

Appendix E

Partners' response to Children, Families and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee's comments on the Children and Young People's Plan

Overview and Scrutiny comments	Response and amendments made
1 • The foreword of the plan should emphasise that it is a partnership plan.	• The foreword of the plan now refers to a 'shared' vision and it is undersigned by the names and logos of all partners.
2 • Concerns were raised that the consultation had not adequately involved children and young people in the poorest areas of Central Bedfordshire.	• The Trust will review its approach when developing proposals for consultation when the plan is reviewed.
3 • Concerns were raised about the jargon that is used in the plan and members wanted this removed if the plan was going to be used as a public document.	• A summary of the plan and a young person's version of the plan will be the main public documents and these will be jargon free.
4 • The Plan did not contain enough stretch targets to drive improvement in priority areas. The Children's Trust needs to encourage all statutory partners to develop challenging measures of success.	• Where possible stretching targets have now been included for all priorities in the CYPP, however this is still an area for development. As a new unitary authority we still have to establish a baseline for some priorities and once this is done targets will be set.
5 • Sections detailing strategic actions and what success looks like were in many cases too vague. The CYPP lacked clear priorities and targets and there needed to be greater clarity of lead partners and those that were responsible for achieving targets so that they could be held to account.	• There will be a delivery plan for each of the priorities in the CYPP and these will clearly set out lead partner, strategic actions, the milestones and deliverables, the resource requirements (financial and human) the risks and the performance measures. This will enable rigorous monitoring and challenge.
6 • The provision of good housing is key as a means of achieving many of the targets set out in the plan. It is important that the delivery plans emphasise the importance of good housing in order to achieve economic well-being targets.	• Providing stable accommodation has been highlighted as a key strategic action in the cross cutting priority to reduce child poverty. This cross cutting priority is monitored through the Economic Wellbeing Delivery Group.

- 7 • The CYPP needs to ensure that partners work together to enhance early intervention leading to better outcomes for children and young people.
 - 8 • The CYPP should emphasise the importance of schools providing access to facilities out of hours for community use.
 - 9 • The Committee also considered the importance of the many statutory education indicators and agreed it would be appropriate to recommend to the Local Strategic Partnership that the Local Area Agreement indicators should make reference to the statutory indicators and the importance of a partnership approach towards their achievement.
 - 10 • Priority 4 of the CYPP needs to emphasise the importance of providing opportunities for children and young people to keep fit.
- Improving prevention, early identification and intervention is a key cross cutting priority for the plan. This priority will be supported by a delivery plan which will enable the Trust to monitor performance and progress on outcomes.
- The following strategic actions will drive the use of schools facilities out of hours:
- Improving extended school services, out of hours learning, and a wide range of outdoor recreational and play activities and opportunities including volunteering
 - A programme of positive, out-of-hours/extra-curricular activities for children and families that involves innovative approaches to learning, play and recreation at a range of localities
 - Pyramids of schools to produce comprehensive development plans for out-of-hours learning and positive activities and submit these to the LA along with regular financial breakdowns of spend to date
- Statutory education indicators with targets have now been included in the CYPP.
- The following have been added to this priority:
- Strategic action: Ensure the delivery of 2 hours of physical activity per week in schools, moving towards 5 hours per week where possible
 - Measure of success: All schools delivering 2 hours per week of physical activity (NI57)

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 - Priority 5 of the CYPP needs to emphasise the importance of short-break services and provision made by Central Bedfordshire in respect of respite and palliative care. There needs to be more targets contained within this priority detailing what success in transforming services for disabled children would look like.
 - The main national indicator (NI 54) for this priority which measures parents' satisfaction with health, social care and education provision for disabled children is new. The DCSF collect and provide the information for the indicator and a baseline will only be available in April 2010.
 - The following measure has been amended in the plan to be more specific: A substantial increase and step change in short break provision which offers a range of options so that every disabled child and family can be offered a short break by 2011.

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 - Priority 12 needs to emphasise the importance of youth clubs as a means of minimising anti-social behaviour and promoting children and young people's positive contribution to communities, particularly in areas of deprivation.
 - The strategic action to 'offer and promote positive activities for children and young people at key times including Friday evenings and weekends' includes the full range of options including 'youth clubs'. The following new key measure of success has been added to this priority - 'relevant and meaningful youth provision across Central Bedfordshire on Friday evenings and weekends'.

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 - Priority 14 refers to developing and promoting play, leisure, sport and cultural opportunities for children and young people aged 8 to 13 years. Members felt the age range should be widened.
 - This strategic action has been broadened to include all age ranges.