

Children, Young People and Families Plan

2015/2018



County Durham Children
and Families Partnership



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. This includes targeting resources at groups that are most in need.

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.

Consultations have taken place with key partners and organisations to inform this refresh of the CYPFP for 2015-18.

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

All partners will work together to empower families and communities using the minimum necessary statutory intervention.

We will work to avoid need by offering effective preventative services, identifying need early and offering practical support. Where a child's

wellbeing or safety is compromised, we will act swiftly to ensure safeguards are in place, including use of legal powers where unavoidable.

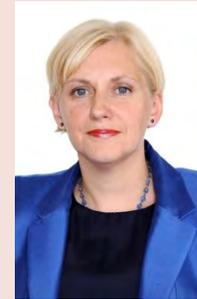
If we succeed in working in this way, we believe the numbers of children who need to be looked after and those with a protection plan will decrease, and we will increase the number of families receiving help at an earlier level.

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.

The most powerful views we get are those from young people. It is important that we listen to these views and embed them within our plans.

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 the vision is met so 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



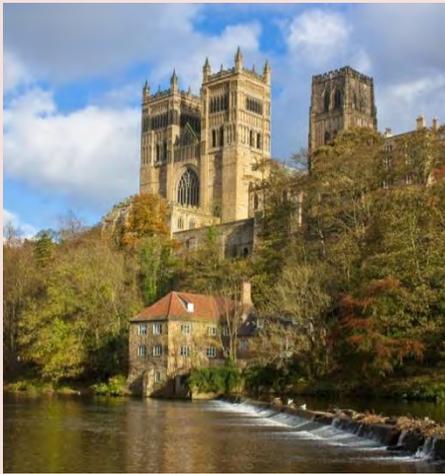
Councillor Ossie Johnson

Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People's Services

Background

A new Children, Young People and Families Plan (CYPFP) was developed in 2014, following a review of the membership, governance arrangements and priorities for the Children and Families Partnership (CFP).

The CYPFP has been refreshed for 2015-18 to ensure that it is fit for purpose and continues to meet the needs of children and young people.



It has been informed by evidence in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Community Safety Strategic Assessment.

Demographics

Between 2001 and 2013, the 0-17 population in County Durham has fallen by 5.9% which is a slightly smaller fall than the North East region of 7.5%, while the national trend is reversed and saw an increase in the 0-17 population of 2.8% over the same period. By 2030, the number of children and young people aged 0-17 is projected to increase by 6.5%, reversing some of the declining trends seen prior to 2011.

Between 2001 and 2013, due to the increase in birth rate, the 0-4 age group in County Durham increased by 10.7%. As a result of an increase in the birth rate, it is expected that there will be in the region of 1,220 more primary aged pupils by 2023/24 than there were in 2013/14.

Consultation

Consultation has taken place with young people through Investing in Children (IIC) reference groups and with young carers through The Bridge Young Carers Service.

IIC is a Community Interest Company, that works alongside children and young people, and adults who provide services for them, to create a range of effective ways in which they can exercise their right to have a say, often

resulting in improvements in the services themselves. IIC has hosted a number of agenda days to gather young people's views on various topic areas.

The Bridge Young Carers Service provide a service to young carers across County Durham, they aim to support young people who have challenging caring roles with a family focused approach. The aim is to enable young carers to aspire to and achieve their full potential.

The Bridge has undertaken consultation with young carers in some of their group sessions to inform the CYPFP.

The Children and Families Partnership also undertake surveys to seek the views of children of school age in County Durham on a range of key issues to help inform the development of plans and services across County Durham.

Previously a survey has been undertaken every 2 years with a selection of schools who take part on a voluntary basis, focusing on year groups 6 and 9. A new survey of secondary schools was undertaken between January and March 2015.

The One Point Service undertakes a bi-annual survey that has been designed by children, young people and parents, to evaluate the impact and quality of the Service's work.

Consultation has also taken place through partner organisations and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The Health and Wellbeing Board hosted an engagement event in October 2014, which was attended by over 240 people. This included a workshop to look at health issues relating to children and young people. Families from the Making Changes Together group attended the event. Feedback from this event has been taken into account in the refresh of the CYPFP for 2015-18.

Issues which young people consider important to them include:

- Delivery of sex education in schools
- Risk taking behaviour including smoking, drinking, drugs and unprotected sex
- Places to go and things to do; access, availability, transport and costs
- Self-Harm

- Emotional health and wellbeing/stress

It is important to link with children and young people and engage families. Young people attend each meeting of the Children and Families Partnership to raise issues that affect them. It is important that we feed back our actions to young people to ensure accountability and transparency. This is a commitment from the Children and Families Partnership. Any health related issues are also fed into the Health and Wellbeing Board for information or action through the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.



Commitments of the Children and Families Partnership

Investing in Children Membership Award

The Children and Families Partnership achieved the Investing in Children Membership award, which gives national recognition for good practice and active inclusion of children and young people in dialogue and change. The Partnership will strive to renew this membership annually.

Young Carers Charter

The Children and Families Partnership is pledging to support young carers by signing the Young Carers Charter, recognising that young carers are young people first and carers second. The Children and Families Partnership acknowledges that young carers have the same rights as all other children and young people and should have access to the same facilities, services and support that is available to other young people across County Durham. Work will continue to gain this accreditation during 2015.

Mental Health Champion

The Vice-Chair of the Children and Families Partnership is a nominated mental health champion, whose role

includes promoting wellbeing and initiating and supporting action on public mental health.

Stakeholders

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

The following organisations are represented on the partnership:

- Durham County Council Children and Adults Services
- Durham County Council, Public Health
- Durham County Council, Regeneration & Economic Development
- Durham County Council, Neighbourhoods
- Durham County Council, Portfolio Holder and Cabinet Support for Children and Young People's Services
- North Durham and Durham Dales, Easington & Sedgefield Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys, NHS Foundation Trust (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services)

- County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
- Durham Constabulary
- Durham Association for Primary Headteachers (DAPH)
- Durham Association of Secondary Heads (DASH)
- Durham Association for Special Schools (DASS)
- Durham College Principals Group
- Voluntary and Community Sector
- Local Safeguarding Children Board
- NHS England, Cumbria and North East Sub-Regional Team.

(NB this not an exhaustive list)

Two-way communication links have been developed to ensure effective partnership working between stakeholders.



Vision

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

'All children, young people and families believe, achieve and succeed'

To achieve this vision, three Strategic Objectives have been agreed by the Children and Families Partnership, along with ten outcomes.

Objectives

The following objectives were agreed by the Children and Families Partnership in September 2013 and reaffirmed in September 2014 for 2015/16:

- 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 for families.

Outcomes

A number of outcomes have been developed to provide focus and reflect the work of the Children and Families Partnership.

A chart showing the Objectives and Outcomes of the Children, Young People and Families Plan is illustrated on the next page.

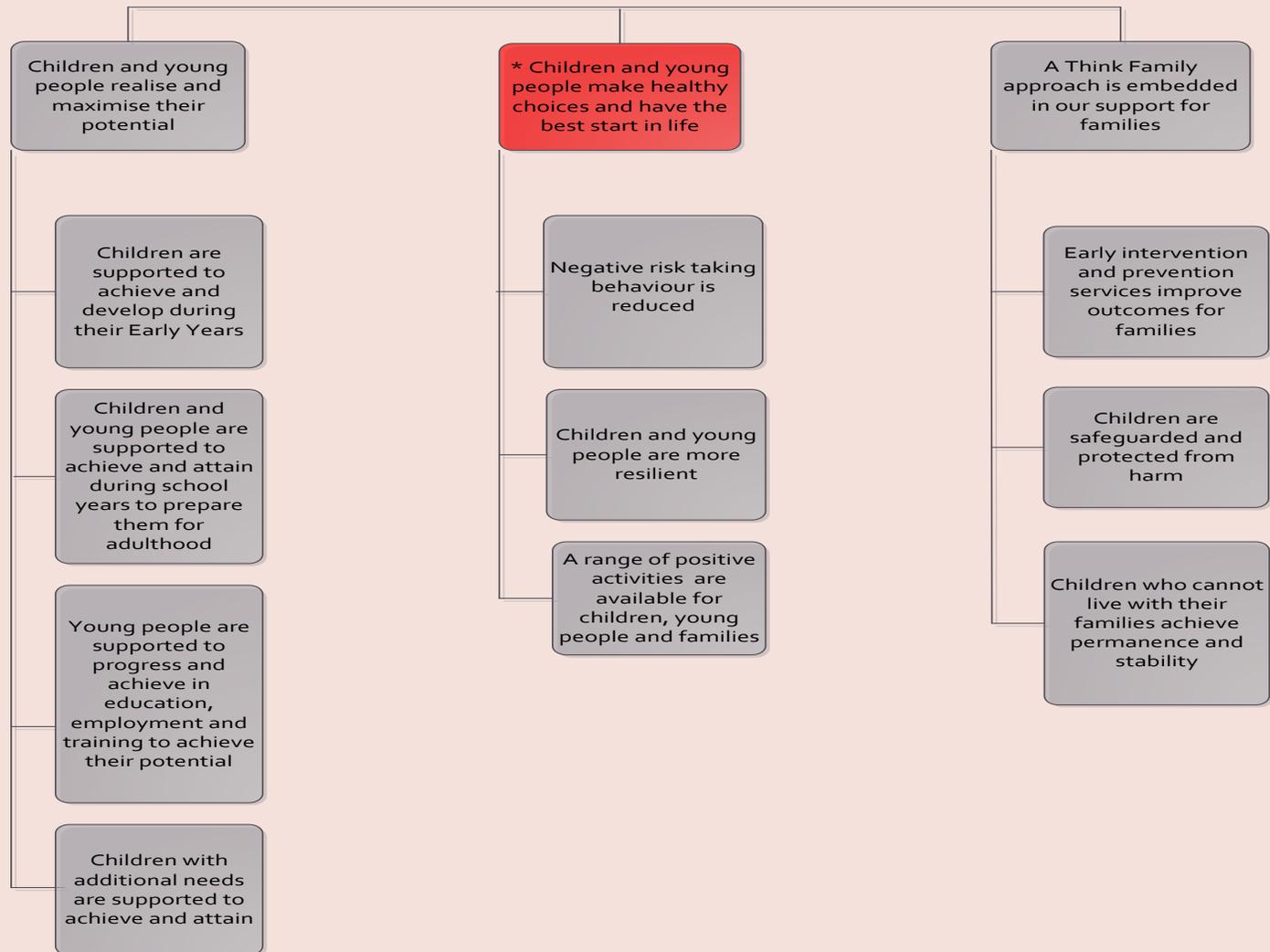
Delivery Plan

A delivery plan will be developed to take forward the objectives and outcomes in the CYPFP.

The delivery plan will list the actions we will take to achieve the objectives and outcomes. It will detail what we will do and when we will do it, and progress against the delivery plan will be monitored by the Children and Families Partnership. Regular performance updates will be presented to partners at the Children and Families Partnership meetings to ensure accountability and transparency.



OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES FOR THE CHILDREN YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PLAN



* Shared objective for the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Families Partnership

Strong Partnership Working

Partnership working between the One Point Service and the Improving Progression Partnership, along with schools, further education providers, training providers and employers, has led to the lowest ever level of young people who are Not in Employment, Education and Training (NEET). We will continue to strive to reduce this number.

The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) is represented on the Children and Families Partnership. This representative also has a close link with the Altogether Better for Children and Young People VCS representative as part of the County Durham Partnership VCS working group.

Durham Voice is a central information point for the VCS sector that produces a weekly update of a wide range of information from across County Durham which the Children and Families Partnership utilises to share relevant information with the VCS.

Work has taken place to ensure there is an enhanced interface between Area

Action Partnerships (AAPs) and the Children and Families Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board.

Representatives from the local authority, CCG's and the VCS are working together to ensure that projects delivered at a local level reflect the priorities identified in the Children Young People and Families Plan and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Further areas of alignment between partners in relation to sharing engagement and communication opportunities, and utilising any potential funding opportunities to develop joint bids linked to key areas of the work linked to the Children Young People and Families Plan and the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy will continue to be progressed during 2015.



A Partnership approach is being taken to address Child Poverty. Partners will seek to support the most vulnerable members of our community and address inequalities. A poverty steering group is in place, led by the Assistant Chief Executive of DCC, to look at the wider impact of child poverty.

Growing up in poverty has a significant impact on children and young people both during their childhood and beyond. Almost a quarter of children in County Durham are living in poverty compared to an England average of one fifth.

In relation to the wider welfare reform and poverty issues, County Durham has the scope to provide a wide range of support and innovative and targeted interventions. To facilitate this and to ensure that the actions are as effective as they can be, partners are concentrating on developing joined-up intelligence and joined-up services.

This coordinated and collaborative approach helps to ensure that people in need are signposted to and receive the correct support and that the assistance and schemes developed are based on a clear and detailed appreciation of the issues involved, for example, housing services are

signposting people to debt and benefits advice and employability support, where this is deemed appropriate.

Through schemes such as the Stronger Families programme, (known nationally as Troubled Families) which is designed to work with families facing multiple and complex challenges, there is the potential to broaden the range of support provided to include benefits and financial advice to help families become more financially resilient and independent.

Similarly, there are increasing calls for partners to work with schools to help address poverty issues, be it through the provision of breakfast clubs and the availability of food during school holiday activities, to future life skills as part of the curriculum or support for parents with basic skills issues.

Public Health has commissioned an integrated and holistic Wellbeing for Life Service to improve health and wellbeing and tackle health inequalities in County Durham. This service will be delivered by a consortium of providers in County Durham which includes the VCS, local authority and NHS Foundation Trust.

The children and families element of the Wellbeing for Life Service includes:

- strengthening the resilience of children, young people and families by delivering an academic resilience programme in schools and training community volunteers to support families
- the inclusion of family health trainers as part of the school nursing team to add value to Family Initiative Supporting Child Health project (FISCH) to enable greater consideration of the social determinants of health impacting upon achieving a healthy weight.



Close working with Durham Constabulary is evident in a number of key areas, including the Stronger Families Programme.

The Chief Constable is the Police lead for Troubled Families, and is working closely with the Durham County Council Think Family team to ensure that there is no duplication of work. Think Family is a multi-agency approach that seeks to provide early intervention for families that have problems and cause problems to the community around them.

Analysis of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) prevalence across County Durham has been undertaken by Durham Constabulary on behalf of the Missing and Exploited Group (a sub group of the LSCB) to ensure an effective joint agency response to CSE.

By sharing knowledge, partners are developing greater customer insight into which people need most help, the issues they face, where they are located and how we can reach them to offer advice, help and support.

County Durham Partnership Priorities

The County Durham Partnership (CDP) is the overarching partnership for County Durham and is supported by five thematic partnerships, one of which is the Children and Families Partnership.

Each of these has a specific focus, as outlined below along with their strategic objectives:

- **The Economic Partnership**
Aims to make County Durham a place where people want to live, work, invest and visit whilst enabling our residents and businesses to achieve their potential
- Thriving Durham City
- Vibrant and successful towns
- Sustainable neighbourhoods and rural communities
- Competitive and successful people
- A top location for business

- **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

- 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 for families

- **The Health and Wellbeing Board**
Promotes integrated working between commissioners of health services, public health and social care services, for the purposes of improving the health and wellbeing of the people in the area

- Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life
- Reduce health inequalities and early deaths
- Improve the quality of life, independence and care and support for people with long term conditions
- Improve the mental and physical wellbeing of the population
- Protect vulnerable people from harm
- Support people to die in the place of their choice with the care and support they need



- **The Safe Durham Partnership**
Tackles crime, disorder, substance misuse, anti-social behaviour and other behaviour adversely affecting the environment and seeks to reduce re-offending

- Reduce anti-social behaviour
- Protect vulnerable people from harm
- Reduce re-offending
- Alcohol and substance misuse harm reduction
- Embed the Think Family approach
- Counter terrorism and prevention of violent extremism
- Reduce road casualties

- **The Environment Partnership**
Aims to transform and sustain the environment within County Durham, maximising partnership arrangements to support the economy and the wellbeing of local communities.

- Deliver a cleaner, more attractive and sustainable environment
- Maximise the value and benefits of Durham's natural environment
- Reduce carbon emissions and adapt to the impact of climate change
- Promote sustainable design and protect Durham's heritage



Cross thematic areas of focus such as employment, education, transport and crime and disorder are addressed through the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) which is the over-arching strategic document for County Durham. The SCS also has links to other plans such as the Regeneration Statement, the County Durham Plan, the Local Transport Plan and the Housing Strategy as well as the Safe Durham Partnership Plan, Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Children, Young People and Families Plan.

The SCS will provide particular focus on the following cross thematic areas of focus:

- Job creation
- Mental wellbeing
- Think Family
- Volunteering
- Inequalities
- Alcohol

These priorities were featured in the workshop sessions at an event the County Durham Partnership hosted in November 2014, to share good practice, shape the future of partnership working across the county and to launch the revised SCS 2014/30.

Workshops were dedicated to each of the six cross thematic areas of focus which highlighted how a broader perspective to these key issues can add value to existing work programmes to ensure that the work of the County Durham Partnership makes a real difference to facilitate change in the longer term to improve outcomes for local people.

Shared Objectives and Issues

The CYPFP objective 'Children and young people make healthy choices and have the best start in life' is shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board and is therefore also included in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS).

Some health issues which relate to children, young people and families, such as childhood obesity, breastfeeding and smoking in pregnancy are included in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and will be led by the Health and Wellbeing Board with support from the Children and Families Partnership.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing has six strategic objectives and covers both children and adult health and social care needs. The JHWS can be accessed at: www.durham.gov.uk/jhws

Issues such as teenage conceptions will be dealt with jointly by the Children and Families Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board.

The Children and Families Partnership and Safe Durham Partnership have a shared priority to embed the Think Family approach.

Issues such as bullying, which includes ensuring young people stay safe online and road safety, are issues that will be addressed jointly by the Safe Durham Partnership and Children and Families Partnership.

The following cross thematic areas of focus will be dealt with jointly by the Children and Families Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Safe Durham Partnership:

- Mental Health
- Harm caused by drugs
- Harm caused by alcohol
- Illicit tobacco
- Self-harm and suicide
- Domestic abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Think Family

National Policy Context

Various policy drivers influence the work of the Children and Families Partnership. Below is a summary of recent policies that have influenced the development of this plan.

Children and young people realise and maximise their potential

Early Education and Childcare (September 2013)

The government committed to extending early years provision for 2 year-olds to around 20% of the least advantaged children from September 2013.

From September 2014 this was further extended to the 40% least advantaged 2 year-olds, and local authorities received £755 million of government funding, to further increase the number of children eligible for free early education and childcare. This enables local authorities to focus on identifying and supporting disadvantaged children to take up their early education place. Free early education and childcare places can be accessed through maintained nursery schools, children's centres and private day nurseries.

Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) (June 2014)

Children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours a week of funded early education for 38 weeks of the year. The EYPP, which will be introduced in 2015, will complement the entitlement by providing nurseries, schools and other providers of government-funded early education with an additional £300 a year for each eligible child accessing the full 570 hours with the aim of improving the quality of education that these children receive. The government has also provided £50 million extra funding in 2015-16 to nurseries, schools and other providers of government-funded early education to provide better access to early education and improve the quality of provision to support disadvantaged 3 and 4-year-olds.



GCSE and A Level Reform (April 2014)

The government has reformed GCSE's and A levels to ensure they better prepare students for further and higher education and employment.

The national curriculum contains the programmes of study and attainment targets for all subjects, at all key stages (except key stage 4 science which is to be phased in from September 2016).

All maintained schools in England started teaching these programmes of study from September 2014, with the following exceptions:

- in the 2014 to 2015 academic year, pupils in years 2 and 6 should be taught the pre-2014 programmes of study in English, mathematics and science. These pupils will sit the current key stage 1 and 2 tests respectively, and new tests will be available from 2016
- key stage 4 programmes of study for English and mathematics should be taught in year 10 from September 2015 and year 11 from September 2016.

The new AS and A levels will be linear qualifications ensuring students develop the skills and knowledge needed for progression to undergraduate study.

New A levels subjects to be taught from September 2015 include art and design, biology, business, chemistry, computer science, economics, English language, English literature, English language and literature, history, physics, psychology, and sociology. New A level subjects to be taught from September 2016 include dance, design and technology, drama, music, physical education, and religious studies.



New primary school tests (March 2014)

New tougher primary school tests in Maths and English will come into force from 2016, ensuring no child leaves primary school without being able to read or write and with a solid grounding in maths. This will provide a solid foundation for secondary school so that all children can master the skills needed for the workplace or further education. All topics in the curriculum will be tested as part of the new assessments and the complicated system of levels will be scrapped and instead pupils will be given 'a scaled score' showing how they compare to the expected standard for their year.

Raising Participation Age (March 2013)

Since 2013, young people are 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 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 has radically reformed 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 1 September 2014 local authorities had to publish a 'local offer' which ensures 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 are now 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 wider health partners to work together.

The Act also reforms the systems for adoption, looked after children, family justice and foster care:

- **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**
- **Foster care:** local authorities are legally obliged to support every young person who wants to stay in foster care until their 21st birthday. The government has provided £40m of funding over the next 3 years to put the support arrangements in place.

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

Serious Crime Bill (June 2014)

To better protect all children from harm the Serious Crime Bill clarifies the offence of child cruelty, in section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933, to make it explicit that the offence covers cruelty which causes psychological harm.



Criminal Justice and Courts Bill (February 2014)

The Criminal Justice and Court Bill introduces two new criminal offences of wilful neglect or ill-treatment in health and social care following recommendations made by Robert Francis QC in relation to the public inquiry into care at Mid Staffordshire Foundation Trust.

The offences to be introduced in 2015 will apply to:

- all formal healthcare provision for children and adults in both the NHS and private sector, other than in specific excluded children's settings and services which are already subject to existing legislative and regulatory safeguards
- all formal adult social care provision, in both the public and private sectors, including where care is self-funded; and,
- individuals and organisations paid to provide or arrange for the provision of these health and adult social care services, but with the offence for organisations formulated differently from that for individuals.

Care Act (2014)

The Care Act places new duties on local authorities to assess young people in advance of their 18th birthday, if they are likely to have ongoing needs for care and support. The Act also requires local authorities to continue children's services until an adult needs or carer's assessment has taken place, and a decision has been reached about the young person's care and support. This ensures there is no gap in provision of care and support when people move from children's to adult social care.

Under the Act, local authorities are required to look at family circumstances when assessing an adult's need for care, which means, for example, making sure that the position of a young carer within a family would not be overlooked. The Act also makes it clear that a local authority may combine an assessment of a young carer with the needs assessment of the adult he/she cares for.

A Think Family approach is embedded in our support for families

Troubled Families (July 2013)

The government's national 'troubled families' programme (known in County Durham as Stronger Families) has been extended to help a further 400,000 households who have financial and social problems.

In August 2014 the government announced a further expansion of the programme with work to begin in 2014 in 51 of the best performing areas (including Durham), ahead of the national 5 year programme which starts in 2015.

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.

As well as expanding from working with school-age children to those under 5, the wider programme will also have a particular focus on improving poor health.

Children who run away or go missing from home or care (January 2014)

Statutory guidance setting out the steps Local Safeguarding Children Boards, local authorities and their partners should take to stop children going missing and to protect those who do.



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.



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.

Counter Terrorism and Security Act (2015)

This places a duty on a range of institutions (referred to as 'Specified Authorities') that must, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Local Authority will take a lead role and put in place arrangements to safeguard and support those who are vulnerable to radicalisation. Every school will be deemed a specified authority and will be required to understand the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism and know how to respond.

Inspections

As well as the aforementioned policy drivers, the inspection frameworks listed below have also been considered in the development of the CYPFP:

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' has been replaced with 'requires improvement' to make it clear that anything less than 'good' is not good enough for young children.

The New Framework for School Inspections (January 2013)

The new inspection framework focuses more clearly on the most important aspects of a school's work. Inspectors make a judgement about the effectiveness of the school's leadership and management and also make a judgement 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.

Integrated inspections to assess the contribution of all professionals to the help, care and protection of children and young people (June 2014)

From April 2015, joint Children's Services inspections will take place with a focus on how well agencies work together to protect children and address specific areas of concern, such as sexual exploitation of children and young people.

Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission as well as Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation plan further consultation in the summer to refine the joint inspection model.

Single Inspection Framework for child protection and services for looked after children (Nov 2013)

The Single Inspection Framework (SIF) for Children's Services covers children in need of help and protection, services for looked after children and care leavers and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The inspection framework judges the overall effectiveness of services including a number of key judgement areas.



Strategic Objective 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.

Increasing the number of young people in education, employment and training is a key priority for the government. The Children and Families Partnership is committed to this and providing opportunities for all groups in society, including care leavers, young people who offend, teenage parents and gypsy roma travellers. This will be addressed through the Improving Progression Partnership's 'Believe, Achieve and Succeed' Plan.

"There needs to be more apprenticeships and job opportunities"

Source: IIC reference group

In addition, the needs of children with special educational needs are reflected in the priorities of the Children and Families Partnership through the implementation of a Special Educational Needs and Disability Strategy.

"The Local Offer has lots of useful information on it"

Source: Local Offer website feedback

The evidence

- Between 2001 and 2013, the 0-17 population in County Durham has fallen by 6% which is a slightly smaller fall than the North East region of 7.5%, while the national trend is reversed and saw an increase in the 0-17 population of 2.8% over the same period. By 2030, the number of children and young people aged 0-17 is projected to increase by 6.5%, reversing some of the declining trends seen prior to 2011.
- Between 2001 and 2013, due to the increase in birth rate, the 0-4 age group in County Durham increased by 10.7%. As a result of an increase in the birth rate, it is expected that there will be in the region of 1,220 more primary aged pupils by 2023/24 than there were in 2013/14.
- At Key Stage 2 (ages 7-11), 79% of pupils achieved a Level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths, which was better than the national average of 78%.

- Performance for the 2013/14 Academic Year identifies that in County Durham 57.6% of pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C GCSEs including English and Maths. County Durham is exceeding the national performance of 56.6% (state funded schools).
- 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 30 percentage points in the 2012/13 academic year to 29.2 percentage points in 2013/14 (provisional).
- 20.6% of pupils with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) achieved 5 A*-C GCSEs, including English and Maths which was higher than the national average of 20.3%.
- 4.7% 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 Maths, compared to the national achievement of 12%.
- At 'A' Level 53.5% of pupils achieved 2 or more A*-B's, which was better than the national figure

of 46.6%, whilst 98.7% of pupils achieved 2 or more A-E's, which was higher than the national average of 98%.

- In 2014/15, 6.7% 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%) but was worse than the national average of 4.7%.

Achievements

Some of our achievements are detailed below:

Team Around the School (TAS) is a new initiative developed by the One Point Service in partnership with a number of secondary schools. It adopts a Think Family approach providing early help to improve young people's engagement in their education and to reduce the number exclusions and the rate of persistent non-attendance.

As part of the 'September Guarantee' to ensure 16 and 17 year olds receive an appropriate place in education or training, 98.6% 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 97.5% in 2013). The proportion of 17 year olds who received an offer was 93.0% (up from 90.4% in 2013).

One Point has delivered TAS in partnership with 22 secondary schools, and the plan is to offer all secondary schools TAS by September 2015.



The challenges ahead

Further work is required to improve early years provision in County Durham by targeting those most in need. The implementation of the Community Delivery Model, which brings

services closer to where children and families live and also makes better use of community buildings (for example, schools, libraries, community centres and leisure centres) will ensure the delivery of the full Children's Centre Core Purpose across a range of venues improving accessibility for children and families.

Education Development Services will respond to the government's changes in the curriculum to continue to narrow the attainment gap for looked after children and those on free school meals with those of their peers.

The Improving Progression Partnership and the Looked After Children Strategic Partnership will ensure that provision is available to ensure that all 16-18 year olds are able to participate in education, employment or training, including vulnerable groups.

Case study

P has previously attended 'Parenting' courses but has not progressed into any full-time learning. A One Point Personal Advisor (OPPA) was working with P following a referral from her Health Visitor, to discuss possible options available to her.

One of which was a European Social Fund course, aimed at 16-19 year old parents not in education, employment or training.. It was an ideal chance for P to meet other young parents, build confidence and self esteem and gain some certificates with a view of progressing into further Education, Employment or Training.

Whilst P was on the course, her children accessed the crèche onsite. P said afterwards that the children developed a lot socially, and she felt that accessing crèche facilities in the future would not be as daunting.

P had a lot of personal issues going on during the 10 week programme, yet she still attended the course. P found it kept her positive and gave the children some time in the crèche. She enjoyed the relaxed learning atmosphere and found the sessions very useful.

Following the course, P decided she was interested in catering as a future career and started a catering course in September 2014. Everything is going well, P is enjoying the course and the children are enjoying the crèche. P said that she appreciated the support and admits that without the additional support from her OPPA, she would not have been organised enough to start the catering course. P is in touch with another girl from the course and they often meet socially.

Strategic Actions and Performance Indicators

The strategic actions state what we are going to do to achieve the objectives and outcomes. The performance indicators are used to check actions are delivering improved outcomes.

Outcome 1: Children are supported to achieve and develop during their early years

- Implement the Early Years Strategy to ensure children and families will be supported to achieve good outcomes.

Outcome 1: Performance indicators

- Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks
- Percentage of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) achieving a Good Level of Development
- Gap between achievement of a good level of development of children eligible for free school meals and the rest at EYFS
- Percentage of children aged 0-4 year registered and having sustained contact (Children's Centres)
- Percentage of Children's Centres achieving a good or better inspection outcome
- Child development at 2-2 ½ years (indicator still in development nationally)
- The Gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the EYFS Profile and the rest

Outcome 2: Children and young people are supported to achieve and attain during school years to prepare them for adulthood

- Improve achievement in all phases of education by raising standards and narrowing gaps in performance between pupil groups.
- Implement the Team Around the School model, so that early help is provided to young people and their families in need of additional support.
- Ensure a seamless transition between primary and secondary phases which promotes optimal emotional resilience and academic progress.

Outcome 2: Performance indicators

- The percentage of children reaching Level 2b+ at the end of Key Stage 1 in Reading, Writing and Maths
- Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (%)
- Percentage of pupils making at least three levels of progress between KS2 and KS4 in English
- Percentage of pupils making at least three levels of progress between KS2 and KS4 in Maths
- 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
- Achievement gap between County Durham pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and County Durham pupils not eligible for Pupil Premium funding achieving Level 4 in Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2
- Primary school persistent absence rate
- Secondary school persistent absence rate
- Number of permanent exclusions

Outcome 3: Young people are supported to progress and achieve in education, employment and training to achieve their potential

- Increase the participation of young people in learning and reduce the number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training
- Work in partnership to improve education, employment and training opportunities for looked after children and care leavers.
- Develop and support the implementation of County Durham Youth Employment Initiative.



Outcome 3: Performance indicators

- Percentage of pupils on Level 3 programmes in community secondary schools achieving 2 A levels at Grade A*-E or equivalent
- Percentage of 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- Percentage of 16-18 year olds whose status in relation to Education, Employment or Training (EET) is 'Not Known'
- Percentage of young people gaining a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19
- Percentage of young people gaining a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19

Outcome 4: Children with additional needs are supported to achieve and attain

- Implement the Special Educational Needs and Disability Strategy 2014-2018, based on the findings of the SEND Review, to enable joint commissioning of services and support for individual children across education, health and social care
- Sustain and promote the attainment and achievement of Looked after Children.

Outcome 4: Performance indicators

- Looked after children reaching Level 4 in Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2
- Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSE (or equivalent) at KS4 including English and Maths (%)
- Children with SEND reaching Level 4 in Reading, Writing and Maths at Key Stage 2
- Children with SEND achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (with English and Maths)

Strategic Objective 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 also aims to make children and young people more resilient.

"There's still a lot of people who smoke in play areas and parks where children are playing, which needs to be stopped. Not only might children see it and think it's normal, but it could affect their health too"

Source: IIC reference group

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

"Young people need activities to keep them off the streets and stop them from getting involved in things that they shouldn't be doing"

Source: IIC reference group

The evidence

- The under 18 conception rate per 1000 15-17 year olds for January to December 2013 (33.8) is higher than the North East (30.6) and England averages (24.3 per 1,000).
- 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.
- Alcohol-related hospital admission rates for children and young people under 18 (81.5 per 100,000), higher than the regional rate of 72.2. Durham is ranked 18th worst out of 326 Local Authority Areas.
- The number of first time entrants to the youth justice system continues to fall with a 16% reduction from 251 to 210 between 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- 64% of young people who offend and received a health assessment (120 of 188) identified emotional and mental health as a risk for re-offending, with

9% (16 of 188) 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 (CDYOS) has won the Children and Young People Now Youth Justice Award 3 times in 4 years (2010, 2012, 2013).

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 two year 'Teen parent pathway' project commenced in October 2014 to address inequalities and provide

support to overcome the additional barriers to education and employment they face.

A suicide and attempted suicide alert process has been implemented for young people at risk of suicide or 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 will be undertaken to address risk-taking behaviour by young people 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 Mental Health Implementation Plan which brings together all the strands of mental health and wellbeing to better support people who need it. This will include the Children and Young People's

Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Plan.

Children who are bullied are more likely to suffer from low self-esteem which can have a significant impact on academic attainment. The Children and Families Partnership is committed to supporting schools to address this issue.



Strategic Actions and Performance Indicators

The strategic actions state what we are going to do to achieve the three objectives and ten outcomes. The performance indicators are the things we can check to see if the actions are having the desired impact.

Strategic actions relating to childhood obesity, breastfeeding, smoking in pregnancy and alcohol and drugs are included in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and will be led by the Health and Wellbeing Board with support from the Children and Families Partnership. Details of these actions can be found in the JHWS which can be accessed at: www.durham.gov.uk/jhws

Outcome 5: Negative risk-taking behaviour is reduced

- Further reduce re-offending by children and young people, by fully implementing the new youth justice assessment framework (ASSETPlus) which allows an end-to-end assessment and one record to follow a young person throughout their time in the youth justice system
- Work with partners to implement the County Durham Youth Justice Plan and reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system
- Reduce custody (both sentences and remands)
- Support the reduction of teenage pregnancies (under 18 conceptions) in County Durham by delivering interventions that are in line with evidence and best practice.
- 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.

Outcome 5: Performance indicators

- Under 16 conception rate per 1000 population
- Under 18 conception rate per population
- First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10-17
- Proven re-offending by young people (who offend) in a 12 month period
- Percentage of children aged 4-5 classified as overweight or obese
- Percentage of children aged 10-11 classified as overweight or obese
- Alcohol specific hospital admissions for under 18's (per 100,000 under 18 years population)
- Percentage of children who frequently drink alcohol
- Percentage of mothers smoking at time of delivery
- Percentage of children who frequently smoke
- Percentage of exits from young person's treatment which are care planned (alcohol & drugs)



Case study

L is a 16 year old male with emotional and learning difficulties, which affect his confidence and concentration. He struggles to communicate with new people, often causing panic and frustration, leaving him unable to deal with simple issues, which in turn causes further frustration that can lead to negative behaviour.

L engaged in a 7 week Project4U course and was encouraged to participate in new learning areas which strengthened his self-esteem and motivation skills.

The course covered a varied programme such as outward bounds and visits to a number of venues using different types of transport. L displayed an improved mature attitude when visiting a restaurant for lunch, and restaurant staff commented on his positive and polite behaviour, which helped him realise what he can achieve in life with the right attitude and support.

L left Project4U with an “I can do” attitude and expressed his thanks to staff for their support, and the group asked to meet socially in the near future.

Attendance at Project4U made L feel more confident and resilient, and determined to engage at college to follow his aspirations.

L is continuing with his education and has formed mutual friendships with staff and peers at college and stated he is “so happy”.

Outcome 6: Children and young people are more resilient

- Work together to reduce incidents of self-harm by young people
- Continue to improve the mental health and emotional wellbeing of children and young people and ensure interventions and services are effective and available to those who need it.
- Ensure health, social care and third sector organisations work together to identify and support young carers
- Provide a range of support to schools to tackle bullying and harassment

Outcome 6: Performance indicators

- Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children
- Young people aged 10-24 years admitted to hospital as a result of self-harm (rate per 100,000 population aged 10-24 years)
- Percentage of CAMHS patients who have attended a first appointment within 9 weeks of their external referral date
- Percentage of children who have been bullied at school

Outcome 7: A range of positive activities are available for children, young people and families

- Provide a wide range of physical activity opportunities across County Durham to support more active lifestyles for children and young people and contribute towards tackling ‘lifestyle conditions’.

Outcome 7: Performance indicators

- Percentage of children regularly taking part in activities and clubs at school / not at school
- Percentage of children who would like to attend activities and clubs outside of school



Strategic Objective 3 **A Think Family approach is embedded in our support to families**

Why this remains a priority

Think Family is a multi-agency approach that seeks to provide early intervention for families that have problems and cause problems to the community around them.



Partners across County Durham including Durham Constabulary are committed to tackling the complex needs of families that persist between generations through the Stronger Families Programme (known nationally as Troubled Families) which is designed to work with families facing multiple and complex challenges.

Phase 1 of the Stronger Families Programme focused on helping families who:

- Have children who don't attend school or who are excluded.
- Are involved in crime or anti-social behaviour or crime.
- Are not in work.
- Are high-cost and have a range of health issues.

A Single Lead Professional/Key Worker is assigned and a 'team around the family' is put in place to coordinate the support to achieve a range of positive and sustainable outcomes for the family.

The success of this programme has been recognised by The Department of Communities and Local Government.

Durham is one of fifty-one early starting programmes for phase 2 of the national troubled families programme. The expanded programme provides an opportunity to further target those families which have multiple and complex needs.

The 5-year phase 2 programme will work with a total of 4,330 families in County Durham, and will target families who have:

- Parents and children involved in crime and antisocial behaviour.
- Children who have not been attending

school regularly.

- Children who need help (for example those that don't take up the early years entitlement).
- Adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion and young people at risk of worklessness.
- Families affected by domestic violence and abuse.
- Parents and children with a range of health problems.

"I have always refused support in the past as I was scared about what would happen. I wish I had stopped burying my head in the sand earlier as the Stronger Families support has really helped my family"

Source: Stronger Families service user

This objective is also aimed at ensuring that children are safeguarded and protected from harm and that early intervention and prevention services are in place which is in line with the Transformation of Children's Care.

It 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.

“Thank you very much for all your help and support over the last 10 months. We are so unbelievably happy and A has now made our family complete. Thank you for going that extra mile”

Source: Adopters

The evidence

County Durham’s Stronger Families programme had identified and worked with 1,695 families as of February 2015.

1,185 families in County Durham have been ‘turned around’ through the Stronger Families Programme to February 2015, equating to 89.8% of the target for May 2015.

Latest data shows that 23.5% of Children in Need referrals occurred within 12 months of the previous referral. This has achieved the target of 28%, is an improvement from last year and is consistent with the 2013/14 national average of 23.4%.

The percentage of Looked After Children (LAC) with 3 or more

placements in 2014 was 5.1%, which is a significant improvement from 12.9% in 2013/14 and is better than the national and regional averages.



Achievements

Some of our achievements are detailed below:

Introduced a Single Assessment Framework and Single Front Door (First Contact Service) for referrals in Children’s Services to ensure early help to families.

Since we implemented the First Contact service in April 2014, the number of children, young people and families referred for a formal social care assessment has decreased by 33%.

Implemented the Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) to improve information sharing and joint action.

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 which have previously had children taken into care.

Developed the Early Help Strategy to ensure services transform their focus towards effective early intervention and prevention.

There has been a sustained downward trend in the number of children looked after since 2011/12 and an increasing trend in the number of children adopted since 2010/11.

Durham LSCB has created the ‘Erase’ brand (Educate and Raise awareness of Sexual Exploitation) to tackle child sexual exploitation. ERASE offers parents and carers advice on how to communicate with their children about who they speak to on-line and off-line.

Durham was successful in securing £3.26 million from the Children's Social Care Innovation Fund to identify and meet the needs of children sooner, to address the root causes of problems to reduce the numbers of families who are re-referred for support.

The challenges ahead

The Early Help Strategy will be implemented 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.

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

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.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act places a duty on a range of institutions to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The Local Authority will take

a lead role and put in place arrangements to safeguard and support those who are vulnerable to radicalisation. Every school will be required to understand the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism and know how to respond.

Strategic Actions and Performance Indicators

The strategic actions state what we are going to do to achieve the three objectives and ten outcomes. The performance indicators are the things we can check to see if the actions are having the desired impact.



Outcome 8: Early intervention and prevention services improve outcomes for families

- Implement the Early Help Strategy to better support families who have additional needs at an earlier point.
- Implement statutory changes in relation to Health Visitors and Family Nurse Partnerships.
- Support families using a Think Family approach to address their needs at the earliest opportunity

Outcome 8: Performance indicators

- Percentage of families 'turned around' by the Stronger Families Programme
- Percentage of Children in Need (CIN) referrals occurring within 12 months of previous referral
- Children becoming the subject of a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time (%) Within 2 Years of the previous plan
- Number of Early Help Assessments completed by One Point Service

Case study

With the support of the Adoption Service, A and her husband adopted their two sons over 10 years ago. They decided to adopt two children as they always wanted more than one child and thought it would be great to keep the children together.

“The boys aged five and seven would probably have remained in long term foster care if we hadn’t adopted them. The boys were really close to each other when they first arrived which was lovely but we were concerned that they didn’t know how to play with other children.

Over time we encouraged them and they soon developed friendships making many friends whilst maintaining a brotherly relationship. The boys are now 18 and 16 years old and typical teenagers! I’m so proud of the boys they have both left school with good exam results and are excited to be planning their futures at college and in the army.”

Outcome 9: Children are safeguarded and protected from harm

- Work in partnership to support vulnerable children at risk of harm and work to stop abuse taking place.
- Protect children from harm from breathing second hand smoke
- Promote safety for outdoor play.
- Work with the Local Safeguarding Children Board in tackling Child Sexual Exploitation

- Put in place arrangements in schools to safeguard and support those who are vulnerable to radicalisation

Outcome 9: Performance indicators

- Rate of children with a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population
- Percentage of Child Protection Plans lasting two years or more at point in time and for Child Protection Plans which have ended during the year
- Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
- Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (rate per 10,000 aged 0-14 years)
- Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in young people (rate per 10,000 aged 15-24 years)
- The number of children who are reported missing
- The number of referrals received where Child Sexual Exploitation is identified as an issue

Outcome 10: Children who cannot live with their families achieve permanence and stability

- Continue to implement the fostering and adoption reforms as laid out in the Children and Families Act to streamline processes and provide permanence and stability.
- Continue to reduce numbers of Looked After Children.

Outcome 10: Performance indicators

- Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000 population
- The number of children adopted as a percentage of those children leaving care



Children, Young People & Families Plan – Glossary

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---|---|
| CDP | <p>County Durham Partnership The overarching partnership for County Durham, made up of key public, private and voluntary sector organisations that work together to improve the quality of life for the people within County Durham.</p> |
| CDYOS | <p>County Durham Youth Offending Services County Durham Youth Offending Service works with young people and partner agencies to prevent re-offending.</p> |
| CFP | <p>Children and Families Partnership 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> |
| Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services | <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> |
| Children and Adults Services | <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"> • Altogether better for children and young people • Altogether healthier • Altogether safer • Altogether wealthier |
| Children in Need | <p>Children in need are defined in law as children who are aged under 18 and:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need local authority services to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development. • Need local authority services to prevent significant or further harm to health or development. • Are disabled. |
| Clinical Commissioning Groups | <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> |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Common Assessment Framework | 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. |
| CYPFP | Children, Young People and Families Plan 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. |
| DAPH | Durham Association for Primary Headteachers This group is set up to represent the clusters of schools across the authority. It meets on a monthly basis and the issues that are discussed revolve around the issues that schools are facing, nationally and locally. |
| DASH | Durham Association of Secondary Heads As a group of schools and academies in County Durham, Durham Association of Secondary Heads believe there should be professional collaboration. The professional practice aspires to be collaborative and equitable, whilst developing, promoting and sharing good practice. |
| DASS | Durham Association for Special Schools This group consists of the Head Teachers of Durham Special Schools and aims to share ideas experience and practice in order to promote and improve the delivery of special education; promote links and cooperation between member schools; provide mutual support and professional help between members and to communicate with the local authority on common issues. |
| Durham County Council | Local authority which performs all council functions in the County Durham area. |
| Early Years Foundation Stage | 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. |
| Education Health and Care Plan | Education Health and Care Plans were introduced across England & Wales during 2014. The Plans themselves originate from the Children & Families Act which is currently being processed through the House of Commons. |
| EYPP | Early Years Pupil Premium Children aged 3 and 4 are entitled to 15 hours a week of funded early education for 38 weeks of the year. The EYPP, which will be introduced in 2015, will complement the entitlement by providing nurseries, schools and other providers of government-funded early education with an additional £300 a year for each eligible child accessing the full 570 hours with the aim of improving the quality of education that these children receive. |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| First Time Entrants | 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. |
| FSM | Free School Meals A free school meal is a school meal provided to a child or young person during a school break and paid for by government. |
| GCSE | General Certificate of Secondary Education 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. |
| Health and Wellbeing Board | Statutory forum of key leaders from health and social care working together to improve the health and wellbeing of the local population and reduce health inequalities. |
| Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy | A legal requirement to ensure that CCG's and the local authority work together through the Health and Wellbeing Board and agree the services that should be prioritised within the strategy. |
| Local Safeguarding Children Board | 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. |
| Looked After Children | Children in public care, who are placed with foster carers, in residential homes or with parents or other relatives. |
| NEET | Not in Employment, Education or Training A young person (16-24) who is "Not in Education, Employment, or Training". |
| OFSTED | Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills 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. |
| OPPA | One Point Personal Advisor One Point provides a variety of free advice and support and a range of activities for children, young people and families. They support children, young people and their families from early pregnancy to the age of 19 years and for some children and young people who have a disability, up to the age of 25 years. Their Personal Advisors are trained and qualified to deal with concerns and support parents and children. |
| SCS | Sustainable Community Strategy Vision for the local area and umbrella strategy for all the other strategies devised for the area. |

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|-------------------|---|
| SEN / SEND | Special Educational Needs / Special Educational Needs and Disability Children who have needs or disabilities that affect their ability to learn. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Behavioural/social (e.g. difficulty making friends).• Reading and writing (e.g. dyslexia).• Understanding things.• Concentrating (e.g. Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).• Physical needs or impairments. |
|-------------------|---|

Children, Young People and Families Plan

2015/2018

Contact details

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this document can be directed to:

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