

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of Corporate Director of Children & Learning]

to

**Cabinet and all Members of the Council**

on

**15<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

**Agenda  
Item No.**

Report prepared by: Jenni Naish, Children's Partnership  
Manager and Sue Hadley, Head of Children's Commissioning  
and Learning Infrastructure

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**Southend Children and Young People's Plan 2010 - 2013**

**Children and Lifelong Learning Scrutiny –**

**Executive Councillor: Councillor Hadley**

**A Part 1 Public Agenda Item**

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## **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To present the proposed 2011-12 update of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for consideration.

## **2. Recommendation**

- 2.1 That the proposed 2011-12 update of the Children and Young People's Plan be agreed.**

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 All upper tier Local Authorities areas have a statutory duty, arising from the Children Act 2004, to produce a single, overarching plan for all services including those delivered in partnerships affecting children and young people. The statutory guidance and regulations surrounding Children's Trusts was withdrawn by the coalition government in October last year. However the Southend Children's Partnership (SCP) is of the view that a continuing overarching strategic plan for children, which co-ordinates the work of agencies, is valuable. We have slimmed down the CYPP considerably and replaced several of the sections previously in the plan with information on the SCP website.
- 3.2 The proposed 2011-12 update of the CYPP builds on 2010-13 plan, agreed by Cabinet in March 2010. It continues to reflect the intentions of the Council and the SCP to secure ongoing improvement across the five 'Every Child Matters' outcome areas of 'being healthy', 'staying safe', 'enjoying and achieving', 'making a positive contribution' and 'achieving economic well-being'.
- 3.3 Our 2010 Ofsted rating, reported to Cabinet in January 2011 confirms that children's services are performing well. This plan focuses on those areas that still need improvement.
- 3.4 This updated plan takes account of:

- The areas for improvement identified in our 2010 Ofsted letter.
- The progress we have made in achieving the actions which we set out in the CYPP 2010-11.
- Our needs analysis, regular monitoring, review and self assessment, which has enabled us to identify our key areas for improvement.
- The guidance provided by SCP Executive in relation to the priorities.
- The results of our November 2010 “Your Say” on line survey of children, young people, families and the children’s workforce which had over 3000 responses.

#### **4. Other Options**

4.1 The report does not contain any other options as there is a current statutory requirement to have a CYPP and the guidance is still that this should be overseen by the Children’s Trust, which in Southend is the SCP.

#### **5. Reasons for Recommendations**

5.1 The priorities and actions in this Children and Young People’s Plan build on previous plans, self-assessment, external assessment and wide consultation and will assist in our journey to excellence.

5.2 This Children and Young People’s Plan update has been developed and endorsed, as required, by the Southend Children’s Partnership Executive.

#### **6. Corporate Implications**

6.1 Contribution to Council’s Vision & Corporate Priorities

Achieving the priorities and strategic actions set out in the proposed Southend Children and Young People’s Plan 2011-12 will contribute to the Council’s vision and aims to create a better Southend - safe, healthy, prosperous and excellent. It will also meet the Council’s priorities of: reducing crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour; improving outcomes for vulnerable children; enhancing the prosperity of Southend and its residents; increasing the life chances of people living in Southend and becoming a higher performing organisation.

6.2 Financial Implications

The plan covers all services for children and young people and the resources for these services. It will be delivered within the resources available for children’s services within the Council and in partner agencies.

6.3 Legal Implications

There is a current statutory requirement to have a Children and Young People’s

Plan. Future plans will need to be compliant any new requirements in the Education Bill 2010, if passed.

#### 6.4 People Implications

The plan includes the delivery of the integrated workforce strategy which is intended to improve recruitment and retention of key staff and develop the skills of the children's workforce, particularly to deliver integrated working.

#### 6.5 Property Implications

There may be property implications as we further develop plans for co-location of services within localities.

#### 6.6 Consultation

This plan has been devised through discussion and consultation with the agencies and organisations which constitute the Southend Children's Partnership, Schools, and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. We undertook an on line questionnaire of children and young people and families in November 2011 and had over 3000 responses, a significant improvement on the 480 responses in 2010. A summary of the feedback is contained in the needs assessment section of the plan.

#### 6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The proposed plan will help to promote equalities by focussing on improving outcomes for all children and young people and narrowing the gap between those who do well and those who do not. There is also an emphasis on improving outcomes for children and young people with learning difficulties and disability.

#### 6.8 Risk Assessment

Key risks in the delivery of the plan are included in the Southend Children's Partnership risk register and are reviewed quarterly.

#### 6.9 Value for Money

Consideration of value for money is an integral part of the review and action planning processes in developing the proposed plan.

#### 6.10 Community Safety Implications

The proposed plan includes a number of strategies and planned actions for keeping children and young people safe, for example, from abuse and exploitation, as victims and perpetrators of crime and bullying and tackling substance misuse.

#### 6.11 Environmental Impact

None.

## **7. Background Papers**

7.1 Children Act 2004

7.2 Children and Young People's Plan Guidance: DCSF 2009

7.3 Southend Children and Young People's Plan 2010-13

7.4 Education Bill 2010

## **8. Appendices**

8.1 **Appendix 1** – Proposed Children and Young People's Plan update 2011-12

8.2 **Appendix 2** – Proposed action plan for 2011 - 2012