

Appendix **A**



**Central Bedfordshire
Children's Trust**

Annual Report:

**Children and Young
People's Plan
2011-14**

May 2013

Introduction

This is the second annual report of the Central Bedfordshire Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2011-2014 which was agreed in June 2011. A new plan will be agreed for 2013-2015 to reflect the changing priorities. Below are some of our key actions in 2012/13 and some of the challenges we have faced during the year. Our progress and performance against our key priorities is set out in the pages that follow with the basket of critical performance indicators attached in Appendix A.

Some of our key actions in 2012/13

In the fourth year of the development of the Children's Trust, partners have focused on:

- driving up attainment at Key stage 2 by 14%
- developing an alternative provision free school sponsored by the ten Central Bedfordshire Upper schools, Oakbank Special School and the Council
- launching the Central Bedfordshire Teaching School Partnership to drive school to school improvement
- developing relationships between schools and partners as the new academies and the new structural reform beds in
- supporting the Youth Parliament members to get issues heard by partners and priorities included in the new CYPP
- recruiting new young inspectors and young commissioners
- securing ESF funding to support 80 young people a year for the next three years in being active participants in line with Raising of the Participation Age (RPA) - all young people will continue in education or training to age 17 from 2013 and to age 18 from 2015.
- implementing findings from the Safeguarding and Looked after children Ofsted inspection, with a focus and drive to improve the health of looked after children
- dealing with an increase in the volume of cases requiring children's social care intervention
- providing additional support to children in families where as result of domestic abuse they are either in a refuge or in transition to one
- implementing a new social care case management and information system
- working hard to engage children and young people and their parents or carers as soon as they became involved with the youth offending service - this was praised by Ofsted inspectors as the reduction in the frequency of offending was better than average results
- delivering a range of aspirational projects for young people at risk of exclusion such as a mentoring programme, a babysitting qualification, young mechanics courses, young mums to be programmes and career idol
- delivering work readiness projects and poverty projects for families
- delivering the new CHUMS mental health service for children and their parents
- delivering a range of projects to reduce teenage pregnancy such as: increasing access to contraception and sexual health services; contracting Brook to deliver intensive support to teenagers at risk of pregnancy; rolling out the ASPIRE programme in hot spot areas so that young people receive life coaching to raise their aspirations and delivering sexual health clinics out of 4 of the 5 upper schools in hot spot areas
- delivering a range of programmes to reduce childhood obesity
- transforming services for disabled children through the delivery of a hub and spoke model of service delivery from two sites in Biggleswade and Dunstable
- delivering a wide range of workforce development opportunities relating to safeguarding, early years, social care and the generic children's workforce with high levels of satisfaction

Challenges we faced during the year

- the continuing difficult national and local economic context and its implications for social care services, children living in poverty and young people who are not in employment, education or training
- the changes in local schools and the ongoing development of partnership arrangements to support improved attainment for children and young people
- understanding the changes in relation to the health agenda and in the implications for partnership working and championing outcomes for young people – including the transition of Public Health into the Council and the development of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- understanding the changes in relation to the new local policing arrangements and the implications for service delivery in Central Bedfordshire

Priority 1: Helping children and young people achieve more and transforming our relationship with schools

Objectives

- 1: Transform teaching and learning and raise achievement for all learners including underachieving groups and children in vulnerable circumstances.
- 2: Develop and promote children and young people's positive contribution to all communities across Central Bedfordshire so that they are able to influence the decisions that affect their lives and wellbeing.

What difference have we made?

- 80% of schools are either good or outstanding compared to 74.3% last year.
- An 8% improvement in the percentage of children achieving a good level of development in the Early Years Foundation Stage - 63% of children achieved a good level of development in the early years
- Achieved good Key Stage 1 results with improvement – the percentage of pupils achieving level 2 or above in reading (91%), writing (89%) and maths (93%) was better than the national average and similar areas.
- Improved Key Stage 2 results by 14% and with 80% achieving level 4 and above in English and Maths - our schools' performance is now above the national average and in line with similar areas.
- Key Stage 5 results are good. 97.4% of pupils achieved 2 or more passes at A level (grades A-E). This is 3.8% above the national average. However the percentage achieving AAB or more passes at GCE/ Applied GCE A Levels and Double Awards (13.5%) is lower than the similar areas (18.3%) and the national figure (20.5%)
- Percentage of pupils achieving level 2 by the age of 19 has increased by 4% in 2011 to 83%. Performance is better than the national average and in line with similar areas.
- The percentage of pupils achieving level 3 by age 19 has improved by 2% in 2011 to 55% and is above the national average.
- The number of apprenticeship starts has increased by 373 from 2010/11 to 2011/12. This rate of growth is higher than for the region, the nation and our statistical neighbours. However Central Bedfordshire is beginning from a lower base line than other areas in relation to availability and take-up of apprenticeship opportunities.
- Trained young inspectors, young commissioners and youth auditors and supported them to review and help commission a range of services.
- Supported Youth Parliament members to attend Overview and Scrutiny Committee, present their work and seek advice on effective representation. Youth Parliament members were invited to attend future meetings of the committee where relevant items are under scrutiny.
- Listened to Youth Parliament members and Young Commissioners and their key priorities of providing early high quality independent career advice and work experience have been included in the new plan.

Challenges

- Although 63% of children achieved a good level of development in the early years and this is an increase of 8% compared to 2011, this is 1% below the national average and 2% below the average for similar areas and we are ranked 9 out of 11 statistical neighbours with the best scoring 78%.
- Final results show that 57.6% of young people achieved 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths. This is a drop of 1.8% compared to last year and a drop of 31 places in the ranking of English local authorities. In 2011/12 our schools were ranked 60 out of 151 and these results rank us at 91 out of 151. The highest average within our statistical neighbours group is 65.8% and the lowest is 56.4%. Within this grouping Central Bedfordshire is ranked 8 out of 11.
- Although Key Stage 5 results are good and 97.4% of candidates achieved 2 or more passes at A level (grades A-E), only 13.5% achieve A*-B grades which is lower than the similar areas (18.3%) and the national figure (20.5%)
- Gaps in achievement for vulnerable groups including White and Black Caribbean, Traveller of Irish Heritage and Gypsy/Roma, White Irish, those eligible for free school meals, those with Special Education Needs and Children in Need who are receiving support from Children's Social Care.
- Availability and take-up of apprenticeship opportunities.

Priority 2: Protecting children and keeping them safe

Objectives

- 3: Protect children and young people from harm by providing a co-ordinated and effective safeguarding process.
- 4: Reduce the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people.
- 5: Reduce youth offending and anti-social behaviour

What difference have we made?

- 100%* of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year were reviewed.
- 84.7%* of initial assessments were completed within 10 working days of referral – this was 0.3% below the target of 85%.
- 80.3%* of referrals of children in need led to initial assessments – this exceeded the target (75%).
- It took an average of 600 days between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family. There is a national target to achieve 426 days by 2015/16. Performance is assessed on a three year rolling cohort so the current position of 600 days reflects cases dealt with between 2010 – 2013.
- Targets in relation to domestic abuse referrals have been achieved - average police referrals per month were 33.5 (target 11-14) and referrals from other agencies averaged at 25 per month (target 20-25 per month).
- Reduced first time entrants to the youth justice system by 31%.
- Kept the percentage of young people receiving custodial sentences low at 3%.
- Supported young offenders so that our 32% re-offending rate compares favourably to similar Youth Offending services.

*Subject to verification

Challenges

- The increases in social care activity over previous years means that there are increased numbers of children subject to a child protection plan and those looked after. The number of children on child protection plans during 2012/2013 has risen from 227 to 268 at the end of March 2013. The number of looked after children during 2012/2013 has risen from 208 to 254 at the end of March.
- The numbers of children in need at the end of March 2013 was 1675 compared to 1480 the year before.
- Throughout the year a higher percentage of children have become subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time. Performance at the end of March 2013 was 20.2% (unvalidated). This is a significant increase compared to the outturn for 2011/2012 when 9.3% of children became subject to a plan on more than one occasion – this compared well with national (13.8%) and statistical neighbours (12.9%) for 2011/2012. A selection of cases where children have been subject to a plan on more than one occasion have been audited. Recurrent domestic abuse and parental substance misuse are factors which in the majority of cases have contributed to a reassessment that children are at continued risk of harm.
- Understanding the requirements of the new Performance Framework following the Eileen Munro review and the implications of the recently published Working Together statutory guidance. Working with partners to agree development plans to improve Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services.
- Implementing the improvements identified from the inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services – report published 10th April 2012. These included improving outcomes for looked after children, ensuring equality and diversity factors inform support provided, partners contribution to keeping children and young people safe.

Priority 3: Reducing child poverty and the effects for those living in poverty and improving early intervention and prevention

Objectives

- 6: Maximise opportunities for families in poverty to access employment which will have the outcome of more families working and thus reducing levels of family and child poverty.
- 7: Ensure families in poverty are accessing all available financial assistance so that non-working families move from worklessness into work in the meantime accessing appropriate benefits.
- 8: To improve life chances of children and families by intervening early to prevent poor outcomes and raising educational achievements and aspirations with the outcome that children from poor households gain better qualifications to ensure their access to the labour market so that the cycle of intergenerational poverty is broken.
- 9: Work with colleagues from all sectors and agencies to improve the environmental factors which exacerbate the effects of poverty and harness the resources of the third sector and services across the Council so that poor families develop healthier lifestyles to prolong life expectancy and live in an improved environment.

What difference have we made?

- Young people have been supported in employment, education and training and the percentage who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) remains low at 4.6%
- 64 young people from Sandy and Leighton Buzzard have been engaged in a group mentoring programme to prevent them from being excluded
- Babysitting courses have been delivered to 130 learners – outcomes include a qualification, increased interest in working in childcare to earn money and improve child safety
- 16 groups of young people in years 7,8 and 9 have completed the Aspire programme to improve self esteem and raise aspirations – the 16 groups of 10 or more are tracked at 3,6,9 and 12 months
- 12 students completed the 'Young Mums to be' course to improve parenting skills, money management and basic nutrition and first aid and achieve an accredited qualification. A further 9 learners are in progress.
- 18 young people have been involved in organising community events in their schools providing less traditional opportunities to develop skills in areas including promotion, marketing, event management, team work and organisational skills.
- 10 parents from Houghton Regis completed a level 1 award in Jamie's Home Cooking Skills – these courses contribute to work readiness and healthier lifestyles.
- 23 parenting programmes and 2 seminars were delivered. 217 parents started parenting programmes and 158 parents completed parenting programmes representing a 73% completion rate. Completion rates provide an indication of a successful intervention as research demonstrates that parenting programmes are effective when delivered to a specified target group and in accordance with the programme content.
- The voluntary sector has brokered support for the co-ordination, collection, storage and delivery services operated by Preen to all Food Banks operating across the area. Housing Services send referrals directly to Preen to arrange for food parcels and furniture/white goods.
- Overall crime has decreased across Central Bedfordshire by 15% when comparing April 2012 - March 2013 with the previous financial year. The three most deprived areas of Central Bedfordshire are hotspot areas for crime; however, all three have shown decreases similar to the overall decrease in the number of recorded crimes (14%)

Challenges:

- The percentage of those not in education, employment or training although low at 4.6% and lower than national (5.8%) and regional averages (5.6%). However we did not achieve our target of remaining in the top quartile. To be in the top quartile we would have had to have ranked 38 out of 152 local authorities and our current position is 40.
- The proportion of children who live in relative low income has increased from 12.1% (published August 2010 for 2008/9) to 13.1% (published August 2011 for 2009/10) and down to 12.8% (published August 2012 for 2010/11). It is likely that this figure will continue to be fluctuate above target in the current economic context.

Priority 4: Targeting the most deprived areas and vulnerable groups to improve children's emotional and physical health

Objectives

10: Focus on early intervention including children's mental health services, childhood obesity, drugs and alcohol and sexual health.

11: Transform services for disabled children.

What difference have we made?

- 623 young people were seen by the new CHUMS service offering early intervention mental health services – this exceeded the target of 500.
- Waiting times for young people accessing the new early intervention mental health service delivered by CHUMS have been reduced to two weeks.
- 92.4% of looked after young people had their annual dental check
- Targets in relation to teenage pregnancy have been achieved and a range of services are in place to improve the under 18 conception rate, including services provided by Brook for intensive work with vulnerable young people at risk of teenage pregnancy and school based sexual health clinics in 4 out of the 5 Upper schools in high teenage pregnancy wards.
- Obesity rates in Central Bedfordshire are lower in both year groups when compared to the East of England, England and ONS statistical neighbour averages and targets have been achieved.
- 51 families completed the Beezee Tots Programme encouraging healthier choices, by the end of the year – this exceeded the target of 40.
- For 7-15 year olds, 24 families from Sandy and Dunstable had completed the Beezee Bodies programme at the end of the year and an additional 22 families were part way through the programme and are due to complete by July 2013
- Good numbers of lower schools have participated in a programme called 'Making the most of me' which addresses obesity and self esteem. Bookings show that the target of 50% of lower schools receiving training and delivering it in their schools is likely to be exceeded by the end of the academic year.
- Transformed services for disabled children and their families through the delivery of a hub and spoke model of service delivery from two sites in Biggleswade and Dunstable. This has brought together expertise from education, health, social care and the voluntary and community sector and feedback from parents has been very positive.

Challenges

- The waiting list for CHUMS early intervention mental health services for young people is 12 weeks – this is a reduction from 16 weeks but further improvement is needed.
- The percentage of looked after children having their annual health assessments is still too low.
- Average Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire scores to assess looked after children's mental health show scores that have increased and are above 'normal' and target.
- Identifying how mental health services can be improved to clearly demonstrate outcomes, routes of referral and pathways between tiers of service. Reviews of the distribution and performance of mental health services to children, young people and their families are underway.
- Ensuring that the significant changes already implemented in relation to the Ofsted recommendations around the health of looked after children deliver outcomes for young people.

Cross Cutting Priority: Develop an integrated workforce which is ambitious for all children and their families and expert in its practice

What difference have we made?

- The children's workforce (early years and generic) have benefited from the delivery of 258 courses and 4,245 learning opportunities over the year.
- Impact analysis through surveys and follow up interviews shows that learners feel the learning has delivered the following: knowledge, changes in practice, confidence, promotions, new jobs, service improvements and the ability to offer better advice to families.
- 99% of learners that completed post learning evaluations stated that course objectives were met
- 299 candidates were undertaking an early years qualification at the end of the year and 251 had successfully completed a qualification during the year.
- Learners registered for 2160 e-learning opportunities (compared to 596 last year) and 1920 completed a course (compared to 456 last year) with the average taking 18 days.
- 26 recruitment and outreach events were held to encourage people into the early years profession and as a result 172 people applied to do a qualification.
- Courses and briefings run by the Local Safeguarding Board continue to be well attended with high satisfaction ratings.
- Central Bedfordshire Teaching School Partnership was launched and a large range of learning opportunities have been published online through the new website.
- We have grown our own social workers and provided a range of learning opportunities for existing staff through: 5 students undertaking the *Step Up to Social Work* programme (currently being interviewed for roles), 14 staff taking part in the Newly Qualified Social Work and Assessed and Supported Year in Employment (ASYE) programmes, 12 undertaking Early Professional Development, and 5 studying for a social work degree with the Open University (one completed and recruited this year).

Challenges:

- Developing effective support and learning opportunities for the Troubled Families workers.
- Recruiting and retaining senior and skilled social workers and reducing the percentage of agency staff operating at the front line.
- Recruiting and retaining sufficient Health Visitors.
- Strengthening the workforce's ability to articulate outcomes.
- Ensuring the workforce is sensitive to culture and diversity issues when supporting families.
- Providing multi-agency learning opportunities at a senior level to promote cross sector understanding of work and building effective working relationships.

Performance measures

Priority 1: Helping children and young people achieve more and transforming our relationship with schools

Ref.	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 12/13	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RAG rating
			National 11/12	Group 11/12	CB 11/12						
Local	Published Ofsted school and college classifications (new inspections in period shown in bracket)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Total 140 (33)		139 (11)	Schools: 137 (3) Colleges: 1	Schools: 137 (8) Colleges: 1 (0)	Schools: 137 (8) Colleges: 1 (0)	No target.
					Outstanding 37 (3)		38 (1)	38 (1)	37 (1)	38 (1)	
					Good 67 (16)		66 (6)	67 (2)	72 (5)	73 (3)	
					Satisfactory 34 (13)		34 (4)	33	27(0)	21 (0)	
					Requires Improvement -		0	0	2 (2)	5 (3)	
					Inadequate 2 (1)		1 (0)	0	0 (0)	1 (1- special measures)	
73	Key Stage 2 – Level 4 in both English and Mathematics	High	79% 2012 Outturn	81% 2012 Outturn	80% 2012 Outturn				80% (Revised – 2012 Outturn)	No target	
75	Key Stage 4 – 5A*-C including English and Mathematics	High	59.4% 2012 Outturn	60.5% 2012 Outturn	57.6% 2012 Outturn	59.8%	Reported annually in quarter 3.		57.6% 2012 Outturn	Red	
Local	% achieving English Baccalaureate	High	18% 2012 Outturn	18% 2012 Outturn	12% 2012 Outturn		Reported annually in quarter 3.		12% 2012 Outturn	No target	
114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school (reported on a cumulative basis according to Academic year)	Low	0.07% 10/11	0.05% 10/11	0.19% (end of Academic year 2010/11)		0.17% (Sep 11 – June 12)	0.19% (end of Academic year 11/12)	0.06 (Sept 12 – Dec 12)	0.12 Sept 12 – Mar 13	No target

Priority 2: Protecting children and keeping them safe

Ref	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 12/13	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RAG rating
			National 11/12	Group 11/12	CB 11/12						
exNI59	% of initial assessments in 10 working days of referral	High	77.2% (10/11)	73.3% (10/11)	86.6%	85%	90.7%	78.1%	81.8%	84.7 (Outturn)	Amber
exNI62	% of children looked after at 31 March with 3 or more placements during the year	Low	11.0% (10/11)	11.8% (10/11)	13.0%	10%			5.0%	7.0%	Green
exNI67	% of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed	High	97.1% (10/11)	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100% (Outturn)	Green
exNI68	% of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessments	High	71.5% (10/11)	74.7% (10/11)	78.5%	75%	82.1%	82.9%	79.8%	80.3% (Outturn)	Green
exNI19	Re-offending rates amongst young people	Low			32% 2010/11					11/12 data available Dec 13	
exNI111	Number of first time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10-17 (percentage reduction)	High			-13.62%	-5%	-59.2%	-51.1%	23.5%	-31.3%	Green
exNI 43	Young people receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	Low			4.29%	5%	1%	1.75%	7.14%	3.03%	Green

Priority 3: Reducing child poverty and the effects for those living in poverty and improving early intervention and prevention

Ref	Title	Good is	Outturn (year as indicated)			Target 12/13	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Rag rating
			National	Group	CB						
Local	Proportion of Children who live in relative low income	Low	21.6%	16.85% (East of England)	12.1% (2008/9) 13.1% (2009/10)	10% by 2020		As at Aug 2010 12.8%	Reported annually in quarter 2.		Amber
Local	Percentage of young people who are NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) * figures for this indicator are calculated annually using the average value for November, December, January combined	Low	5.9% (May 2012)	4.8% (May 2012)	4.2% (March 2012)		3.9% (Apr 12 – June 12)	3.8% (Jul 12- Sept12)	4.8% (Oct 12 – Dec 12)	4.6% (Nov 12- Jan 13)*	Amber
Local	Percentage of Economic Activity – those working and those unemployed but actively seeking work within a given period (aged 16-64)	High	76.3% England (Jul 10 – Jun 11)	78.9 East (Jul 10 – Jun 11)	81% (Jul 10 – Jun 11)	No target.	80.6% (Apr 11 – Mar 12)	Jul 11 –Jun 12: CB: 80.3% East: 79.6% England: 76.7%	Oct 11 – Sept 12: CB: 79.1% East: 79.9% England: 76.9%	Jan 12 – Dec 12: CB: 79.2% East: 79.9% England: 77.1%	No rating.

Priority 4: Targeting the most deprived areas and vulnerable groups to improve children's emotional and physical health

Ref	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 12/13	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RAG rating	
			National 11/12	Group 11/12	CB 11/12							
CYPP and H & WB Strategy Priority (Local)	Improving mental health for children and their parents (BCCG Lead)	A minimum of 500 new referrals in CBC entering the CHUMS Service in 2012/13.	High	N/A	N/A	N/A	500	152	169	119 Oct & Nov only	183	Green
		Improved Strengths & Difficulties (SDQ) scores (%) for children and young receiving a direct intervention by the CHUMS Service (Baseline end of Q2).	High	N/A	N/A	N/A	80%	N/A	80%	N/A	To be reported in May 2013	Amber
CYPP and H & WB Strategy Priority (Local) Public Health Outcome (National)	Improving the health of Looked After Children (LA Lead)	% LAC who have been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and who had an annual Health Assessment during the previous 12 months.	High	84% (10/11)	84% (10/11) Statistical Neighbours	87% (11/12)	100%	75%	75%	79.9%	77.1%	Red
		% LAC who have been looked after continuously for at least 12 months and who have had their teeth checked by a dentist during the previous 12 months.	High	82% (10/11)	84% (10/11) Statistical Neighbours	92% (11/12)	100%	61%	53%	70.5%	92.4%	Amber
		% LAC up to date on immunisations/vaccinations.	High	79% (10/11)	77% (10/11) Statistical Neighbours	92% (11/12)	100%	Reported in quarter 4			90.5%	Amber
		Improvement in average SDQ scores for Looked After Children. "Total Difficulty" score range from 0-40 Score of 13 or below = normal 14-16 = borderline 17 and above = cause for concern	Low	13.9 (10/11)	14.0 (10/11) Statistical Neighbours	14.5 (11/12)	13	-	15.8	14.0	15.7	Red
Public Health Outcome (National) CYPP and H & WB	Reducing Teenage Pregnancy (PH Lead)	Reduction of 5.13% (based on the 2009 rate of 32.5) in the number of conceptions per 1,000 teenage girls (aged 15-17 years) to 30.8 by Dec.	Low	35.4 (2009)	29.8 (2009)	32.5 (2009)	30.8 by Dec. 2013 (data to be	27.2 (2011 ONS Data)			Green	

Ref	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 12/13	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RAG rating
			National 11/12	Group 11/12	CB 11/12						
Strategy Priority (Local)		2013.				published in 2015)					
Public Health Outcome (National) CYPP and H & WB Strategy Priority (Local)	Reducing Childhood Obesity (PH Lead)	Year R (Ages 4- 5): to achieve a .1% year-on-year reduction in obesity prevalence.	Low	9.5%	8.7%	7.4% (Baseline 2011/12)	7.3% data to be published Dec 2013	7.4% (as per data collected for academic year 2011/12, published in Dec. 2012)			Green
		Year 6 (Ages 10-11): to achieve a .2% year-on-year reduction in obesity prevalence.	Low	19.2%	17.2%	15.8% (Baseline 2011/12)	15.6% data to be published Dec 2013	15.8% (as per data collected for academic year 2011/12, published in Dec. 2012)			Green

Cross cutting priority: Develop an integrated workforce which is ambitious for all children and their families and expert in its practice

Ref	Title	Good is	Outturn			Target 11/12	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RAG rating
			National 10/11	Group 10/11	CBC 10/11						
Local	Outcomes of Ofsted announced and unannounced inspections	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No priority actions relating to capacity, skills and knowledge	None identified				Green