sector can provide useful data for needs assessment. Participation of the third sector should be in line with the *Compact Code of Good Practice on Consultation and Policy Appraisal*.<sup>32</sup>
- 3.15 Local authorities should make arrangements to involve Jobcentre Plus in service planning. In forthcoming legislation Government intends to include

29 <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/>

30 Section 38 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

31 The Education and Skills Bill 2008 has received Royal Assent and young people will have to stay in education and training until 17 from 2013 and to 18 from 2015.

32 <http://www.thecompact.org.uk>

Jobcentre Plus as a statutory 'relevant partner' of the Children's Trust to help ensure that partners consider their contribution to tackling child poverty within each of the five outcomes. Jobcentre Plus makes an important local contribution to tackling child poverty and is already under a duty in the Childcare Act 2006 to work in partnership with local authorities, PCTs and SHAs to improve outcomes through integrated early years services. It is important that at a local level their services are delivered in conjunction with wider children's services to engage the most disadvantaged and vulnerable families who are in need of greatest support.

## Publication

The CYPP must be published by the local authority.<sup>33</sup>

3.16 CYPP regulations require the local authority to place the plan on their website, send a copy to all the Children's Trust partners and put sufficient copies in public libraries and other local outlets. Good practice would include:

- all partners in the CYPP publishing the plan on their own website;
- providing a 'child and young person-friendly' version for each child in the care of the local authority;
- providing a 'parent friendly' version of the plan;
- proactively disseminating the completed plan and/or weblink to each stakeholder person/organisation engaged in the consultation.

<sup>33</sup> Regulation 6, The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

- 3.17 The local authority, through the Children's Trust Board, will want to consider giving the CYPP, or a summary, as wide a circulation as possible. Thought should be given to making the plan available in Sure Start Children's Centres, schools and colleges and providing, when requested, a summary of the plan in different community languages or formats such as large print and Braille to ensure accessibility.

### Annual review of CYPP

The CYPP must be reviewed each year unless the local authority is publishing a new plan. During the review the local authority shall consult and publish the result.<sup>34</sup>

- 3.18 The annual review should assess progress against milestones, consider the latest data on outcomes and whether circumstances or needs have changed and how emerging needs will be addressed. For example, the review will need to ensure the CYPP is properly aligned with the local area agreement (LAA) review and is adjusted to reflect additional needs assessments carried out by partners during the previous period.
- 3.19 The review should be carried out with the appropriate involvement of all the partners to the plan. Although there is no expectation of extensive consultation about service changes that were explored for the initial development of the CYPP it may be necessary to consult specific groups in order to evaluate how well existing services deliver and to respond to emerging or changing needs. Both the plan and the review must be published by the local authority and each should be shared with the relevant Government Office.
- 3.20 Consultation on proposed legislative changes to strengthen Children's Trusts indicated strong support for improving the consistency and impact of CYPPs. Subject to future legislation this will mean putting the Children's Trust Board on a statutory footing and placing the duty to produce the CYPP on the new Board. This would extend the ownership of the CYPP to all Children's Trust Board members and help develop a genuinely integrated partnership plan. It is expected that all areas will need to develop a new joint CYPP for publication by April 2011.

<sup>34</sup> Regulation 8, The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

- 3.21 To permit flexibility in joint planning CYPP regulations do not define the duration of the plan. Local authorities also have the flexibility to review and roll forward an existing plan rather than creating an entirely new plan *although it would not be good practice to regularly extend the plan end date*. For those local authorities where the proposed legislation will mean that any new plan would have a very limited lifespan before it needs to be completely re-done, existing regulations allow for the plan to be rolled forward. Local authorities review and publish their CYPP at different points of the year and they will want to consider how best to use this flexibility to align the timing of their CYPP with the proposed requirement to publish a new joint CYPP by April 2011.
- 3.22 Local authorities that wish to review and roll forward their existing plan should ensure that **all** partners and stakeholders are aware of the proposal to extend the plan period rather than develop a new plan. The best way to do this would be to ensure that the local authority consults all the bodies listed in regulation 7 (i.e. those who must be consulted on the preparation of a new plan) on the proposal to extend the plan, rather than following the regulation 8 review process of only consulting those who they consider appropriate. This approach will help to avoid any later argument that the regulation 7 bodies, who were expecting a new plan, were not aware of the proposal to extend the period of the existing plan.<sup>35</sup>
- 3.23 The requirement to publish the CYPP review provides an opportunity to refresh local authority engagement with the community and will contain some important messages that should be disseminated through the Children's Trust partnership.

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35 Regulation 7, Children and Young Peoples Plan (England) Regulations 2005

3.24 Good practice would mean the review should contain a brief comprehensive report providing an overview of the lives and well-being of children and young people in the local area across each of the five ECM outcomes. The report should bring together and summarise in an accessible form data and inspection information and should show what has been achieved *in practice* and where there is more to do. It should enable parents and young people to make informed judgements about how effective the Children's Trust has been and strengthen public accountability. The annual report should be published, as part of the annual CYPP review, on the website of all Children's Trust partners.

### **Exemption to preparing a CYPP**

3.25 Local authorities categorised as '4 stars' under Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) are not required to have a CYPP, although all have chosen to do so. Should a local authority cease to be '4 star', the requirement to prepare a plan will take effect from 1 April in the second year following the change, to allow time for preparation of the CYPP. Proposed legislation to require the Children's Trust Board to develop and implement the CYPP will mean the CYPP is no longer a statutory local authority plan and the exemption will no longer be relevant.

# Section 4: The content of the CYPP

## Arrangements for co-operation

The CYPP will set out the arrangements for co-operation with local partners.<sup>36</sup>

- 4.1 The CYPP is firmly positioned within the overall vision for the area contained in the Sustainable Community Strategy and is **the** key driver for improving outcomes for children and young people. The CYPP is a work of partnership. It brings together all those under the 'duty to cooperate' in section 10 of the Children Act 2004 and other stakeholders across the area to share information, prioritise and make decisions about the range of services on offer for children, young people and their families. It is important to provide clarity in the CYPP on how all of these different bodies and agencies will work together and coordinate their strategies to meet the objectives of the plan.
- 4.2 Those leading the development of the CYPP need to have a strong strategic vision to join up services and be able to:
- influence strategic planning: ensure priorities for children, young people and families are embedded in economic development, community regeneration and tackling worklessness;
  - take a longer-term perspective: recognising the interests and rights of future generations for a strong, sustainable and just society.
- 4.3 Every CYPP should set out the arrangements for co-operation for each of the 'essential features' of a Children's Trust as set out in chapter 3 of 2008 Children's Trust statutory guidance:
- Child, Parent and Family Focused – engaging children and families.
  - Inter-Agency Governance – leadership and whole system change.
  - Integrated Strategy – strategic planning and commissioning.

<sup>36</sup> Regulation 4(3), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

- Integrated Processes – fostering professional understanding between services.
- Integrated Front-Line Delivery – the right services where they are needed.

## Needs assessment

The CYPP must include a needs assessment against outcomes for children and young people.<sup>37</sup>

- 4.4 A key element of the CYPP is the requirement to carry out a comprehensive needs assessment, in partnership with all those involved in the planning process, and to review it on a regular basis.
- 4.5 The needs assessment is a requisite component of the strategic commissioning process and the resulting data will drive down to different levels throughout the partnership to aid decision making and prioritisation. The needs assessment will draw on analysis carried out by partners, in particular the statutory Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). Data should be analysed on a number of different levels – regional, community, neighbourhood and at the level of a single agency or service. The analysis should incorporate routinely collected data sets including published or unpublished research papers, major surveys such as epidemiological surveys, participation data and as appropriate draw on aggregated and anonymised data collected through one-to-one interviews, focus groups and individual assessments.
- 4.6 Children's Trust partners and stakeholders should be actively involved to collect, organise and systematically analyse these data, produce trends over time and provide an assessment of future needs. Partnerships will need to build capacity to do this work. However, given the depth and breadth of data sources brought together for the needs assessment it is not expected that the CYPP should contain the whole data set – but it should provide an overall summary of demographics, key outcomes and an explanation of the prioritisation process.
- 4.7 The needs assessment should result in a profile of children, young people and families in the area and draw attention to the variation in outcomes

<sup>37</sup> Regulation 4(2)(b), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

between different local areas through baseline and trend data and by providing measurements against relevant national indicators and local area agreement (LAA) targets. Data on children and young people's health, safety, development and well-being across all five outcomes will show where outcomes most need to be improved and where to prioritise.

- 4.8 The Children's Trust Board will want to look in more detail at individual neighbourhoods and communities and the impact of social class where there is evidence of particular challenges. This will include the need to consider outcomes measures for specific groups of children and young people especially those looked after by the local authority, wherever they are placed and children with disabilities or learning difficulties including speech, language and communication needs. It should be recognised that the existing data may not cover the most vulnerable children. Children and young people in vulnerable groups have particular and complex needs – they must be met by targeted action, which may involve family support, within a wider pattern of universal services to narrow the achievement gap between them and their peers.
- 4.9 The CYPP should be fully consistent with and informed by the statutory JSNA which identifies current and future health and well-being needs of the local population, across all age groups, in the light of existing services.<sup>38</sup> The JSNA requires contributions from a range of stakeholders including statutory partners in the Local Strategic Partnership and providers from the public, private and third sector. The JSNA has a focus on outcomes, partnership working and consultation and should be fully consistent with the CYPP process. To avoid duplication, the CYPP should be integrated with the JSNA and draw on the same datasets. The data to inform the health and wellbeing aspects of the five ECM outcomes will eventually be contained within the core dataset for JSNA, together with a wider range of information that can be used to support the CYPP.
- 4.10 Key needs will also be articulated in the 14-19 Plan (see paragraph 3.13). The 14-19 Plan will set out how local areas are planning for raising the participation age to 17 from 2013 and to 18 from 2015 and for delivering the 14-19 entitlement to learning and support that will encourage young people to stay in education and training. This strategic plan will set out the provision and other services such as information advice and guidance (IAG)

<sup>38</sup> Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007).

needed for young people and their families and it will inform the commissioning of education and other services for this group.<sup>39</sup>

- 4.11 CYPPs will need to show how the local authority is providing access to good quality, comprehensive and impartial IAG. Responsibility for commissioning IAG services and the funding that goes with that responsibility has been transferred to local authorities and this should be reflected in the CYPP. Guidance on IAG defines the services that local authorities, working with their Children's Trust partners, are expected to commission and manage.<sup>40</sup>

## Deciding priorities and key actions

The CYPP must include an outline of key actions, with timescales, to meet priorities.<sup>41</sup>

- 4.12 The CYPP as part of the wider Sustainable Community Strategy should set out the 'overarching vision' and strategic priorities for children and young people in the local area. It should describe what improvements will be achieved for children and young people in the local area and how and when these improvements will be delivered. Improving outcomes for children and young people will also involve supporting their parents and meeting wider family needs.
- 4.13 A fundamental aim of the CYPP is to demonstrate how local services will help to reduce inequality in outcomes between children and young people and their peers and how priorities, identified through the needs assessment and reflected in the LAA process will be taken forward through strong partnership working. While there is no fixed national blueprint for mandating how local priorities should be addressed, all CYPPs should provide satisfactory evidence that progress is being made across each of the five ECM Outcomes including strategic action to:
- **secure the wellbeing and health of children and young people;**
  - **safeguard the young and vulnerable;**

<sup>39</sup> From 2010 the responsibility for commissioning and funding for 16-19 education will transfer from the LSC to local authorities.

<sup>40</sup> *Quality Standards for Young People's Information Advice and Guidance* (October 2007).

<sup>41</sup> Regulation 4(2)(c), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

- **close the gap in educational achievement for disadvantaged children;**
- **ensure that young people are participating and achieving their potential to 18 and beyond;**
- **keep children and young people on the path to success; and**
- **deliver system-wide reforms to the way services for children and young people work together.**

- 4.14 Specific key issues that local authorities may wish to consider in the preparation of the CYPP are set out, under each of the five ECM headings, in Appendix A. It is good practice to include coverage of the needs of children in care, children with complex needs, and disabled children.
- 4.15 Priorities should be set out against key actions and timescales showing clearly what needs to be done to achieve them and the milestones and targets against which they can be measured. It is essential that priorities should be agreed by Children's Trust partners and stakeholders – this will help strengthen accountability and coordinate decisions about the contribution each partner will make towards improving outcomes including the levels and types of provision and the resources, finances, people, skills and assets required to meet that provision. The Children's Trust Board should have appropriate processes in place for resolving any differences over priorities and objectives.
- 4.16 The local area agreement (LAA) will inform the CYPP – which will set out a strategy for delivering the targets. However, the plan will go wider than LAA targets to focus on a set of key priorities, across the ECM agenda, in line with identified local needs. The choice of safeguarding indicators to which targets are attached will vary from area to area, but every CYPP **must** set out the arrangements made by the local authority to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.<sup>42</sup> This will be particularly important in the light of the Secretary of State's request to local authorities, in his letter of 18 November 2008, to review and strengthen safeguarding arrangements.<sup>43</sup> The LSCB **must** be consulted during the development of the CYPP on issues that affect how children are safeguarded – and under CYPP regulations this

<sup>42</sup> Regulation 4(ii), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007.

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/localauthorities/index.cfm?action=mailshot&mailshotID=16931&categoryID=17&subcategoryID=122>

is a requirement.<sup>44</sup> Requirements for safeguarding are included in all four of the NHS national standard contracts; for acute services, mental health services, community services and transport.

## The CYPP and commissioning

- 4.17 Effective strategic commissioning is at the heart of developing preventative strategies and improving outcomes for children and young people. There is a particular challenge in seeking strategic alignment between different commissioning programmes in the public, private, and voluntary sectors when strategic drivers of individual sectors and private providers vary significantly but it is the role of the local authority, through the Children's Trust Board, to maximise alignment between the CYPP and commissioning programmes and to provide a context in which commissioning for children, young people and families can operate.<sup>45</sup> Strategic commissioning should continue for young people with disabilities or learning difficulties up to the age of 25 and the needs of young people with profound and complex learning difficulties should be costed into aligned or pooled budgets.<sup>46</sup> The Commissioning Support Programme will help Children's Trusts partners develop their skills and understanding of commissioning for children and young people, and the Government will publish a framework for joint commissioning to improve health outcomes alongside the forthcoming Child Health Strategy.<sup>47</sup>
- 4.18 One of the most significant changes in commissioning will be from 2010, when responsibility for commissioning and funding 16 -19 education will transfer from the Learning and Skills Council to local authorities. Local authorities and their Children's Trust partners will need to look to the 14-19 Plan as the basis for commissioning provision for this group<sup>48</sup>

44 Regulation 7(g), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005.

45 Joint planning and commissioning framework for children, young people and maternity services (DfES, March 2006).

[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning)

46 Agreement Template For A Pooled Fund, Section 10 Of The Children Act 2004

[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning/jointfunding/](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning/jointfunding/)

47 See Appendix B

48 Through the REACT programme that will be operational from January 2009, the LGA will work closely with the Association of Directors of Children's Services to support local authorities in building capacity to ensure the smooth transfer of commissioning and funding from the LSC. They will also be supported in their new responsibilities to commission and fund learning for 16-19 year olds by a new, slim-line agency – the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA).

- 4.19 Strategic commissioning is an activity which involves all Children's Trust partners and will operate by drawing, as appropriate, on pooled or aligned resources including finance, capital and staff. In developing the CYPP commissioners and providers of services should work together even if individual providers are not specifically funding services. For example, for children's health, commissioners will include the PCT and GP practice-based commissioners, but they will also wish to engage providers of health services in the acute and private sectors, as well as GPs and other primary care professionals, in discussion about services.<sup>49</sup>
- 4.20 The role of schools (including extended schools) Sure Start Children's Centres and other providers in relation to commissioning services for children, young people and families will need to be considered – the Children's Trust should take decisions about the appropriate level and scope for operational commissioning of services and support for operational-level commissioners.
- 4.21 Children's Trusts will need to understand, develop and shape their local markets to ensure that identified needs – including short-term increases in demand – can be met. This will mean actively involving all existing and potential suppliers at an early stage, including those from the third sector and independent sector, in their commissioning processes, discussing solutions to any potential supply difficulties and specifying outcomes-focused contracts which encourage innovation and flexibility as well as stability over time.

## The use of resources

The CYPP must include a statement of how the use of the local authority's resources will contribute to the improvement of the outcomes.<sup>50</sup>

- 4.22 The quality of service provision is one of the most important factors in delivering overall outcomes. This places an even greater emphasis on maintaining those services focused on prevention and early intervention. Improved outcomes depend on effective coordination and use of resources – increasing investment in universal prevention and early intervention –

<sup>49</sup> Note: It will be a responsibility of PCTs to manage the provider organizations with which they have a contractual relationship via those contracts and to ensure that the provider is complying with contract expectations.

<sup>50</sup> Regulation 4(2)(d), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

while maintaining essential services. The CYPP should be clear on how priorities have been costed, the resources identified and where accountabilities lie for resources (pooled or otherwise).

- 4.23 The CYPP should show how the budgets of local partners, including the third sector, involved in the preparation of the CYPP will be used to contribute to the delivery of the plan.<sup>51</sup> Children's Trusts that have entered into formal pooled budget arrangements or budget alignment arrangements report that doing so is particularly effective in cementing partnerships and in assisting joint commissioning.<sup>52</sup> The CYPP should set out progress with the pooling and aligning of budgets and how Children's Trust partners intend to integrate the use of assets, resources and new technologies in support of delivery. This will include identifying opportunities for the shared use of property to deliver cross-sector, cross-agency, co-located community based and outreach services to users. It is particularly important that where the local authority and the PCT have agreed to joint action without a pooled budget both clearly state the level of resources they will commit to and say how they have aligned budgets or apportioned funding.
- 4.24 Detailed financial information is not required in the CYPP but the statement of resources should be sufficient to give confidence that the actions proposed by the CYPP are realistic, affordable and not merely a set of aspirations. Financial information should be available to elected members and the boards of local partners when they are endorsing the CYPP.

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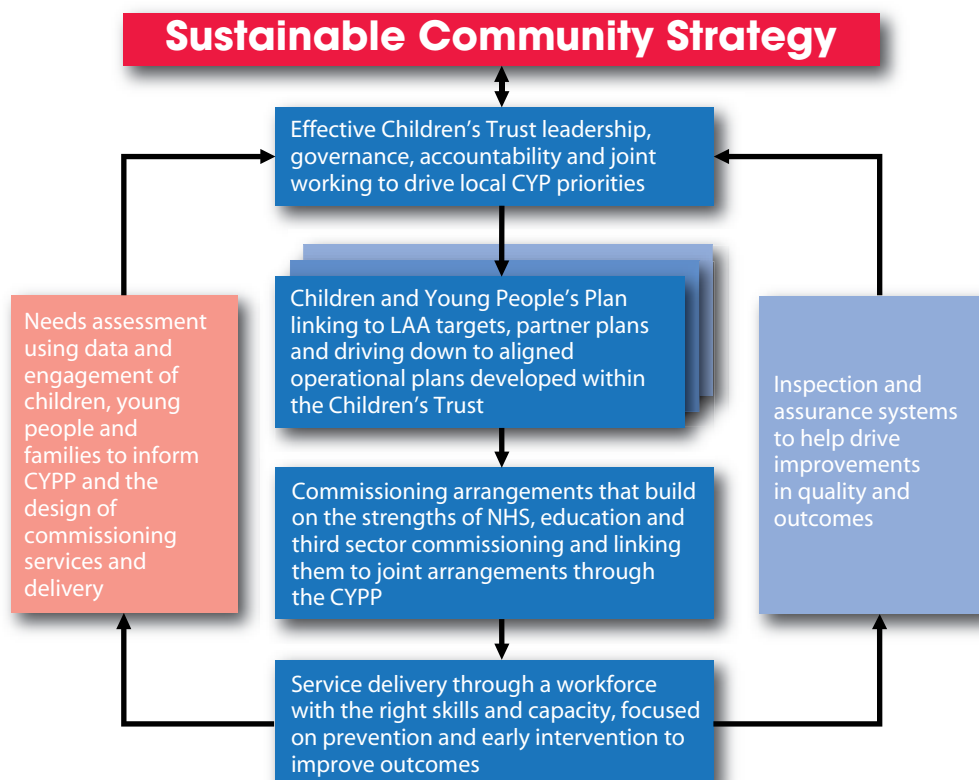
51 In health the budgets of providers in relation to procured services are the commissioners budgets – the amount invested with a provider will be specified in the contract.

52 Guidance on pooling budgets can be found at:  
<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning/jointfunding/>.

# Section 5: Delivering the CYPP through the Children's Trust

## The CYPP and the wider system

- 5.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy sets the overall strategic direction and long term vision and key priorities for the economic, social and environmental well-being for an area. Within this the CYPP is the single, statutory, strategic, overarching plan for all services affecting children and young people and their families in the local area. This means that all the work that the local authority, Children's Trust partners and stakeholders undertake to improve the outcomes for children and young people should be aligned with and flow logically from the CYPP.
- 5.2 As the following simplified diagram sets out, an effective CYPP will mean ensuring that joined up local governance, commissioning and planning strategies all feed through to service delivery.



- 5.3 The Children's Trust Board has a central role in implementing, monitoring and refreshing the CYPP and ensuring that children and young people's issues are fully integrated into the concerns of the wider community through the Local Strategic Partnership. The CYPP will feed into and help deliver the overarching local authority Sustainable Community Strategy. The plans of partners will form a comprehensive array of inter-related strategic plans, commissioning plans, higher level action plans and operational plans operating at different levels and covering different target groups – but all should be drawn up explicitly to link into or deliver the CYPP.
- 5.4 As drawn out above, CYPP priorities should not just drive the work of the Children's Trust but flow into wider planning activity to address the unique combinations of disadvantage that exist locally. This means the Local Strategic Partnership simultaneously pursuing strategic change to deliver, for example, community regeneration and economic development in local areas and to address worklessness, high crime, poor quality housing and the physical environment. There are strong and statistically positive relationships between delivering improvements on all these issues and improved outcomes for children, young people and families. For example, findings suggest that as the housing and physical environment in an area improves, crime rates reduce; as the worklessness rate of an area decreases, health outcomes improve.<sup>53</sup>
- 5.5 It should be a key task of the Children's Trust Board to ensure that the CYPP is genuinely strategically aligned with planning cycles of partners. The Youth Crime Action Plan emphasises the need for the increasing integration of Youth Offending Teams and wider children's services. The CYPP can play a key role in achieving this outcome by ensuring that the needs of young people who have offended or who are at risk of offending are properly incorporated within the local planning framework for all children. The CYPP should be aligned with the local Youth Offending Team Plan, Local Policing Plans and the priorities of the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.<sup>54</sup> This will enable youth justice services to work more effectively with their local partners and providers of wider services for

53 New Deal for Communities: A Synthesis of New Programme Wide Evidence: 2006-07 (NDC National Evaluation Phase 2 Research Report 39)  
<http://www.neighbourhood.gov.uk/publications.asp?did=1930>

54 <http://www.crimereduction.homeoffice.gov.uk/partnerships2.htm>

- children and young people, so that children in the youth justice system receive the support they need to address their wider needs.
- 5.6 As set out earlier, (see paragraph 4.10) CYPPs will have a key role in the delivery of learning and support for young people who will have to stay in education or training to at least 18. Excellent opportunities and support available to young people at all stages of their development will be vital to convince them of the benefits of staying in education and training. The Government is asking partners nationally to encourage joint planning of the CYPP in their guidance to local partners and this is likely to be a requirement in future legislation.
- 5.7 Joint planning between the local authority and its health partners, particularly Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) is crucial for securing better outcomes for all children and young people. The NHS Operating Framework for 2009/10 renews the existing commitment on PCTs to set operational plans for areas of concern in agreement with partners as well as through consultation with patients, public and staff and through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.<sup>55</sup> PCT operational planning and the CYPP should be consistent with strong read across on the shared priorities for children, young people and families.
- 5.8 In some local authority areas, the local partnership map will be complicated by the presence of more than one PCT and by different funding and commissioning cycles. To help address these and other challenges the 2008 Children's Trust statutory guidance sets an expectation that Directors of Children's Services will consult with PCTs and additionally invite senior-level representation from the PCT on every Children's Trust Board – a representative with the experience of and accountability for children's health. In addition, the Government expects Directors of Children's Services to consult PCTs to secure a lead GP on the Children's Trust Board to add their professional expertise and offer advice on how to involve the wider community of GPs in developing and delivering the CYPP.<sup>56</sup> Children's Services Advisors, working through the Government Offices in the regions, will work with local authorities and PCTs to help tackle these challenges.

<sup>55</sup> The Operating Framework for 2009/10 for the NHS in England (DH/NHS, December 2008).

<sup>56</sup> Children's Trusts: Statutory guidance on inter-agency cooperation to improve well-being of children, young people and their families see <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/resources-and-practice/IG00346/>

- 5.9 Local authorities, working with their partners and stakeholders, will need to link the CYPP with planning documents across the full spectrum of activity which affects children and young people, including local authority asset management plans and the business cases for large-scale procurements such as Building Schools for the Future. Operational plans should in all cases tie in with the development and use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Targeted Youth Support and include explicit links to the CYPP as the higher level, strategic, overarching plan.
- 5.10 The transformation of children's services under *Every Child Matters* has already delivered improvements in the ways that better integrated services meet the needs of children and young people. This needs to be built upon by ensuring adults' and children's services join up so that different parts of the system work more effectively around families. For example, adults' services may not take sufficient account of the implications for the family when an adult is receiving drug treatment or has mental health problems. Similarly, services working with children do not always know enough about a child's family context, for example if they are a young carer or have a parent in prison.
- 5.11 For the CYPP this means that planning for services for children and young people is coordinated with services working with families. For example, drug and alcohol treatment services should identify which clients are also parents and develop services that combine treatment with parenting classes and provide childcare to enable parents to attend. The Government wants local authorities and their partners to see support for parents as a continuum, from universal services to early intervention and preventative services. The whole range of services should be used as appropriate, starting with the provision of good high quality advice and information about services delivered under s12 of the Childcare Act 2006 through to targeting intensive interventions which tackle the most complex issues. Full use of the opportunities offered by children's centres, extended schools and other settings used by children should be made. The local parenting support strategy should inform the CYPP. The implementation of the 'think family' model developed by the Social Exclusion Task Force 'Families at Risk Review' will help systems changes at every level to ensure earlier identification of need, whole family assessments, multi-agency teams around the family, better information sharing, workforce development,

joined up planning and commissioning and better integrated adult and children's services.<sup>57</sup>

## Workforce strategies

- 5.12 The CYPP should be underpinned by a strategy for support and development of the local children and young people's workforce. This strategy should cover all Children's Trust partners and stakeholders (including NHS provider trusts, the third sector and the private sector) and should be developed by taking into account the 2020 workforce strategy.<sup>58</sup> The plan should be aligned with CYPP and promote real clarity about CYPP objectives and the long term vision for children and young people. Everyone who works with children and young people should understand their role and responsibilities within the Children's Trust and their part in improving outcomes. Workforce planning is likely to be a requirement for inclusion in future CYPPs under proposed legislation to strengthen Children's Trusts.
- 5.13 Local workforce strategies, owned by and covering all Children's Trust partners, should set out priorities for children, young people and families and show how partners and stakeholders will work together to ensure the children's workforce is equipped with the knowledge, skills and commitment needed to work effectively with others in more integrated services and settings. The Children's Workforce Development Council is providing support, including an on-line tool developed with partners, to help Children's Trusts develop workforce strategies.<sup>59</sup> Local strategies should consider issues including:
- a. how all Children's Trust partners will take account of the labour market implications for designing, commissioning and delivering services for children and young people and securing enough people of the right calibre;
  - b. how local areas propose improving skills and knowledge across the whole children's workforce, building on and incorporating the Common Core of Skills and Knowledge, to meet the needs of children and young people better;

<sup>57</sup> [http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/social\\_exclusion\\_task\\_force/families\\_at\\_risk.aspx](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/social_exclusion_task_force/families_at_risk.aspx)

<sup>58</sup> The 2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy (December 2008 DCSF) [www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/delivering-services/childrenandyoungpeoplesworkforce](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/delivering-services/childrenandyoungpeoplesworkforce)

<sup>59</sup> <http://onechildrensworkforce.cwdcouncil.org.uk/>

- c. local approaches to recruitment, professional and career development, developing HR capacity; and
- d. continuous development to embed good practice and develop leadership capacity and training opportunities to meet needs identified by LSCBs and to deliver effective integrated working.

### Performance management and target setting

The CYPP must include a statement as to how the plan relates to the authority's performance management and review of services for children and young persons.<sup>60</sup>

- 5.14 Partners' analysis of provision and need should be informed by the *Every Child Matters Outcomes Framework*. This framework sets out the five high level ECM outcomes which are important to children and young people and breaks these down into 25 more specific aims which have been drawn up in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. The framework also maps these outcomes against the national Public Service Agreements (PSAs) as well as the relevant National Indicators on which local areas report performance and from which each local strategic partnership negotiates and agrees up to 35 designated targets within its local area agreement (LAA).
- 5.15 For every local area the LAA represents (along with the statutory DCSF early years and education targets) the key "delivery contract" between central Government and local government and its partners. Where local partners have agreed to the target being specified in the LAA they are under a duty to have regard to the LAA targets which relate to them.<sup>61</sup> The Government has committed not to set targets for local areas other than through the LAA (apart from the DCSF statutory targets, which are set outside the LAA). Local areas can however include as many local (non-designated) targets in their LAA as they wish.
- 5.16 The CYPP should include all LAA targets (both designated and local) relevant to children and young people, as well as the statutory DCSF education and early years targets – and set out the strategy for delivering against these targets. The CYPP should also include local targets for

<sup>60</sup> Paragraph 4(2)(e), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulation 2005.

<sup>61</sup> Section 108 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

improving outcomes for children and young people which do not appear in the LAA, for example, those set by the PCT as part of the *NHS Operating Framework Vital Signs*, as it is important that all local plans affecting children and young people are aligned and consistent with the priorities set out in the LAA. The annual review of the CYPP should consider progress towards all targets set out in the CYPP, along with the implications for future action.

- 5.17 The LAA is a three year agreement, reviewed annually. The statutory DCSF education and early years targets will continue to be set and reviewed annually, with negotiations led on behalf of the Government by the National Strategies.<sup>62</sup> In considering appropriate levels for statutory targets, National Strategies will have regard to the wider negotiation of LAA priorities and targets. Similarly, GOs will continue to work closely with the National Strategies to ensure that LAA targets complement statutory targets. The LAA targets (both designated and local) and the statutory DCSF targets should be viewed together as a single suite of targets all designed to enable key partners – central Government, local authorities and their partners, including schools – to deliver on shared priorities in a way which best meets the needs and concerns of local people.
- 5.18 An effective Children's Trust Board should have a clear view of how outcomes across the local area are being delivered, what progress is being made, and review whether changes are necessary to accelerate progress. The Board will also want to ensure that local authority performance management systems and those of partners are aligned with CYPP objectives.
- 5.19 The CYPP does not need to be submitted to the DCSF, but Children's Services Advisors in GOs will wish to discuss the planning process, as well as progress in implementation, in their regular discussions with local authorities and other partners. All CYPPs, and the CYPP review, should be available by being published on each local authority website and on the website of partners.

<sup>62</sup> National Strategies are the professional development programmes for early years, primary and secondary school teachers, practitioners and managers. They are one of the Government's principal vehicles for improving the quality of learning and teaching in schools and early years settings and raising standards of attainment. The Strategies at a national and regional level are delivered by Capita Strategic Children's Services on behalf of DCSF.

## Inspection

- 5.20 The CYPP and latest annual review of the CYPP have been important in providing evidence for Ofsted's annual performance assessments and for joint area reviews of children's services. Those processes end in 2008, to be replaced from 2009 by new multi-inspectorate comprehensive area assessment (CAA). The CYPP and annual review will continue to be an important source of evidence for the CAA as will the Sustainable Community Strategy which should include priorities for children, young people and families.
- 5.21 The inspectorates consulted in summer 2008 on proposals for CAA, and intend to publish their CAA framework document in February 2009; the first annual reports under CAA are to be published in November 2009. CAA will assess prospects for improving outcomes through services delivered by the local authority and partners. It will seek to answer the question: How good is the well-being of children and young people? The CYPP and latest annual CYPP review will provide evidence of how partners contribute to the delivery of improved outcomes for children and young people in the area.

## Section 6: The future – proposed legislation to strengthen CYPPs

- 6.1 Local authorities may find the following legislative proposals a helpful context in developing a new CYPP and may want to use them to stimulate discussion and develop planning. However, it is important to underline that *these proposals currently have no basis in legislation*. They are subject to parliamentary approval and we plan to formally consult with local authorities and other stakeholders on any subsequent changes to the CYPP regulations in the autumn of 2009 (coming into force in the spring of 2010). **This would mean an expectation for all areas to prepare new plans for publication by April 2011.**
- 6.2 The proposed legislative changes will give the Children's Trust Board responsibility for producing the CYPP. In effect this means that the plan will then be "owned" by the Children's Trust partnership. The intention is to ensure that CYPPs have more impact, are applied more consistently across all authorities and have the resources to make a difference. Local authorities and their partners considering developing a new plan for 2009 onwards may want to consider how best to include these expectations in order to maximise the impact of their CYPP.
- 6.3 Three key pieces of legislation are proposed subject to Parliamentary approval:<sup>63</sup>
- (i) Extending the Children's Trust duty to cooperate in making the arrangements under s10 of the Children Act 2004 to maintained schools (and Academies), Sixth Form and Further Education Colleges and Jobcentre Plus;
  - (ii) Requiring all areas to have a Children's Trust Board; and
  - (iii) Extending the ownership of the CYPP to all statutory partners by placing the duty to produce the CYPP on the Children's Trust Board.

<sup>63</sup> *Delivering the Children's Plan – Strengthening Children's Trusts: legislative options*  
<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/>

- 6.4 The Government is also considering how best to use the CYPP to support local action to tackle child poverty. Local authorities make a vital contribution to reducing child poverty by improving the conditions for family life and narrowing the gap in outcomes between children in low income families and their peers. In discussions on the new CYPP regulations the Government will consult on the best way to ensure that local services improve the prospects for the most disadvantaged children.

# Appendix A: Key issues for consideration in developing the CYPP

## Be Healthy

- CYPP provides the strategic framework for coordinating the work of different agencies providing health services. Health-related strategies, for example the national Play Strategy<sup>64</sup> and drug and alcohol strategies<sup>65</sup> should be aligned with and feed into the CYPP.
- CYPP covers the full range of services for children and young people including health and public health services as well as children and adolescent mental health, sexual health, school health services and services for children and young people with acute or additional health needs. However, it is important that the promotion of good health is not seen as solely an NHS responsibility, each local partner will have a role to play in health promotion, particularly in the areas of public health.
- Other services can play significant roles in impacting on children's needs, key examples are planning and transport services in respect of children's chronic health, road traffic accidents and safe neighbourhood zones that encourage natural space play and physical activity.
- Essential that all partners and stakeholders in the Children's Trust, including schools and colleges, work together to agree appropriate actions in the CYPP that promote good health including promoting healthy living, access to healthy natural environments, good nutrition and physical activity for all children – including the disabled.
- CYPP should reflect the way Primary Care Trusts and local authorities are working in partnership to achieve their common goals through the Children's Trust including:

64 <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/play/>

65 <http://drugs.homeoffice.gov.uk/publication-search/drug-strategy/drug-strategy-2008> and <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/youthalcohol/>

- tackling childhood obesity – this is a national priority in the *NHS Operating Framework Vital Signs* – it requires every PCT to set child obesity goals supported by a delivery plan and the majority of local areas have chosen to include one or other (or both) of the National Indicators for child obesity in their LAA (NI 55 and NI 56);
- involvement of GP practices in the development of the CYPP (in the context of practice-based commissioning);
- PCTs proactively considering what health input they can make to different settings, for example children's centres, extended schools, colleges or residential children's homes;
- the development of holistic support for child and family needs including mental health promotion and meeting speech, language and communication needs that require coordinated interventions by both health and education professionals (See the final report of the National CAMHS Review and The Bercow Report: A Review of Services for Children and Young People (0–19) with Speech, Language and Communication Needs);<sup>66</sup>
- providing accessible and comprehensive information about the children and young people's health services and the support available locally.

### Stay Safe

- The CYPP has a key role to play in promoting the welfare of children and young people and in helping them to enjoy their childhood, feel safe and be protected.
- The CYPP should demonstrate that safeguarding has been taken into account in the planning and commissioning of children's services – safeguarding should be embedded in the work of all partners and stakeholders.
- It is vital that the Children's Trust should consult the LSCB on issues that affect how children are safeguarded during the development of the CYPP and sets out clearly in the plan how it intends to make safeguarding improvements. Note: under CYPP regulations this is a requirement.<sup>67</sup>

<sup>66</sup> <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/CAMHSreview/> and <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/bercowreview/>

<sup>67</sup> Regulation 4(ii), The Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007.

- The CYPP should emphasise the importance of universal, targeted and responsive safeguarding to all relevant partners but it should also address issues which are not exclusively focused on child protection for example combating bullying, preventing homelessness, safeguarding in relation to gang activity, preventing accidents, traffic calming measures and providing opportunities for safe outdoor play and safe places for teenagers to meet.

### Enjoy and Achieve

- In order to meet the 2020 goal for Early Years<sup>68</sup> and the 2011 goals for educational achievement<sup>69</sup>, the attainment of some specific groups who are currently underperforming, such as looked after children, must be improved.
- To help achieve these improvements the CYPP should set out clearly what actions the Children's Trust will be taking to provide Sure Start Children's Centres, schools and colleges with timely support of specialist services, including mental health, therapeutic support, speech and language therapy.
- Where schools or colleges are performing poorly the Children's Trust should take collective ownership for challenging and supporting these facilities and the CYPP should reflect how support will be secured, deployed and monitored.
- The CYPP should show how Children's Trust partners including schools and third sector organizations are bringing resources together to deliver the local youth offer – local authorities have a statutory duty to secure young people's access to positive activities, as set out in *Aiming High for Young People: a Ten-year Strategy for Positive Activities*, which is supported by statutory guidance.<sup>70</sup>
- Research evidence shows that parents and carers play a key role in improving children's achievement and wider well being. The CYPP should ensure that there is an effective partnership with parents and carers in place around the learning and development of every child. To achieve this local authorities will need to work with schools, children's centres, early years settings and other services for children and young people.

68 By 2020 every child should be ready for success in school with at least 90% developing well across all areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile by age 5.

69 The Prime Minister's ambition is that no secondary school in the country should have less than 30% of pupils achieving 5 A\*-C GCSEs including English and maths by 2011.

70 Aiming High Implementation Plan published October 2008:  
<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/>

## Make a Positive Contribution

- The *Children's Plan* indicated that sustainable development is a non-negotiable for the well-being of children and young people. There is a real need to embed sustainability thinking in leadership and management across children's services, and in the CYPP, ensuring that 21st century services for children are able to deal with 21st century challenges.
- Clear consideration needs to be given to meeting the needs for children's social, economic and environmental well-being and the CYPP has an important role in promoting positive activities for young people and creating environments where young people can meet friends and socialise in safety. Children and young people should be consulted about environmental and sustainability concerns in their local areas – particularly traffic, green space and climate change – and their concerns should be addressed in CYPPs.
- By 2011 all young people should have access to three hours of sport per week in addition to the two hours they have during the school day. The CYPP should consider how to meet this commitment and improve access to positive activities for looked after children, including providing free access to leisure facilities.<sup>71</sup>
- The CYPP is an opportunity to improve joint working between housing services and social care, with the aim of improving outcomes for children and young people in families with housing problems or suffering from homelessness including young people who are estranged from their families and are homeless. Issues which would most benefit from joint planning are those concerning housing support packages for children and young people.
- Under the Homelessness Act 2002 local authorities, working with partners, must have in place a homelessness strategy.<sup>72</sup> The joint DCSF/CLG guidance *Joint Working between Housing and Children's Services: Preventing homelessness and tackling its effects on children and young people* sets out the expectation that this work should be reflected in both CYPPs and homelessness strategies.<sup>73</sup>

71 [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/pbr\\_csr07\\_psa22.pdf](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/pbr_csr07_psa22.pdf)

72 Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities (July 2006).  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/homelessnesscode>

73 '*Joint Working between Housing and Children's Services: Preventing homelessness and tackling its effects on children and young people*' available online at:  
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/housing/goodpracticeguide>

## **Achieve Economic Well-being**

- Children's Trust partners and stakeholders have a central role in tackling the causes and consequences of child poverty. The CYPP is an opportunity for Children's Trust partners to show how they will integrate support for parents, including employment advice, skills and training and financial advice and support, with services for children and young people.
- The CYPP should set out how the Children's Trust will identify families in need of greater support and ensure that they are accessing high quality services – including constituent services such as housing, leisure and public libraries.
- The 14-19 Plan will identify the area's strategic priorities for delivering the 14-19 entitlement to the right learning and support, including the larger number of options that will be open to young people to encourage them to stay in education and training beyond 16. These strategic priorities will inform the local authority's commissioning of provision and other services including IAG for the 14-19 year old age range.

# Appendix B: Further reading and research

## **Centre for Excellence and Outcomes in Children and Young People's Services (C4EO)**

The C4EO's key aim is to identify, coordinate and disseminate 'what works', in order to significantly improve the outcomes of children, young people and their families. The C4EO will focus on six national themes over the next 3 years – early years; children with disabilities; vulnerable children (particularly children in care); youth; parents, carers and families; and schools and communities. Local Authorities and their Children's Trust partners (including schools and health) will be provided with evidence showing them 'what works' nationally and regionally, relating to the six themes and supporting them to determine how to improve practice locally. This will include research, data and examples of effective local practice, drawn from across the country. Local Authorities and their Children's Trust partners will also have access to tailored specialist support from the sector through the Centre, to help them apply the lessons from elsewhere to their local circumstances, enabling them to plan, with local partners, how to improve outcomes. In turn, they will be encouraged to offer their own specialists to help others. More information is available from:

- [www.c4eo.org.uk](http://www.c4eo.org.uk)

## **Commissioning Support Programme**

The Commissioning Support Programme aims to transform the commissioning of services for children, young people and families by Children's Trust partners and thus improve outcomes for these groups of people. The Programme is jointly sponsored by DCSF and DH and has been developed in partnership with Communities and Local Government. The shared aim is to improve outcomes for children, young people and families through effective commissioning of services. The Programme will run until April 2011 and will cover the commissioning of all services for children, young people and their families, including both health and education. More information is available from:

- [www.commissioningsupport.org.uk/](http://www.commissioningsupport.org.uk/)
- *Joint planning and commissioning framework for children, young people and maternity services* (DfES, March 2006).  
[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/planningandcommissioning)

### **Narrowing the Gap project**

The Narrowing the Gap project is funded by DCSF, hosted by the Local Government Association (LGA) and supported by the Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA). The project draws on the outcomes of rigorous evaluations of available research and data and on the expertise of key individuals and organisations to generate information about what works in narrowing the gap for children. This detail is 'reality checked' by Children's Trust partners, to enable them to add their own insights. This combined approach ensures that the project captures information on what really makes a difference at a local level in narrowing the gap, and that the final outputs when produced in 2009 can be easily adapted by local areas according to their individual circumstances.

More information is available from:

- <http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=234484>
- NHS The operating framework (currently for 2008/9 but will have 2009/10 framework later this year. [http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_081094](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_081094) )

### **Sure Start**

The joint Ministerial letter, 14 February 2008, (DCSF,DH, DWP) highlights the importance of local authorities, Jobcentre Plus and the National Health Service (Primary Care Trusts and Strategic Health Authorities) developing ever stronger and more effective local partnerships, to meet the individual needs of young children and their parents. More information is available from:

- (<http://www.surestart.gov.uk/publications/?Document=1970>)
- Sure Start Children's Centres Practice Guidance for centre managers and practitioners, local authorities and Primary Care Trusts available at: <http://www.surestart.gov.uk/publications/?Document=1854>

### Targeted youth support

The targeted youth support reforms are led by Children's Trusts working closely with partners such as schools, health services, the voluntary sector, police and community safety teams. The reforms help bring together local services and create a common approach to identifying vulnerable young people, assessing their needs and providing integrated support. Services are helped to identify emerging difficulties in young people's lives and respond to them quickly and effectively so fewer young people experience serious problems.

More information is available from:

- <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/deliveringservices/targetedyouthsupport/>

### Youth Crime Action Plan

More information is available from:

- <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/publications/youthcrimeactionplan/>

### Additional material

- *Analysis of children and young people's plans 2007* (NFER 2008). Available at: <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/research-areas/pims-data/summaries/analysis-of-children-and-young-peoples-plans-2007.cfm>
- *Children and Young Person's Plans: A review of the first year* (Office of the Children's Commissioner, October 2006): <https://www.childrenscommissioner.org/index.cfm>
- *Every Child's Future Matters* – the Sustainable Development Commission publication provides the evidence base for addressing environmental issues as an integrated aspect of all five ECM outcomes. [www.sd-commission.org.uk/publications/downloads/ECFM\\_report.pdf](http://www.sd-commission.org.uk/publications/downloads/ECFM_report.pdf)
- *Families at Risk Review* available at: [http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/social\\_exclusion\\_task\\_force/families\\_at\\_risk.aspx](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/social_exclusion_task_force/families_at_risk.aspx)
- *LAA negotiations in 2008: Lessons Learnt* (Department for Communities and Local Government Sept 2008). <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/973963.pdf>

- *Off the Radar: how local authority plans fail disabled children:* [www.edcm.org.uk](http://www.edcm.org.uk)
- *Planning for Excellence network* – [www.idea.gov.uk](http://www.idea.gov.uk)
- *Planning to Make a Difference* (CfBT, October 2006): <http://www.cfbt.com/>
- *Raising Standards – Improving Outcomes* (DCSF 2008). The Childcare Act 2006 sets out clear expectations about what local partnerships should focus on to improve children's outcomes, while providing the flexibility for local solutions and encouraging local innovation. To support LAs and their partners to fulfil their duties, the DCSF, DH and DWP have published statutory guidance: <http://www.surestart.gov.uk/publications/?Document=1949>
- *Strategic Planning in Local Authorities: a fifth technical report to evaluate the progress made by local authorities in developing a Children and Young People's Plan by April 2006* (Ofsted, May 2006): <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/search/?asset=document&id=51813>
- *Supporting the development of children and young people's plans (CYPPs) The case-study data* (NFER 2008) <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/research-areas/pims-data/summaries/analysis-of-children-and-young-peoples-plans-2007.cfm>

## Appendix C

CYPP regulations state that local authorities must consult with 'relevant partners' under the section 10 Children Act 2004 'duty to cooperate':

- District councils.
- Police authorities.
- Local Probation Boards.
- Youth offending teams.
- SHAs.
- PCTs.
- Connexions Partnerships (where they still exist)
- Learning and Skills Council for England.

In addition CYPP regulations require the local authority to consult:

- such children, young people, families and carers as the local authority consider appropriate;
- such persons or bodies representing children, young persons or families as the local authority consider appropriate;
- the appropriate diocesan authority for any foundation or voluntary school situated in the local authority's area which is a Church of England or Roman Catholic Church school;
- schools (this means school governors of an educational institution outside the FE and HE sector which provides primary and/or secondary education – including independent schools and Academies);
- the schools forums;
- the schools admission forums;
- persons or bodies providing voluntary services relating to children and young persons in the local authority's area;

- such groups of persons representing local communities as the local authority consider appropriate;
- the Local Safeguarding Children Board for the local authority's area.

Local authorities will wish to consult other key partners and stakeholders; for example:

- The Local Strategic Partnership.
- Local Healthy School Teams.
- Appropriate bodies representing local communities.
- Colleges and other providers of further education to young people.
- Jobcentre Plus.
- Local Workforce Agreement Monitoring Groups (WAMGs).
- Drugs and Alcohol Action Teams.
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships and police.
- 14-19 Partnership.
- NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts.
- Local private sector providers of local culture.
- Sport and play and recreation organisations.
- Relevant local faith groups.
- PVI providers of early years and childcare provision.
- Cafcass.

Additional minority groups who should be consulted might include:

- children and young people in urban and rural settings as appropriate;
- vulnerable groups, such as children and young people living in poverty and those aged 16 plus living away from home because they are estranged or orphaned;
- looked after children;
- gypsy travellers;
- young offenders;
- children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities;

- learners aged 19-25;
- children and young people known to be at increased risk of abuse, exclusion and poor health (including looked after children);
- children and young people who have been trafficked or who are refugees or asylum-seekers;
- minority ethnic groups;
- victims of domestic violence or those at risk of it;
- children and young people who have offended or who are at risk of offending;
- fathers as well as mothers;
- children and young people being educated other than at school;
- lesbian, gay and bisexual young people.

# Appendix D

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2005 No. 2149**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS, ENGLAND**

The Children and Young People's Plan (England)  
Regulations 2005

<i>Made</i>	<i>1st August 2005</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	<i>10th August 2005</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	<i>1st September 2005</i>

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Secretary of State by sections 17 and 66 of the Children Act 2004[1], the Secretary of State for Education and Skills hereby makes the following Regulations:

**Citation and Commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005 and shall come into force on 1st September 2005.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Regulations—

"appropriate diocesan authority", "Church of England School" and "Roman Catholic Church School" have the same meanings as in section 142(1) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998[2];

"authority" means a children's services authority in England;

"plan" means a children and young people's plan setting out the authority's strategy for discharging their functions in relation to children and relevant young persons;

"plan period" in relation to any plan means the period (determined by the authority) to which any plan relates;

"relevant partners" has the same meaning as in section 10;

"school organisation committee" has the same meaning as in section 24 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998; and

"section 10" means section 10 of the Children Act 2004;

**Requirement to prepare and publish a plan**

3. Except as provided in regulation 9, each authority shall, in accordance with these Regulations, prepare and publish a plan.

**Matters to be dealt with in the plan**

4. —(1) Each plan shall set out the improvements which the authority intend to make during the plan period to the well-being of children and relevant young persons so far as relating to—

- (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

(referred to in this regulation as the "outcomes").

(2) Each plan shall in particular include—

- (a) a statement of the authority's vision for children and relevant young persons;
- (b) a needs assessment against the outcomes;
- (c) an outline of the key actions planned to achieve the improvements so far as relating to the outcomes;
- (d) a statement as to how the authority's budget will be used to contribute to those improvements; and
- (e) a statement as to how the plan relates to the authority's performance management and review of services for children and relevant young persons.

(3) Each plan shall set out the arrangements which the authority propose (pursuant to section 10) to make for working during the plan period with the authority's relevant partners and such other bodies as the authority consider appropriate.

**Timing of publication of the plan**

5. —(1) Subject to regulations 9(2) and (3), the first plan shall be published on or before 1st April 2006.

(2) Each subsequent plan shall be published no later than 6 weeks after the end of the plan period for the previous plan.

**Manner of publication of the plan**

6. The authority shall publish each plan by—

- (a) placing it on the authority's website;

(b) sending a copy of the plan to each of the persons and bodies with whom the authority have made arrangements under section 10; and

(c) depositing sufficient copies of the plan to allow members of the public to take a copy in such public libraries and other places to which the public have access in the area of the authority as they consider appropriate.

**Consultation during preparation of the plan**

7. —(1) During the preparation of each plan the authority shall consult—

(a) such children, relevant young persons and families (including persons with parental responsibility for, or who have the care of children) in the area of the authority as the authority consider appropriate;

(b) such persons or bodies representing children, relevant young persons or families as the authority consider appropriate;

(c) the appropriate diocesan authority for any foundation or voluntary school situated in the authority's area which is a Church of England or Roman Catholic Church school;

(d) the school organisation committee for the authority's area;

(e) such persons or bodies providing voluntary services relating to children and relevant young persons in the area of the authority;

(f) such groups of persons representing local communities as the authority consider appropriate;

(g) the Local Safeguarding Children Board for the authority's area; and

(h) each of the authority's relevant partners.

(2) If before the day on which these Regulations come into force any consultation was undertaken which if it had been undertaken after that day would to any extent have satisfied the requirements of paragraph (1), those requirements shall to that extent be taken to have been satisfied.

**Review of the plan**

8. —(1) The authority shall review their plan in each year in which the authority is not required to publish a plan.

(2) During the conduct of such a review the authority shall consult such persons as they consider appropriate.

(3) The authority shall publish the result of the review in such manner as they consider appropriate.

#### **Exception for "excellent" authorities**

9. —(1) Regulations 3 to 8 shall not apply to any children's services authority if, at the time when they would otherwise, by virtue of regulation 5, be required to publish a plan, they are categorised as excellent by reason of an order made by the Secretary of State under section 99(4) of the Local Government Act 2003[3].

(2) Paragraph (3) applies (instead of regulation 5(1)) where a children's services authority cease by reason of an order made by the Secretary of State under 99(4) of the Local Government Act 2003 to be categorised as excellent.

(3) Where this paragraph applies, the first plan to be prepared and published after the authority ceased to be categorised as excellent shall be published on or before 1<sup>st</sup> April in the second year after the authority ceased to be so categorised.

*Beverley Hughes*

Minister of State Department for Education and Skills

1 August 2005

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations provide for children's services authorities to prepare, consult upon, publish and review a children and young people's plan.

Regulation 4 sets out the matters which must be dealt with in the plan.

Regulation 5 provides that the first plan is to be published by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006 and thereafter each plan must be published no later than 6 weeks after the end of the last plan period.

Regulation 6 provides for the way in which the plan shall be published; regulation 7 provides for consultation during the preparation of the plan; and regulation 8 provides for the

authority to review the plan in each year in which a new plan is not required to be published with provision made for further limited consultation.

Regulation 9 makes provision for exemption from the requirements under Regulations 3 to 8 for authorities categorised, by order made by the Secretary of State, as excellent under the Comprehensive Performance Assessment conducted annually by the Audit Commission.

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*Notes:*

[1] 2004 c.31.

[2] 1998 c.31; section 142(1) was amended by S.I. 2003/2037.

[3] 2003 c.26

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# Appendix E

STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2007 No. 57**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS, ENGLAND**

The Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment)  
Regulations 2007

<i>Made</i>	<i>11th</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>	<i>19th</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	<i>19th F</i>

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 17 and 66(1) of the Children Act 2004[1], makes the following Regulations:

**Citation and commencement**

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Children and Young People's Plan (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 and come into force on 19th February 2007.

**Amendment of the Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005**

2. The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005[2] are amended in accordance with regulations 3 to 6.

3. In regulation 2, insert the following definitions at the appropriate places—

"proprietor" has the same meaning as in section 579 of the Education Act 1996[3];"  
"school" has the same meaning as in section 4 of the Education Act 1996;".

4. In regulation 4(2), for sub-paragraph (a) substitute—

" (a) a statement as to how the authority intend to achieve the improvements referred to in regulation 4(1), with specific reference to the following—

- (i) the integration of services provided by the authority and its relevant partners to improve the well-being of children and relevant young persons;
- (ii) arrangements made by the authority under section 11(2) of the Children Act 2004 (arrangements to safeguard and promote welfare); and
- (iii) arrangements for early intervention and preventative action;"

**5. In regulation 7—**

- (a) in paragraph (1)(g), omit "and"; and
- (b) after paragraph (1)(h), insert—
  - " (i) the proprietor of each school in the authority's area;
  - (j) the schools forum[4] for the authority's area; and
  - (k) the admission forum[5] for the authority's area."

**6. In regulation 9 and in its heading—**

- (a) for "excellent" in each place where the word occurs, substitute "four stars";
- (b) after paragraph (3) add—
  - " (4) Where a children's services authority—
    - (a) was categorised as excellent by reason of the Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) (No.2) Order 2005[6] and
    - (b) is not categorised as four stars by reason of the Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) Order 2006[7],
 regulations 3 to 8 apply to the authority so as to require the authority to publish a plan on or before 1st May 2007."

**Transitional provisions**

**7. —(1)** The amendments made by regulations 3 to 5 of these Regulations do not apply in relation to any plan that is published before 1st October 2007.

(2) The amendments made by regulation 6(a) of these Regulations do not have any effect in relation to a children's services authority which, immediately before the coming into force of these Regulations, was required by virtue of regulation 9(2) and (3) of the Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005 to publish a plan on or before 1st April 2007.

Minister of State Department for Education and Skills

11th January 2007

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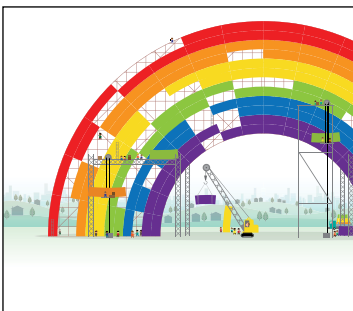
### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations)*

These Regulations amend the Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005 (S.I. 2005/2149) in three substantive respects. They substitute for the requirement to include in a plan a copy of the local authority's vision statement, a statement as set out in regulation 4 above; they add to the list of consultees in preparing plans; and they make provision for the change in the categorisation of local authorities from the current system in the Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) (No.2) Order 2005 (S.I. 2005/2416) to the star system brought into effect by the Local Authorities (Categorisation) (England) Order 2006 (S.I. 2006/3096), both Orders made under section 99(4) of the Local Government Act 2003. This latter provision ensures that the exception from the duty to prepare a plan, which is currently allowed to authorities categorised as excellent under the 2005 Order, will transfer to those rated as four stars under the new Order.

Not all authorities will transfer from being excellent to four stars. Regulation 6(b) provides that those authorities previously categorised as excellent and categorised as three stars under the new system have until 1st May 2007 to prepare their plan.

The transitional provisions provide that the amendments in respect of the vision statement and the list of consultees will not apply in relation to any plan that is published before 1st October 2007. They also provide that if an authority is required to publish a plan by 1st April 2007 by virtue of regulation 9(2) and (3) as it stands immediately before the coming into force of these Regulations, the amendments made by regulation 6(a) of these Regulations shall not affect that requirement.



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