

# Children, Young People and Families Plan

2014/2017

Altogether better  
for **children** and  
**young people**

County Durham Children  
and Families Partnership



# Contents

|   | <b>page</b> |
|---|-------------|
| Foreword  | 2           |
| Background and Consultation   | 3           |
| National Policy Context   | 4           |
| Wider and cross cutting issues  | 7           |
| Vision, Objectives, Outcomes and Stakeholders   | 8           |
| Objective 1: Children and young people realise and maximise their potential                 | 10          |
| Objective 2: Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life | 13          |
| Objective 3: A Think Family approach is embedded in our support to families                 | 15          |
| Delivery Plan   | 17          |

## Foreword

The Children and Families Partnership works to ensure effective services are delivered in the most efficient way to improve the lives of children, young people and families in County Durham.

The Children, Young People and Families Plan (CYPFP), is the single overarching, multi-agency plan for the delivery of priorities for children and young people in County Durham. Over recent months, consultations have taken place with key partners and organisations, both face-to-face and through surveys to inform a review of the CYPFP.

Our work will include the development of an Early Help Strategy which will ensure that we target resources at families as this is the most effective and efficient way to make a difference to those who require support.

We will also continue to support children and young people from their early years in the education system through to gaining employment, training or apprenticeships.

Helping children and young people to make the right choices is a key focus for the partnership. We recognise that this needs to include the views of children and young people so that we work collectively to make improvements.

There is a strong commitment from the Children and Families Partnership to improve the lives of the children and young people of County Durham to ensure that:

***‘All children, young people and families believe, achieve and succeed’.***



**Rachael Shimmin**  
Chair  
Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services



**Anna Lynch**  
Vice Chair  
Director of Public Health  
County Durham



**Councillor Ossie Johnson**  
Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People's Services

## Background

The last Children, Young People and Families Plan (CYFPF) was developed in 2012. Since then a review of the membership, governance arrangements and priorities for the Children and Families Partnership (CFP) has taken place alongside the review of the CYFPF.

The Children and Young People's Survey provides a means to gather the views of children to help develop priorities for the Partnership.

The priorities are shown on page 9. The work of the CFP will have a specific focus on:

- Early years provision.
- Improving progression, including those young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- Looked after children through the Multi Agency Looked After Partnership (MALAP).

There will also be a stronger relationship with education, and a wider commissioning perspective for children and young people with special and complex needs. There is also a streamlined governance approach for the Think Family Partnership, focussing on early help for families.

## Consultation

Consultation on the CYFPF began with four Agenda Days attended by 62 young people, aged 10-16 years, who identified a number of issues important to them including:

- Support in schools to achieve GCSEs.
- Concerns about alcohol and drugs.
- Access to sports centres.
- More things to do in the community.
- Concerns about mental health.

Consultation has taken place with parents of children with disabilities through the Making Changes Together group, as well as with young people through Investing in Children groups (including disabled children through the eXtreme group), focusing specifically on the objective 'Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life'. This is a shared objective included in both the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and CYFPF.

This objective was also considered at a Health and Wellbeing Board engagement event which was attended by 134 people from various groups.

Young people have also identified the health issues affecting them and presented these to members of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Young People attend each meeting of the CFP to raise issues that affect them. In December 2013, the CFP was awarded Investing in Children status to recognise its contribution to improving outcomes for children and young people.

## Delivery Plan

A delivery plan has been developed to take forward the CYFPF which is included from page 17.



## National Policy Context

Various policy drivers influence the decisions we make. Below is a summary of those over the last 2 years:

**Children and young people realise and maximise their potential**



### Early Education and Childcare

**(September 2013):** The government has committed to extending early years provision for 2-year olds to around 20% of the least advantaged children from September 2013. From September 2014 Local Authorities will receive £755 million of government funding, which will further increase the number of children eligible for free early learning. It sets out a changed role for local authorities, to enable them to focus on identifying and supporting disadvantaged children to take up their early education place.

### Early Years Inspections (October 2013):

Early years providers are subject to a tougher early years inspection framework, which makes it clear that only provision which is 'good' or 'outstanding' is good enough for young children.

The Ofsted rating of 'satisfactory' is replaced with 'requires improvement' to make it clear that anything less than 'good' is not good enough for young children.

### National Curriculum Reform (September 2013):

The government will reform GCSEs and A levels from 2015, to be more rigorous so to prepare students properly for life after school. The new curriculum will be taught in all maintained primary and secondary schools from September 2014.

### GCSE (KS4) Reforms (February 2013):

GCSEs will be comprehensively reformed, to ensure that pupils have access to qualifications that set expectations which match and exceed those in the highest-performing jurisdictions.

The changes will apply to GCSEs in English language, English literature, Mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, combined science (double award), history and geography for first teaching from 2015. Changes to other subjects will follow, with the aim that new qualifications are in place for teaching from September 2016.

### The New Framework for School Inspections (January 2013):

The new inspection framework will focus more clearly on the most important aspects of a school's work. Inspectors will be making a new judgment about the effectiveness of the school's leadership and management. They will also make a judgment about the school's overall effectiveness.

### Inspection of Local Authority Education Support Services (June 2013):

The re-introduction of inspection aims to assist local authorities in their duty to promote high standards and fulfilment of potential in schools and other education and training providers so that all children and young people benefit from, at least, a 'good' education.

**Raising Participation Age (March 2013):**

From 2013, young people will be required to continue in education or training until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17. In 2015, they will be required to continue until their 18th birthday.

**Future of Apprenticeships in England**

**(October 2013):** The government's reforms will ensure that the quality of apprenticeships will be improved and become more rigorous and responsive to the needs of employers.

**Children and Families Act 2014:**

The government is radically reforming the Special Educational Needs system so that it extends from birth to 25, giving children, young people and their parents greater control and choice in decisions and ensuring needs are properly met. From September 2014 Local Authorities must publish a 'local offer' to ensure that parents and young people have access to a single source of coherent and complete information to manage their choices with regard to services. Old statements will also be replaced with a new birth-to-25 education, health and care plan, offering families personal budgets and improving cooperation between all the services that support children and their families, particularly requiring local authorities and health authorities to work together.

**Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life**



**Statutory guidance and regulations on exclusion (September 2012):**

Under the new arrangements, the process for challenging a school's decision to permanently exclude a pupil has changed. The previous system of independent appeal panels has been replaced by independent review panels.

**A framework of outcomes for young people (July 2012):** The framework aims to support providers, and commissioners to reducing negative outcomes with an equal or stronger focus on commissioning for positive and sustained personal and social development, which is fundamental to young people's current and future wellbeing and success.

**Revised Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Services and Activities to Improve Young People's Well-being (June 2012):**

This guidance focuses strongly on the essential principles which local authorities should follow in planning and commissioning services for young people, and promotes transparency and local accountability.

**Creating a sporting habit for life – a new youth sport strategy (January 2012):**

Published by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport the central aim of the government's new strategy for youth sport is to increase the number of 14-25 year olds playing sport ensuring that participation continues beyond school years into adulthood.

**Positive for Youth (April 2012):**

The government will retain the duty on local authorities to secure sufficient educational and recreational leisure-time activities for the improvement of the wellbeing of 13 to 19 year olds, so far as is reasonably practicable.

***A Think Family approach is embedded in our support for families***



**Working Together to Safeguard Children (April 2013):** This sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and how practitioners should conduct the assessment of children.

**Single Inspection Framework for child protection and services for looked after children (Nov 2013):** This is a single framework for inspecting local authority child protection and services for looked after children, including those leaving or who have left care and for local authority fostering and adoption services. The inspection framework will judge the overall effectiveness of services including a number of key judgement areas.

**Children who run away or go missing from home or care (January 2014):** Statutory guidance setting out the steps Local Authorities and their partners should take to stop children from going missing and to protect those who do.

**Troubled Families (July 2013):** The government's "troubled families" project (known in County Durham as Stronger Families) is to be extended to help a further 400,000 households who have financial and social problems. An additional £200m will be made available in 2015/16 (over 5 years) to help "high-risk" families address challenges of worklessness, anti-social behaviour and truancy.

**An Action Plan for Adoption: Tackling Delay (March 2012):** Outlines what the government intends to do to accelerate the whole adoption process so that more children benefit from adoption and more rapidly.

**Children and Families Act 2014:** The Act will reform the systems for adoption, looked after children and family justice:

- Children in Care: Every Council is required to have a 'virtual school head' to champion the education of children in the authority's care.
- Adoption Reform: will ensure children can benefit more quickly from being adopted into a loving home.
- Family Justice: Delays will be removed, ensuring that children's best interests are at the heart of decision making.
- Statutory rights to leave and pay for parents and adopters.

**Care Leavers Strategy (October 2013):** This sets out in one place the steps the government is taking to support care leavers to live independently once they have left their placement. It includes a wide range of commitments from government to improve the help and support available to young people leaving care across all areas of life.

**Foster care extended until 21 (December 2013):** Local authorities will be legally obliged to support every young person who wants to stay in foster care until their 21st birthday. The government will give councils £40m funding over the next three years to put the support arrangements in place. The new legal duty has been added to the Children and Families Act.

## Wider and cross cutting issues

The County Durham Partnership (CDP) is the overarching partnership for County Durham and is supported by five thematic Partnerships, each of which has a specific focus:

- **Economic Partnership** - ‘altogether wealthier’ - creating a vibrant economy and putting regeneration and economic development at the heart of all our plans.
- **Children and Families Partnership** - ‘altogether better for children and young people’ - enabling children and young people to develop, achieve their aspirations and maximise their potential.
- **Health and Wellbeing Board** - ‘altogether healthier’ - improving health and wellbeing.
- **Safe Durham Partnership** - ‘altogether safer’ - creating a safer and more cohesive county.
- **Environment Partnership** - ‘altogether greener’ - ensuring an attractive and ‘liveable’ local environment and contributing to tackling global environmental challenges.



The Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) is the over-arching strategic document of the County Durham Partnership. The revised SCS has a stronger focus on issues that cut across more than one thematic priority, particularly those that will have a significant impact on the high level objectives of more than one thematic partnership. The SCS, therefore, has links to other plans such as the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Regeneration Statement, the County Durham Plan, the Local Transport Plan and the Housing Strategy.

The SCS will provide particular focus on:

- Job creation
- Mental wellbeing
- Stronger families
- Volunteering
- Alcohol
- Reducing inequalities

It is also recognised that poverty has a significant impact on children and young people both during their childhood and beyond. The actions in the Children, Young People and Families Plan support the work of the County Durham Child Poverty Strategy.

The following objective from the Children, Young People and Families Plan is shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board and is included in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

**‘Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life’**

Issues such as self-harm by young people are included under this objective and will be dealt with jointly by the Children and Families Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board.



## Vision

The vision for the Children, Young People and Families Plan is that:

***‘All children, young people and families believe, achieve and succeed’.***

The vision has been revised to ensure it reflects the focus on families in addition to children and young people.

## Objectives

The following objectives were agreed by the Children and Families Partnership in September 2013:

- Children and young people realise and maximise their potential.
- Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life.
- A Think Family Approach is embedded in our support of families.

## Outcomes

A number of outcomes have been developed to reflect the work of the Children and Families Partnership. For example, ‘Children are supported to achieve and develop during their Early Years’ reflects the work of the Early Years Strategy.

‘Early intervention and prevention services improve outcomes for families’ reflects the work of the Early Help Strategy and the Stronger Families Programme. A full list of Objectives and Outcomes of the Children, Young People and Families Plan is illustrated on the next page.

## Stakeholders

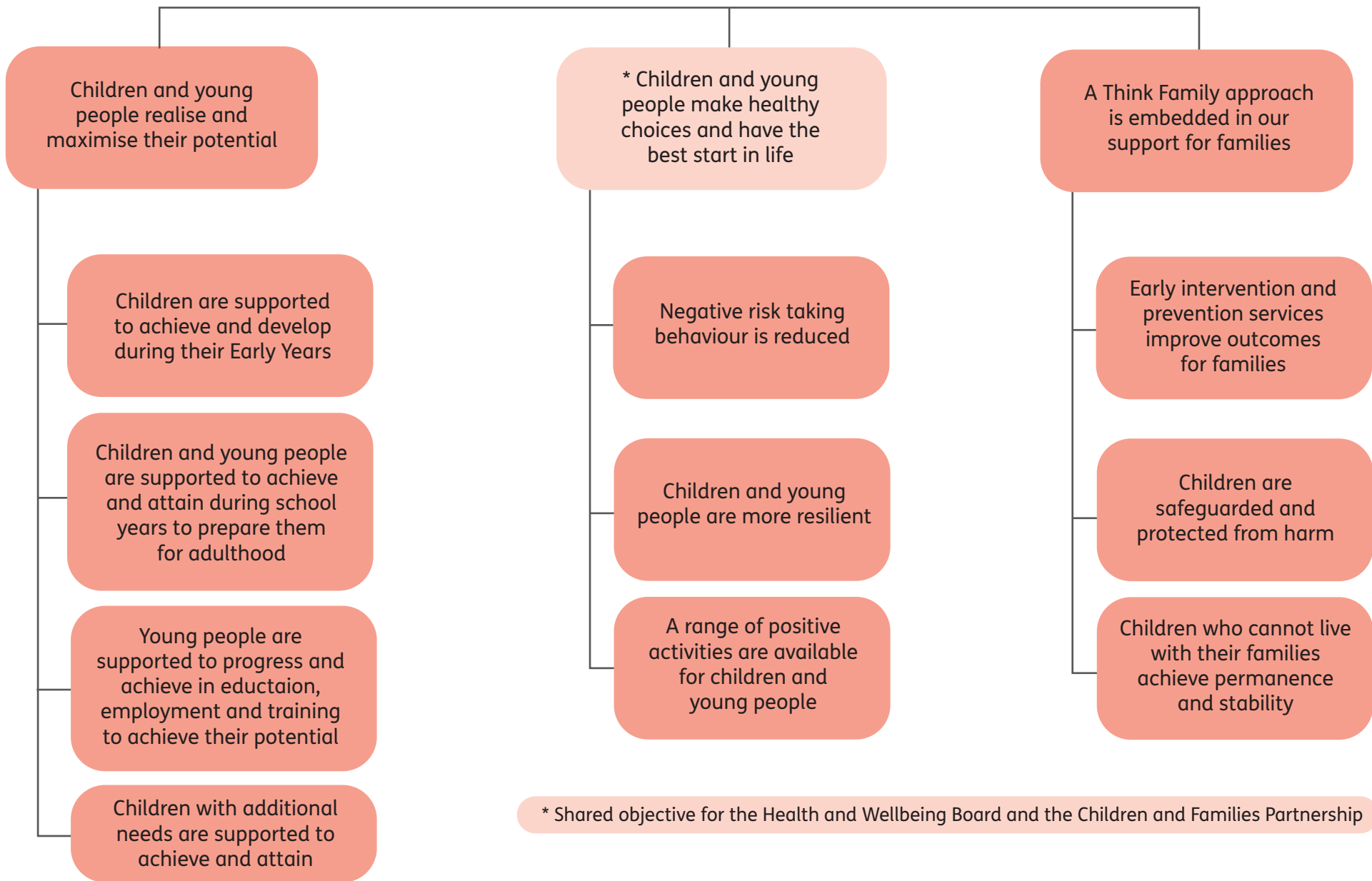
The Corporate Director of Children and Adults Services is chair of the Children and Families Partnership and the Director of Public Health is vice-chair.

The following organisations are represented on the partnership:

- Durham County Council, Children and Adults Services
- Durham County Council, Regeneration & Economic Development
- Durham County Council, Portfolio Holder and Cabinet Support for Children and Young People’s Services

- Durham County Council, Neighbourhoods
- North Durham Clinical Commissioning Group
- Durham Dales, Easington and Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Group
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valley, NHS Foundation Trust, CAMHS
- County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
- Durham Constabulary
- National Probation Service
- Special Schools
- Durham Association of Secondary Heads (DASH)
- Durham Association for Primary Headteachers (DAPH)
- East Durham College
- Voluntary Community Sector, Community of Interest
- Local Safeguarding Children’s Board
- NHS England, Durham, Darlington, Tees Area Team.

# Objectives and outcomes for the Children Young People and Families Plan



The CYPFP objectives are underpinned by local evidence as outlined below.

## 1. Children and young people realise and maximise their potential

### Why this remains a priority

It is widely recognised that the early years of a child's life have a powerful influence on the rest of their lives. This will be addressed by the CFP through the Early Years Strategy.

Educational achievement and attainment also remains a key priority for the government and the Children and Families Partnership and is reflected in the government's educational reforms.

### ***“My education is important to me”***

Source: Children and Young People's Survey

Increasing the number of young people in education, employment and training is a key priority for the government and the Children and Families Partnership and will be addressed through the 'Believe, Achieve and Succeed' Partnership Plan.



### ***“It's important to me to go to university or college”***

Source: Children and Young People's Survey

In addition, the needs of children with a disability are reflected in the priorities of the Children and Families Partnership through the strategic review of commissioning arrangements for children with a disability and their families.

### ***“All schools should be disability friendly”***

Source: Investing in Children Agenda Day

### The evidence

- Durham is within the bottom 10% for Early Years provision as determined by the Ofsted Early Years 2012/13 Annual Report.
- The proportion of pupils in the Early Years Foundation Stage in the 2012/13 Academic Year achieving a good level of development was 42% in County Durham, which is lower than nationally (52%).
- Performance for the 2012/13 Academic Year identifies that in County Durham 63.1% of pupils achieved 5 or more A\*-C GCSEs including English and Maths, which is an increase from 62.5% in the previous year. This was the 11th year in a row where pass rates in the county have increased. The national rate in all schools fell in 2012/13, though state-funded schools improved. County Durham is exceeding the national performance of 59.2%.

- At 'A' Level 49.8% of pupils achieved 2 or more A-B's, which was better than the national figure of 45.3%, whilst 98.9% of pupils achieved 2 or more A-E's, which was higher than the national average of 97.9% (data relates to pupils at local authority maintained sixth forms and doesn't include further education colleges) (NCER 'National' dataset).
- At Key Stage 2, 77.8% of pupils achieved Level 4 or above in reading, writing and Maths, which was better than the national average of 74.8%.
- The achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers achieving 5 A\*-C GCSE grades or equivalent, including English and Maths at Key Stage 4, improved from 32.2 percentage points in the 2011/12 Academic Year to 30.5 percentage points in 2012/13.
- 20.0% of Looked After Children who were in care for at least one year achieved the equivalent of at least 5 A\*-C GCSEs, including English and Mathematics, which was an increase from 17.4% in the previous year. This is better than the national achievement of 15.3%.
- 28% of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) achieved 5 A\*-C GCSEs, including English and Mathematics, which was higher than the national average of 26.6%.
- In 2013/14, 7.1% of 16 to 18 year olds were not in employment, education or training (NEET). This was better in County Durham than the North East as a whole (7.6%) but was worse than the national average of 5.3%.
- In March 2011, the Government published the Green Paper on special educational needs and disability entitled 'Support and Aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability.' This was informed by national enquiries into Speech and Language Therapy and Parental Confidence. The proposals addressed concerns within central Government that the current system had significant failings including:
  - Children with special educational needs or disability sometimes do not get the help they need to do well.
  - It can take too long to find out that a child needs help.
- Sometimes children with special educational needs or a disability do not do well at school because people do not expect them to.
- Parents do not have enough information about what help and which schools are best for their child.

## Achievements

Some of our achievements are detailed below:

County Durham achieved the 6th highest proportion of pupils achieving 5 A\* to C GCSEs or equivalent in the country at 91.4%

A 'Start Today' project information booklet was launched in early 2014 to signpost young people between the ages of 16-19 not in education employment or training, to local training and apprenticeship opportunities in the county.

As part of the 'September Guarantee' to ensure 16 and 17 year olds receive an appropriate place in education or training, 97.3% of 16 year old school leavers received an offer of education or training in a school, college, work based training provider, or an apprenticeship (up from 96% in 2012). The proportion of 17 year olds who received an offer was 90.3% (up from 89.4% in 2012).

Tracking work across the Improving Progression Team and One Point Service reduced the percentage of 16-18 year olds whose status in relation to education, employment or training was not known from 20.6% in 2011/12 to 7.5% at the end of 2013/14.

## The challenges ahead

Further work is required to improve early years provision in County Durham. This will be addressed through the implementation of the Early Years Strategy which will provide a framework on which to build to improve early years in County Durham.

The government plan to make GCSEs and A level subjects more stringent from 2015 in order to better prepare students for higher education and the workplace. Education Development Services will need to respond to this and continue work to narrow the attainment gap for looked after children and those on free school meals with those of their peers.

All young people aged 16 (from 2013) and 17 (from 2015) will be under a duty to participate in education or training until the end of the academic year they turn 17. From 2015, this will rise to their 18th birthday. Partner agencies will need to ensure that additional provision is available.

NHS and local authority partner agencies will need to respond to the government's changes to the Special Educational Needs system and ensure that by September 2014 new birth-to-25 education, health and care plans and access to personal budgets are in place as well as a local offer of services available.

## Case study

After completing her college course in Equestrian Studies, N found that there were no suitable job opportunities. After a number of apprenticeships N discovered she had a passion for hotel work. With the support from One Point personal advisors and S&D Training (who provide a vocational training service for adults and young people), N found employment at a café and is now doing an Advanced Apprenticeship in Customer Service.

When N is not working at the café, she maintains her interest in horses. She recently achieved a Stage 1 qualification via the British Horse Society and is currently working towards a Stage 2 qualification. Upon completion, N will be qualified to teach horse riding.

## 2. Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life

### Why this remains a priority

This is a shared priority with the Health and Wellbeing Board. The objective is aimed at ensuring that young people reduce negative and sexual health risk-taking behaviours e.g. offending, smoking, drinking alcohol, teenage conceptions.

***“It is easy to get hold of cigarettes”***

***“It’s more likely that people will stop smoking if you help them stop at a younger age”***

Source: Investing in Children Agenda Day

***“If I didn’t have this, I would have re-offended. I would have ended up getting drunk, fighting with someone and be back in prison. Now I’m looking forward to finding a job”***

Source: 17 year old male on the County Durham Youth Offending Service Intensive Employability Programme

It also aims to make children and young people more resilient.

***“More learning and awareness of mental health issues could be done in schools”***

Source: Investing in Children Agenda Day

This objective also addresses feedback from young people that they require activities to be made available to them.

***“Keeping fit can be harder when you have a disability either because of your disability or because what is on offer isn’t as good”***

Source: Investing in Children Agenda Day

### The evidence

- The under 18 conception rate for January to December 2012 is lower (33.7) than the North East region (35.5) but greater than the England average (27.9 per 1,000).
- Alcohol-related hospital admission rates for children and young people under 18 (81.5 per 100,000) are higher than the regional and national rate (72.2 and 44.9 per 100,000 population) for the period 2010/11 to 2012/13.

Durham is ranked 19th worst out of 326 Local Authority Areas.

- In 2012/13, the rate of young people admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm was 410.5 per 100,000 10-24 years population. This was higher than the national rate of 346.3 per 100,000.
- County Durham continues to have a lower proportion of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System (FTEs) per 100,000 population (553) than the North East (721) and its statistical neighbours (607). This is a 23% reduction since 2009/10.
- 61% of young people who offend that received a health assessment (122 of 200) identified mental health issues as a risk for re-offending, with 13.1% (16 of 122) of these identifying it as a serious risk for re-offending.
- Around 10% of children and young people suffer from a classifiable mental disorder requiring intervention.

## Achievements

Some of our achievements are detailed below:

County Durham Youth Offending Service has won the Children and Young People Now Youth Justice Award 3 times in 4 years (2010, 2012, 2013).

The Pre Reprimand Disposal (2010) and Fully Integrated Pre-Court System (2012) won the award for their impact on diverting young people from the youth justice system and reducing re-offending. The Fully Integrated Pre-court System is also included as national Best Practice in the statutory 'Out of Court Disposals Guidance' (Ministry of Justice /Youth Justice Board, February 2013). The system provides pre court/out of court assessment and intervention for all young people and their families to reduce first time entrants and re-offending. The work has resulted in a 78% reduction in first time entrants (2007/8 - 2012/13); and a 40% reduction in the number of offences committed and 39.6% reduction in the number of young people offending (2010/11 - 2012/13). It is fully supported by all partners.

CDYOS' Intensive Employability Programme won the award in 2013. This provides an intensive package of wraparound support for more than 50 young people per year aged 16-18, including prolific offenders, high crime causers, and young people who have been

in custody. With evidenced success in reducing re-offending and increasing participation in training and employment, it provides excellent value for money, saving the criminal justice system in excess of £300,000 per year.

A service has been developed in North Durham to support young people who self-harm.

## The challenges ahead

We will continue to reduce re-offending, first time entrants to the youth justice system and custody levels for young people by reviewing strategies and implementing new ways of working.

Work needs to be undertaken to implement a programme of engagement in schools to tackle perceptions of risk-taking behaviour e.g. smoking, alcohol use, and sexual health.

One of the key areas to address is the emotional wellbeing of children and young people, including those from ethnic minority communities and young people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. We will do this through the Emotional Wellbeing Strategy and Public Mental Health Strategy in order to provide effective, high quality mental health services and ensure that levels of self-harm by young people are reduced.

A Youth Support Strategy needs to be implemented and Community Partnerships for Youth developed with the third sector which will be targeted at those children and young people who are most in need.

## Case study

A group of young people highlighted that internet safety is very important, especially meeting people online. The group successfully raised £250 to hold an awareness day called '#be safe' to increase young people and parent's knowledge on internet safety. A wide range of activities and resources were used to highlight what is safe and how young people can stay safe online. A local Police Community Safety Officer (PCSO) attended to address the dangers online and inform young people how they can stay safe and report crimes. Information was circulated detailing services to help young people when online. These young people are now safe online, able to make informed choices and have the knowledge of reporting online crime. They are aware of the dangers and have updated their relevant privacy settings accordingly.

### 3. A Think Family approach is embedded in our support to families

#### Why this remains a priority

Think Family is an approach that requires all agencies to consider the needs of the whole family when working with individual members of it. It encourages a broader view of need than that normally adopted. To 'Think Family' is to understand that children's problems do not sit in isolation from their parents, and that parents' problems impact on their children. This approach ensures that all family members are able to get the support they need, at the right time, to help their children achieve good outcomes.

All agencies are encouraged to 'Think Family' and to coordinate their efforts. This means making sure that families receive co-ordinated, multi-agency, solution focused support.

The Think Family objective is also aimed at ensuring that children are safeguarded and protected from harm and that early intervention and prevention services are in place offering help and support under a 'Think Family' ethos. We are doing this by ensuring all agencies working with these families work effectively together using a 'Think Family' multi-agency approach to meet the needs of whole families which is in line with the transformation of Children's Care.

#### ***"It's important to have a safe, friendly environment"***

Source: Children and Young People's Survey

The objective also aims to address the adoption reforms outlined in the Children and Families Act to ensure that more children can benefit more quickly from being adopted into a loving home.

The 'Think Family' approach is intrinsically linked to our Stronger Families Programme. This programme is known nationally as 'The Troubled Families Programme' and the Government estimates County Durham has around 1320 'Troubled Families' with a range of multiple and complex needs. These are not new families but families who have been known to services, often for many years, and despite numerous interventions their problems persist, and are in many cases intergenerational, leading to cycles of disadvantage for such families.

Our Stronger Families programme focuses on a particular group of families who will receive targeted help, support and intervention delivered with a Think Family, multi-agency approach. A Single Lead Professional/Key Worker is assigned from a service across the Partnership and a 'team around the family' is put in place to coordinate the support.

The Programme is a payment by results scheme and has nationally set identifiers and targets.

The government expects local authorities to not only get to grips with and support families with multiple and complex needs, but also to change the way services are delivered to them. The intention is for Durham County Council to work with and turn around 1320 families over the next three years who:

- have children who don't attend school or who are excluded;
- are involved in antisocial behaviour or crime (including Domestic Abuse);
- are not in work; and
- have locally identified problems that result in high cost services.

#### ***"Young people need to develop better relationships with the police"***

Source: Investing in Children Agenda Day

#### The evidence

County Durham's Stronger Families programme had identified and worked with 1,255 families as of March 2014, and 676 of these families have been claimed as 'turned around' through the Stronger Families programme (May 2014).

During 2013/14 domestic abuse was a key parental risk factor in just over half (53.4%) of all initial child protection case conferences (196).



## Achievements

Some of our achievements are detailed below:

Think Family Partnership Mentors and Think Family Senior Practitioners have been appointed to drive and imbed the 'Think Family' ethos across our services and our partnerships.

A single point of access called 'First Contact' has been implemented to ensure that referrers and families can access early help services quickly, avoiding unnecessary referrals to Children's Services and ensuring children young people and their families receive the right service at the right time.

New Duty Officer posts have been created in the One Point Service which provide a link between First Contact and the One Point Service to support the response to requests for early help.

A single assessment tool has been developed that replaces the previous Common Assessment Framework (CAF) Pre-CAF and CAF assessments, the initial assessment and the core assessment processes. This will reduce repetition for the referrer, children and families and ensure they receive a seamless service.

The Pre-Birth Intervention Service won three awards at the Children and Young People Now Awards. This pioneering service intervenes before children are born, to ensure that they get the best start in life, working with highly vulnerable families who have previously had children taken into care.

## The challenges ahead

The key challenges currently being addressed are:

Implement the revised Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance.

Implement the Early Help Strategy to ensure those in need receive the relevant services as soon as possible to reduce the need of costly high level intervention at a later date.

Implement the Transformation of Children's Care in response to the Munro child protection recommendations. This transformation is in line with the Early Help Strategy and is taking a fresh look at how services are provided to ensure we work together to meet the needs of vulnerable children and families.

Ensure an effective joint agency response to child sexual exploitation / sexual violence and children who go missing from care and home.

Deliver the adoption reforms. The government wants to see more children being adopted by loving families with less delay, The Children and Families Act supports the reforms that include improving support for adoptive families.

## Case study

Child A was involved in anti-social behaviour, frequently coming to the attention of the local police and had 28% unauthorised absence from school across three consecutive terms. Child A was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) affecting behaviour in school and culminating in verbal and physical abuse of others in school and at home. Mum was out of work, claiming benefits.

A Parent Support Adviser met with the family to undertake a whole family assessment. A support plan was drawn up and a 'Team around the Family' convened. An action plan was devised which included practical actions to improve school attendance and behaviour, as well as work to address the consequences and the impact on the family. Grandparents provided additional family support and strategies were devised with relevant agencies to support mum to manage behaviours and emotions. The 'Team around the family' met regularly to support the family and monitor progress. As a result, school attendance improved to 89% and improved behaviour was recognised in school. No further anti-social behaviour incidents were reported over a six month period.

# Children, Young People and Families Plan

2014/2017



## Delivery Plan

**OBJECTIVE 1: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE REALISE AND MAXIMISE THEIR POTENTIAL**

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions  | Lead   | Timescale  | Link to Relevant Plan                    |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Outcome 1: Children are supported to achieve and develop during their early years</b>   |  |  |  |
| <p><b>Implement the Early Years Strategy.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the service delivery model to ensure effective joined up practice between early years practitioners and services in each of the Children’s Centre localities</li> <li>Work in an integrated way to share information to identify needs and inform the delivery of good practice so that children are supported through their early years to be ready for school and so that the gap in outcomes for children is narrowed.</li> <li>Support Children’s Centres to improve early years inspection outcomes through increased support from Education Development Advisers.</li> <li>Invest in early years to ensure readiness for school by creating sufficient nursery places for disadvantaged two year olds, based on Department of Education information on eligibility.</li> </ul> | <p><b>DCC (CAS – Children’s Services)</b></p><br><p><b>DCC (CAS – Children’s Services)</b></p><br><p><b>DCC (CAS - Education)</b></p><br><p><b>DCC (CAS - Education)</b></p> | <p>September 2014</p><br><p>March 2015</p><br><p>March 2015</p><br><p>April 2015</p> | <p>Council Plan<br/>CAS Service Plan</p> |

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target              | 2015/16 Target         | 2016/17 Target         |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Breastfeeding initiation  | Tracker                     | Tracker                | Tracker                |
| Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth   | Tracker                     | Tracker                | Tracker                |
| Percentage of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) achieving a good level of development.            | 48%<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)      | 52%<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr) | 56%<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr) |
| The gap between children in the top (worst) 30% IMD achieving a good level of development in the EYFS and the rest. | 11<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)       | 10<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)  | 10<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)  |
| The gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the EYFS Profile and the rest.  | 39<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)       | 37<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)  | 35<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)  |
| Gap between achievement of children eligible for free school meals and the rest at EYFS.                            | 19<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)       | 18<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)  | 17<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)  |
| Child development at 2-2½ years.  | Indicator under development |                        |                        |
| Percentage of children aged 0-4 year registered (Children's Centres).   | 80.0%                       | Not set                | Not set                |
| Percentage of children aged 0-4 year contacted (Children's Centres).  | 65.0%                       | Not set                | Not set                |
| The percentage of children centre clusters that were assessed during the year that were rated good or excellent     | Tracker                     | Tracker                | Tracker                |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions  | Lead                                   | Timescale        | Link to Relevant Plan            |
|--|--|------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Outcome 2: Children and young people are supported to achieve and attain during school years to prepare them for adulthood</b>  |  |                  |                                  |
| <p><b>Improve achievement in all phases of education by raising standards and narrow gaps in performance between pupil groups.</b></p> <p>KS1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase Level 2b+ in reading and Mathematics.</li> <li>• Narrow the gender and free school meals gap.</li> </ul> <p>KS2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise attainment in writing for more able pupils.</li> <li>• Narrow the gender gap in reading and writing.</li> </ul> <p>In secondary phase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the proportion gaining 5 or more GCSEs including English and Mathematics.</li> <li>• Increase the proportion making 3+ and 4+ levels of progress in each of English and Mathematics.</li> <li>• Increase the proportion gaining 5+ A*-A grades.</li> <li>• Narrow gaps in achievement for all pupil groups.</li> </ul> | <b>DCC (CAS - Education)</b>           | August 2014-2017 | Council Plan<br>CAS Service Plan |
| <p><b>Review and implement the Team Around the School model and offer the model to all secondary schools, so that early help is provided to young people and their families in need of additional support, with the aim of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving school attendance and attainment.</li> <li>• Reducing fixed term and permanent exclusion.</li> </ul>  | <b>DCC (CAS – Children’s Services)</b> | September 2014   | Service Plan                     |

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target              | 2015/16 Target              | 2016/17 Target              |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| The percentage of children achieving Level 2b in Reading and Mathematics  | Tracker                     | Tracker                     | Tracker                     |
| The GAP between gender and free school meals pupils in Key Stage 1 in Writing   | Tracker                     | Tracker                     | Tracker                     |
| The attainment GAP in attainment between gender in Key Stage 2 reading and writing  | Tracker                     | Tracker                     | Tracker                     |
| Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths.   | 63.0%<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)    | 61.0%<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)    | Not set                     |
| Increase the proportion making 3+ and 4+ levels of progress in each of English and Mathematics  | Tracker                     | Tracker                     | Tracker                     |
| Increase the proportion gaining 5+ A*-A grades  | Tracker                     | Tracker                     | Tracker                     |
| Achievement gap between County Durham pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and County Durham pupils not eligible for Pupil Premium funding achieving 5 A*-C GCSE's including English and Maths at Key Stage 4. | 29.5ppts<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr) | 28.0ppts<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr) | 26.5ppts<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr) |
| Primary school persistent absence rate.   | 3.4%<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)     | 3.2%<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)     | 3.0%<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr)     |
| Secondary school persistent absence rate.   | 6.5%<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)     | 6.4%<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)     | 6.3%<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr)     |
| Number of days lost to fixed term exclusions.   | 6,722<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)    | 6,522<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)    | 6,322<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr)    |
| Number of permanent exclusions.   | 70<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr)       | 67<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr)       | 65<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr)       |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead  | Timescale  | Link to Relevant Plan  |
|---|---|------------|--|
| <b>Outcome 3: Young people are supported to progress and achieve in education, employment and training to achieve their potential</b>   |   |            |  |
| <b>Implement the partnership plan ‘Believe, Achieve and Succeed’ by increasing the participation of young people in learning.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure there is a clear focus on supporting young people who are NEET to progress through the implementation of a robust performance management framework, to include regular monitoring and review.</li> <li>• Carry out a review of the Personal Advisor service to ensure a robust focus on effective progression of young people who are NEET.</li> <li>• Engage the skills of Youth Support Service in delivering integrated support to young people who are NEET.</li> </ul> | <b>Improving Progression Partnership</b>                                | March 2015 | Believe, Achieve and Succeed’ Participation Plan                           |
| <b>Increase the number of Apprenticeship opportunities being made available for residents and businesses and provide a demand led approach to supporting economic growth.</b>   | <b>CDEP Business and Enterprise Group / DCC (RED / CAS – Education)</b> | March 2015 | North East LEP European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy 2014-2020 |
| <b>Support sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (aged 15-24) to enhance our capacity for economic growth.</b>   | <b>CDEP Business and Enterprise Group</b>                               | March 2015 | North East LEP European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy 2014-2020 |
| <b>Develop and support the implementation of County Durham Youth Employment Initiative.</b>   | <b>DCC (RED / CAS – Education)</b>                                      | March 2017 | North East LEP European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy 2014-2020 |

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target           | 2015/16 Target           | 2016/17 Target           |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Percentage of pupils on Level 3 programmes in community secondary schools achieving 2 A levels at Grade A*-E or equivalent. | 98.5%<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr) | 98.9%<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr) | 99.0%<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr) |
| 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET).   | Tracker                  | Tracker                  | Tracker                  |
| Percentage of 16-18 year olds whose status in relation to education, employment or training is 'not known'.                 | 5.5%                     | 4.8%                     | 4.1%                     |
| Participation in education, training - young people aged 16.  | 97.0%                    | 97.5%                    | 98.0%                    |
| Participation in education, training - young people aged 17.  | 92.0%                    | 93.0%                    | 94.0%                    |
| Percentage of young people gaining a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19.  | 87.0%                    | 88.0%                    | 88.0%                    |
| Percentage of young people gaining a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19.  | 52.0%                    | 53.0%                    | 54.0%                    |



| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead  | Timescale  | Link to Relevant Plan                                |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Outcome 4: Children with additional needs are supported to achieve and attain</b>  |   |  |  |
| <b>Carry out a strategic review of commissioning arrangements for children with a disability and their families.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve commissioning of services for children with SEN who do not attend special schools.</li> <li>• Re-commission Universal Short breaks to ensure equitable access across the County.</li> <li>• Re-commission specialist short breaks to ensure increased choice and value for money.</li> <li>• Design and implement a process for specialist commissioning.</li> <li>• Reviewing direct payments for children.</li> </ul>   | <b>DCC (CAS - Commissioning)</b>                      | June 2014<br>June 2014<br>November 2014<br>November 2014<br>April 2015                 | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy CAS Service Plan |
| <b>Improve education outcomes for children with special educational needs (SEN) and other vulnerable groups.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement birth to 25 Education, Health and Care (EHC) assessments.</li> <li>• Prepare a personal budget for anyone in receipt of an EHC Plan, when requested by the parents or young person.</li> <li>• Publish the Local Offer of services that support children and young people with special educational needs and their families.</li> <li>• Provide advice and guidance for families of children with SEN.</li> <li>• Develop SEN and Disability Strategy and implement recommendations.</li> </ul> | <b>DCC (CAS - Education)</b>                          | September 2014<br>September 2014<br>September 2014<br>September 2014<br>September 2014 | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy CAS Service Plan |
| <b>Sustain and promote the attainment and achievement of Looked after Children.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the statutory role of Virtual Head Teacher is carried out and that LAC make good progress during their time in school and reach expected attainment levels by the end of key stages.</li> <li>• Improve employment of Looked After Children by creating apprenticeship / training schemes for care leavers.</li> </ul>  | <b>DCC (CAS - Education)</b>                          | September 2014<br>March 2015   | N/A  |
| <b>Scope the development of an integrated Transitions Team and an integrated assessment function.</b>   | <b>DCC (CAS - Adult Care and Children's Services)</b> | April 2014   | Social Care Reform Project Plan                      |

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target           | 2015/16 Target           | 2016/17 Target           |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Looked after children reaching Level 4 in Reading at Key Stage 2.   | 51.85%                   | 50%                      | 60.7%                    |
| Looked after children reaching Level 4 in Writing at Key Stage 2.   | 48.1%                    | 50%                      | 53.6%                    |
| Looked after children reaching Level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2.   | 62.3%                    | 50%                      | 57.1%                    |
| Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at KS 4 (with English and Maths).              | 20.9%<br>(2013/14 Ac Yr) | 23.3%<br>(2014/15 Ac Yr) | 26.7%<br>(2015/16 Ac Yr) |
| Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reaching Level 4 in Reading at Key Stage 2. | 64%                      | 65%                      | 67%                      |
| Children with SEND reaching Level 4 in Writing at Key Stage 2.  | 46%                      | 47%                      | 49%                      |
| Children with SEND reaching Level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2.  | 61%                      | 61%                      | 62%                      |
| Children with SEND achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (with English and Maths).          | 24%                      | 20%                      | 24%                      |

**OBJECTIVE 2: CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES AND HAVE THE BEST START IN LIFE**

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions  | Lead   | Timescale                                  | Link to Relevant Plan                                  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Outcome 5: Negative risk-taking behaviour is reduced</b>  |  |  |  |
| <b>Reduce Re-offending by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing the Reducing Re-offending Strategy for Young People</li> <li>• Implementing the new youth justice assessment framework (AssetPlus).</li> </ul>  | <b>DCC (CAS - County Durham Youth Offending Service)</b> | March 2015<br>March 2017                   | Safe Durham Partnership Plan<br><br>Youth Justice Plan |
| <b>Reduce First Time Entrants by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a quality assurance framework and improvement plan for pre-court work.</li> <li>• Working with partners to implement the Out Of Court Disposals (OOC) scrutiny process.</li> </ul>   | <b>DCC (CAS - County Durham Youth Offending Service)</b> | March 2015<br><br>March 2016               | Safe Durham Partnership Plan<br><br>Youth Justice Plan |
| <b>Reduce custody (both sentences and remands) by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewing and amending the Reducing Remand Bed Nights Strategy.</li> <li>• Reviewing and amending the Reducing Offending by Looked After Children Strategy.</li> <li>• Implementing actions to reduce youth custody based on detailed analysis of custody cases.</li> </ul>  | <b>DCC (CAS - County Durham Youth Offending Service)</b> | March 2016<br>March 2016<br><br>March 2016 | Safe Durham Partnership Plan<br><br>Youth Justice Plan |
| <b>Support children and young people to take part in positive activities which are appropriate for their age and reduce negative and sexual health risk-taking behaviours e.g. smoking, drinking alcohol, teenage conceptions.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement the teenage pregnancy and sexual health delivery plan with a focus on : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Supporting young people to achieve and attain during school years to prepare them for relationships, sexual wellbeing and adulthood</li> <li>○ Building resilience in children and young people to protect against engaging in risky behaviour</li> <li>○ Raising self-esteem, aspirations and educational attainment of young people</li> <li>○ Improving the outcomes for vulnerable young people including teenage parents and their children, those at risk of unplanned pregnancy</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b>                         | August 2017                                | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy                    |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead  | Timescale   | Link to Relevant Plan                  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Work in partnership to increase awareness and provide education to young people and their parents on the risks of alcohol and ensure that adequate control on the sale of alcohol is in place and effective treatment services are available.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that children and young people who present with alcohol or substance misuse related injuries at emergency departments in the trust areas are referred for specialist interventions to address any alcohol or substance misuse related problem at the earliest opportunity</li> <li>• Implement a 'Think Family' approach when parental alcohol and/or substance misuse is identified</li> <li>• Work in partnership to address proxy provision of alcohol – i.e. parents supplying alcohol to their children</li> </ul> | <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> | <p>January 2015</p> <p>January 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> | <p>Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy</p> |

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target                 | 2015/16 Target                 | 2016/17 Target                 |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Under 16 conception rate.   | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Under 18 conception rate.   | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| First time entrants (FTE's) to the Youth Justice System aged 10 - 17 (per 100,000 population of 10-17 year olds). | 310 FTE's<br>(681 per 100,000) | 310 FTE's<br>(681 per 100,000) | 310 FTE's<br>(681 per 100,000) |
| Rate of proven re-offending by young people.  | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Use of custody per 1,000 population of 10-17 year olds.   | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Number of remand bed nights.  | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Percentage of children aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese.  | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Percentage of children aged 10-11 classified as overweight or obese.  | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18's (per 100,000 under 18 years population).                      | Tracker                        | Tracker                        | Tracker                        |
| Chlamydia diagnoses per 100,000 15-24 year olds.  | 2,300<br>(per year)            | 2,300<br>(per year)            | 2,300<br>(per year)            |
| Percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery.  | 20.5%                          | 20.4%                          | 20.3%                          |
| Percentage of all exits from young person's treatment which are care planned                                      | 79%                            | Not Set                        | Not Set                        |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead  | Timescale  | Link to Relevant Plan  |
|---|---|--|--|
| <b>Outcome 6: Children and young people are more resilient</b>  |   |  |  |
| <p><b>Work together to reduce incidents of self-harm by young people by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement community responder programme identifies individuals at risk of suicide or self-harm (sheds model for young people).</li> <li>• Clarify safe and effective support pathways, and raise awareness of key professionals that can be involved in complex cases.</li> <li>• Developing open access and drop in clinics for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).</li> <li>• Increasing the utilisation of outreach work i.e. clinics within children's centres, GP practices.</li> <li>• Better use of technology by CAMHS services, for example Skype.</li> <li>• Increasing publicity around the issues of self-harming.</li> <li>• Working with Health Colleagues to ensure the effective deployment of School Nurses to lead on the delivery of the Healthy Child Programme to children and young people in their school years.</li> <li>• Ensuring parents and carers receive appropriate public health advice and support.</li> <li>• Reviewing the pathway for paediatric self-harm admissions.</li> <li>• Developing the knowledge and skills of school based staff to identify and support vulnerable young people engaging in self-harm behaviours.</li> <li>• Evaluate sheds model for young people.</li> </ul> | <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>TEWV</b></p> <p><b>TEWV</b></p> <p><b>TEWV</b></p> <p><b>All organisations</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>CCGs</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p> | <p>September 2014</p> <p>December 2014</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> <p>March 2015</p> | <p>Feedback report from young people</p> <p>TEWV CYPS Transformation Plan</p> <p>Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</p> |
| <p><b>Embed resilience into children and young people strategies and polices to ensure it is a core component of all the children and young people's workforce plans</b></p>  | <p><b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b></p>   | <p>March 2017</p>  | <p>N/A</p>   |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions  | Lead                            | Timescale  | Link to Relevant Plan               |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| Review of Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) joint commissioning arrangements.   | NECS                            | April 2014 | Joint health and Wellbeing Strategy |
| Provide training to professionals and develop a range of marketing materials to raise their awareness of young carer needs.  | DCC (CAS - Commissioning)       | March 2015 | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy |
| Continue to improve the emotional wellbeing of children and young people and provide effective, high quality mental health services to those who need it <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement Public Mental Health Strategy with focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prevention.</li> <li>- Promotion.</li> <li>- Early Intervention.</li> <li>- Recovery.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> and identifying priority groups such as young carers and looked after children. | DCC (CAS - Public Health)       | March 2017 | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy |
| Implement 'Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan'.  | DCC (CAS - Public Health) /CCGs | March 2017 | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy |

#### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target | 2015/16 Target | 2016/17 Target |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Emotional and behavioural health of Looked After Children (average score of Strengths & Difficulties Questionnaire).        | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |
| Young people aged 10-24 years admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000 population aged 10-24 years). | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |
| Number of new referrals to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS).   | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead   | Timescale                    | Link to Relevant Plan  |
|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Outcome 7: A range of positive activities are available for children and young people</b>  |  |                              |                        |
| <b>Implement Youth Support Strategy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review youth support services to provide a clear focus on delivering targeted support to young people vulnerable to poor outcomes.</li> <li>Work with the voluntary and community sector in the provision of a comprehensive offer of positive activities to young people in County Durham.</li> </ul> | <b>DCC (CAS – Children’s Services)</b><br><br><b>DCC (CAS – Children’s Services)</b> | March 2016<br><br>March 2016 | Youth Support Strategy |

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator  | 2014/15 Target | 2015/16 Target | 2016/17 Target |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Percentage of young people reached through youth work.   | 17%            | Not set        | Not set        |
| Percentage of young people achieving Full Youth Work Accredited Awards e.g. Duke of Edinburgh. | 1%             | Not set        | Not set        |



**OBJECTIVE 3: A THINK FAMILY APPROACH IS EMBEDDED IN OUR SUPPORT OF FAMILIES**

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions  | Lead  | Timescale  | Link to Relevant Plan |
|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Outcome 8: Early intervention and prevention services improve outcomes for families</b>   |   |  |                       |
| <b>Implement the Early Help Strategy to better support families who have additional needs.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce a Single Front Door (First Contact Service) for referrals.</li> <li>• Introduce a single assessment framework.</li> <li>• Improve information sharing with partners.</li> <li>• Review social care services to focus on earlier help.</li> <li>• Introduce a framework to monitor the effectiveness of services to children across the partnership.</li> </ul> | <b>Children and Families Partnership / LSCB</b> | April 2014<br>April 2014<br>March 2015<br>March 2016<br>March 2016 | Early Help Strategy   |
| <b>Implement statutory changes in relation to Health Visitors and Family Nurse Partnerships.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project-manage the transition to the council for health visitors, school nurses and the family nurse partnership, to enable a whole systems approach to health improvement services and service delivery.</li> </ul>   | <b>DCC (CAS - Public Health)</b>                | October 2015   | Council Plan          |

**PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target | 2015/16 Target | 2016/17 Target |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Percentage of successful interventions via the Stronger Families Programme.               | 70%            | Not set        | Not set        |
| Percentage of CIN referrals occurring within 12 months of previous referral.              | 28%            | 26%            | 24%            |
| Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time. | 14.5%          | 14.5%          | 14.5%          |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead   | Timescale             | Link to Relevant Plan |
|---|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Outcome 9: Children are safeguarded and protected from harm</b>  |  |                       |                       |
| <b>Ensure all Local Authority commissioned and grant aided voluntary sector organisations work to safe standards of practice by implementing the ‘Never Do Nothing’ standards, to ensure the safeguarding of Children and Young People accessing their services.</b>  | <b>Voluntary / Community Sector</b>                | April 2014            | LSCB Annual Report    |
| <b>Implement the sexual violence action plan which includes joint agency response to child sexual exploitation / sexual violence and children who go missing from home and care.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify the number of children and young people who go missing.</li> <li>• Raise awareness to partners.</li> </ul> | <b>Domestic Abuse Forum Executive Group / LSCB</b> | April 2014            | LSCB Annual Report    |
| <b>Carry out Section 11 audits on an annual basis to ensure all services and functions have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children and young people.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present the Audit to the LSCB Board.</li> </ul>  | <b>LSCB</b>  | May 2014<br>June 2014 | LSCB Annual Report    |
| <b>Implement the revised Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance with partners to ensure the most vulnerable children receive early help and support.</b>   | <b>LSCB</b>  | April 2015            | LSCB Annual Report    |
| <b>Develop effective working practices within adult mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse services through the single front door (First Contact Service).</b>  | <b>Think Family Partnership</b>                    | March 2015            | CAS Service Plan      |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead                                   | Timescale                    | Link to Relevant Plan               |
|---|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Agree an inter-agency protocol for collaborative working and information sharing between agencies working with vulnerable children and adults</b>  | LSCB                                   | April 2015                   | LSCB Annual report                  |
| <b>Implement the Unintentional Injuries Strategy to reduce accidental injuries in children and young people.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Local Injury Prevention Strategy Group to lead on implementing the NICE action plan.</li> <li>Develop relevant clinical protocols across agencies to ensure quality of care for Children and Young People involved in accidental injury.</li> </ul> | DCC (CAS - Public Health)              | March 2015<br><br>March 2015 | Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy |
| <b>Protect children from harm from breathing second hand smoke in the home and cars.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrate Smokefree Families Initiative across all partners.</li> </ul>   | DCC (CAS - Public Health)              | March 2015                   | N/A                                 |
| <b>Promote safety for outdoor play.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage primary schools to participate in Bikeability cycle safety training.</li> <li>Implement speed management approaches in targeted areas.</li> </ul>  | DCC (RED)<br>DCC (CAS - Public Health) | March 2015<br>March 2016     | N/A                                 |

## PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator  | 2014/15 Target | 2015/16 Target | 2016/17 Target |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales.                                   | 100%           | 100%           | 100%           |
| Rate of children with a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population.   | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |
| Percentage of Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more (children who ceased to be the subject of a plan).        | 1%             | 1%             | 1%             |
| Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents.  | 14<br>(2014)   | 13<br>(2015)   | 12<br>(2016)   |
| Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (rate per 10,000 aged 0-14 years)      | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |
| Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in young people (rate per 10,000 aged 15-24 years) | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |
| Parent/carer satisfaction with the help they received from Children's Services.  | 72%            | 72%            | 72%            |
| The number of children who are reported missing  | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |

| Strategic Actions/Sub-Actions   | Lead                                   | Timescale                              | Link to Relevant Plan |
|---|--|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Outcome 10: Children who cannot live with their families achieve permanence and stability</b>  |  |  |                       |
| <b>Implement the fostering and adoption reforms as laid out in the Children and Families Act to streamline processes and provide permanence and stability.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise adoption for Looked After Children who are unable to live within their birth families.</li> <li>Ensure that all children's cases are managed within the revised court timescales (Family Justice Review 2013).</li> <li>Implement the Adoption Reform Plan.</li> </ul> | <b>DCC (CAS - Children's Services)</b> | March 2015<br>March 2015<br>March 2015 | Council Plan          |
| <b>Reduce numbers of Looked After Children.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the Looked After Children Reduction Strategy.</li> <li>Provide effective alternatives to care.</li> </ul>  | <b>DCC (CAS - Children's Services)</b> | March 2017<br>March 2017               | Council Plan          |

#### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

| Indicator   | 2014/15 Target | 2015/16 Target | 2016/17 Target |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Average time between a child entering care and moving in with its adoptive family, for children who have been adopted (days).                               | 420            | 340            | Not set        |
| Average time between a local authority receiving court authority to place a child and the local authority deciding on a match to an adoptive family (days). | 121            | 71             | Not set        |
| Percentage of Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.   | 97.8%          | 98.0%          | 98.2%          |
| Stability of placements of Looked After Children: number of placements.   | 13%            | 12%            | 11%            |
| Stability of placements of Looked After Children: length of placements.   | 60%            | 62%            | 64%            |
| Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000 population.  | Tracker        | Tracker        | Tracker        |

## Children, Young People & Families Plan – Glossary

| Abbreviation | Description  |
|--------------|--|
| ADHD         | <p><b>Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder</b></p> <p>Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder is a psychiatric disorder in which there are significant problems of attention, hyperactivity, or acting impulsively that are not appropriate for a person's age. These symptoms must begin by age six to twelve and be present for more than six months for a diagnosis to be made.</p>  |
| CAF          | <p><b>Common Assessment Framework</b></p> <p>The Common Assessment Framework was a key part of delivering frontline services that were integrated and focused around the needs of children and young people. It was a standardised approach used by practitioners to assess children's additional needs and decide how these should be met. This was replaced by the Single Assessment from April 2014.</p>  |
| CAMHS        | <p><b>Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services</b></p> <p>Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services help children and young people with their mental health and well-being and are usually provided by a multi-disciplinary team of mental health professionals.</p>  |
| CAS          | <p><b>Children and Adults Services</b></p> <p>Children and Adults Services bring together a number of council functions which contribute to the County Durham Partnership vision of Altogether Better Durham.</p> <p>In particular, the relevant themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Altogether better for children and young people</li> <li>• Altogether healthier</li> <li>• Altogether safer</li> <li>• Altogether wealthier</li> </ul> |
| CCG          | <p><b>Clinical Commissioning Groups</b></p> <p>Groups of GPs and other health care professionals who have the responsibility for commissioning health and care services in their area from April 2013, in partnership with local authorities and local communities.</p>  |

| Abbreviation | Description   |
|--------------|---|
| CFP          | <p><b>Children and Families Partnership</b></p> <p>County Durham Children and Families Partnership has a strategic responsibility for delivering better outcomes for children, young people and their families in County Durham.</p>  |
| CIN          | <p><b>Children in Need</b></p> <p>Children in need are defined in law as children who are aged under 18 and:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need local authority services to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development.</li> <li>• Need local authority services to prevent significant or further harm to health or development.</li> <li>• Are disabled.</li> </ul> |
| CYPFP        | <p><b>Children, Young People and Families Plan</b></p> <p>The Children, Young People and Families Plan is the single overarching, multi-agency plan for the delivery of priorities for children and young people in County Durham. The plan sets the vision for The Children and Families Partnership including services around children and young people.</p>  |
| DCC          | <p><b>Durham County Council</b></p> <p>Local authority which performs all council functions in the County Durham area.</p>  |
| EHC Plan     | <p><b>Education Health and Care Plan</b></p> <p>Education Health and Care Plans will be introduced across England &amp; Wales during 2014. The Plans themselves originate from the Children &amp; Families Act which is currently being processed through the House of Commons.</p>   |
| EYFS         | <p><b>Early Years Foundation Stage</b></p> <p>The Early Year's Foundation Stage sets the statutory standards that all early years providers must meet. This includes all maintained schools, non-maintained schools, independent schools and all providers on the Early Years Register.</p>   |
| FSM          | <p><b>Free School Meals</b></p> <p>A free school meal is a school meal provided to a child or young person during a school break and paid for by government.</p>  |

| Abbreviation | Description  |
|--------------|--|
| FTE's        | <p><b>First Time Entrants</b></p> <p>First Time Entrants to the criminal justice system are classified as offenders, (aged 10 – 17) resident in England and Wales, who received their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction, based on data recorded on the Police National Computer.</p>   |
| GCSE         | <p><b>General Certificate of Secondary Education</b></p> <p>The General Certificate of Secondary Education is an academic qualification awarded in a specified subject, generally taken in a number of subjects by students aged 14-16 in secondary education in the UK.</p>   |
| JHWS         | <p><b>Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy</b></p> <p>A legal requirement to ensure that NHS and social care agencies work together through the Health and Wellbeing Board and agree the services that should be prioritised within the strategy.</p>   |
| LAC          | <p><b>Looked After Children</b></p> <p>Children in public care, who are placed with foster carers, in residential homes or with parents or other relatives.</p>  |
| LEP          | <p><b>Local Enterprise Partnership</b></p> <p>A local enterprise partnership is a voluntary partnership between local authorities and businesses formed in 2011 by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills to help determine local economic priorities and lead economic growth and job creation within its local area.</p>   |
| LSCB         | <p><b>Local Safeguarding Children Board</b></p> <p>Local Safeguarding Children Boards were established by the Children Act 2004 which gives a statutory responsibility to each locality to have this mechanism in place. LSCBs are now the key system in every locality of the country for organisations to come together to agree on how they will cooperate with one another to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.</p> |
| MALAP        | <p><b>Multi Agency Looked After Partnership</b></p> <p>A Multi-Agency Looked After Partnership is a group of people from many different organisations set up to look at how they could work together to help improve educational achievements, post 16 services and the health and emotional well-being of looked after children and young people to give the best possible chance in life.</p>                                      |
| NEET         | <p><b>Not in Employment, Education or Training</b></p> <p>A young person (16-24) who is "Not in Education, Employment, or Training".</p>   |



| Abbreviation | Description   |
|--------------|---|
| OFSTED       | <p><b>Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills</b></p> <p>An independent and impartial organisation who inspect and regulate services which care for children and young people, those providing education and skills for learners of all ages.</p>   |
| PCSO         | <p><b>Police Community Safety Officer</b></p> <p>A Police Community Support Officer is a civilian member of police staff employed as a uniformed non-warranted officer by one of the forty-three territorial police forces in England and Wales or the British Transport Police.</p>  |
| RED          | <p><b>Regeneration and Economic Development</b></p> <p>The Regeneration and Economic Development service grouping is central to Durham County Council's drive to create sustainable places where people want to live, work, invest and visit, whilst enabling our residents and businesses to achieve their potential.</p>  |
| SEN          | <p><b>Special Educational Needs</b></p> <p>Children who have needs or disabilities that affect their ability to learn. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Behavioural/social (eg difficulty making friends).</li> <li>• Reading and writing (eg dyslexia).</li> <li>• Understanding things.</li> <li>• Concentrating (eg Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).</li> <li>• Physical needs or impairments.</li> </ul> |
| TEWV         | <p><b>Tees, Esk &amp; Wear Valley</b></p> <p>NHS trust providing mental health, learning disability and substance misuse services in County Durham, the Tees Valley and the Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale areas of North Yorkshire.</p>   |

# Children, Young People and Families Plan

2014/2017

## Contact details

Any comments or queries about  
this document can be directed to:

## Policy, Planning and Partnerships

Children and Adults Services  
County Hall  
Durham  
DH1 5UG

Telephone: 03000 267318

**Please ask us if you would like this document  
summarised in another language or format.**

العربية (Arabic) (中文(繁體字)) (Chinese) اردو (Urdu)  
polski (Polish) ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi) Español (Spanish)  
বাংলা (Bengali) हिन्दी (Hindi) Deutsch (German)  
Français (French) Türkçe (Turkish) Melayu (Malay)

[altformat.cas@durham.gov.uk](mailto:altformat.cas@durham.gov.uk)

03000 261 381



Braille



Audio



Large  
Print