



Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Board 2009/10 Report

Introduction

Lewisham's Children and Young People's Strategic Board (CYPSPB) sits within the wider Lewisham Strategic Partnership (LSP). The LSP operates across the borough and brings together the public, private, community and voluntary sectors and is responsible for establishing a vision for Lewisham and for agreeing priorities for improvement in our local area agreement (LAA). The CYPSP is the top level of our Children's Trust arrangements, and is Lewisham's statutory children's trust board. It brings together the organisations, including the voluntary and community sector, responsible for services for children, young people and families in a shared commitment to improving children's lives.

The Partnership's strategic aims.

The Partnership shares one vision for Lewisham's children:

Together with families, we will improve the lives and life-chances of the children and young people in Lewisham

The Partnership is committed to three values:

- We will put children and young people first every time
- Together with families, we will have the highest ambition for all our children and young people
- We will make a positive difference to the lives of children and young people

The CYPSPB is responsible for:

- Understanding, and acting on, the needs of all the children, young people and families in the area;
- Knowing how to meet those needs, for instance by bringing together the right organisations and people and pooling or aligning resources;
- Making sure that those working in front line services, including children's centres, schools and community health teams, are receiving the support they need to help children and families;
- Being publicly accountable to local families and communities for what is being achieved;
- Acting to put children's needs before organisational structures.
- Development, publication, monitoring and review of the Children & Young People's Plan;

- Oversight of the Local Area Agreement, to include monitoring progress towards achieving targets, and evaluating impact on outcomes for children and young people
- Provide exception reports to the LSP on areas where performance is causing concern,
- Co-ordination and overview of services for children and young people in Lewisham including the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and Joint Commissioning Group (JCG) and other multi-agency working groups;

Objectives:

During 2009-2010, the CYPSPB focused on the delivery of the first year of the CYPP 2009-2012. The priorities of the are set out below, under each of the five Every Child Matters outcomes:

Being Healthy

- Reduce impact of health inequalities by: i. improving the take up of immunisation, and ii. reducing the number of babies born with low birth weight.
- Improve the health of Looked After Children
- Further reduce teenage conceptions and reduce the rate of sexually transmitted infections
- Reduce childhood obesity
- Reduce substance misuse, including alcohol and tobacco
- Promote mental and emotional well-being

Staying Safe

- Reduce child abuse and neglect
- Reduce harm to children and young people caught up in domestic violence
- Provide secure and consistent support for Looked After Children, particularly placement stability
- Support families at risk of being in crisis
- Ensure that children and young people feel safe

Enjoying and Achieving

- Raise educational standards for all Key Stages
- Close the attainment gap between underachieving groups and their peers
- Continue to improve school attendance

- Ensure that all children have opportunities to play and that all young people have a range of accessible culture and leisure activities available to them
- Meet the needs of pupils with SEN and disabilities

Making a Positive Contribution

- Strengthen further youth participation and involvement
- Reduce youth crime and support young people who are the victims of crime
- Provide integrated youth support for all young people to ensure they are able to make informed choices about their lives

Economic Well-being

- Support parents into employment, including the provision of sufficient affordable childcare
- Reduce further the number of young people who are NEET
- Raise participation and achievement at age 19
- Secure a diverse 14-19 offer which meets the needs and aspirations of learners
- Meet the housing needs of young people and families

Membership:

There are a range of key strategic stakeholders drawn together through this partnership which act as the umbrella for the sector in Lewisham. The membership aims to make decisions regarding the setting of policy, the allocation of resources to support strategic priorities and the ability to influence their own organisational direction. The membership in 2009/10 included:

Abi Odusanwo	Lewisham Ethnic Minority Partnership (LEMP) representative
Alan Docksey	Head of Resources, Children and Young People's directorate, London Borough of Lewisham
Alastair Pettigrew	Director of Children's Social Care [Ian Smith from July 2010]
Barrie Neal	Head of Corporate Policy and Governance, London Borough of Lewisham
Chris Threlfall	Head of Education Development, Children and Young People's directorate, London Borough of Lewisham
Christine Grice	Head of Access and Support, Children and Young People's directorate, London Borough of Lewisham
Claire Champion	Director of Operations & Nursing, University Hospital Lewisham
Danny Ruta	Director of Public Health for Lewisham
Dith Banbury	Vice-Principal, Lewisham College
Donal O'Sullivan	Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Lewisham Primary Care Trust

Frankie Sulke	Executive Director for Children and Young People, London Borough of Lewisham
Geeta Subramaniam	Head of Crime Reduction Service, Community Services directorate, London Borough of Lewisham
Gill Galliano	Chief Executive, Lewisham Primary Care Trust
Helen Tattersfield	Chair of GP PBC Federation
Irene Cleaver	Chair of Lewisham Primary Schools Consultative
Jane Shepherd	Director for Adult and Children's Services, Lewisham Primary Care Trust
Jon Sharp	Chair, Lewisham Special Schools Consultative
Julia Fletcher (CIlr)	Lib Dem Chair of CYP Select Cttee
Kate English	Children and Young People Development Officer, Voluntary Action Lewisham
Graham Price	Head of Partnerships, Metropolitan Police
Magda Moorey	Chair, Professional Executive Committee, Lewisham Primary Care Trust
Marion Saunders	Chair, Lewisham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Martin Howie	Director, Voluntary Action Lewisham
Paul Calaminus	CAMHS Service Director, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
Pauline Kennedy	Assistant Director, Children's Society
Robert Massey (CIlr)	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, London Borough of Lewisham (CHAIR)
Rona Nicholson	Non-Executive Director, Lewisham Primary Care Trust
Ruth Holden	Chair of Lewisham Schools Secondary Consultative
Sara Robinson	Probation Service
Sue Tipler	Head of Standards and Achievement, Children and Young People's directorate, London Borough of Lewisham
Tim Higginson	Chief Executive, University Hospital Lewisham
Warwick Tomsett	Head of Commissioning, Strategy & Performance, Children & Young People's directorate, London Borough of Lewisham

Secretariat

Officers within the Policy team provide secretariat support for the Board organising agendas and minutes with the approval of the Chair.

Summary of progress

The work of the CYPSPB has contributed to a number of *Shaping our future* priority outcomes over the last year in a variety of ways.

These are:

Ambitious and achieving - where people are inspired and supported to fulfil their potential

- 47% of pupils achieved 5 or more A*-C at GCSE including English and maths in 2009, increasing the proportion reaching this level by 10% in 4 years, twice the national increase of 5%.
- We have narrowed the gap considerably in GCSE results between Black pupils and their peers and for pupils eligible for free schools meals and their peers, with for instance 53% of Black African pupils achieving 5+ A*-C with English and maths at GCSE which was above the borough average.
- We exceeded our targets in 2009 for achievement at the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and for the inequality gap between the lowest performing 20% of children at EYFS and their peers.
- The proportion of young people aged 19 achieving at least Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications increased by 4.7% and 4.1% respectively, considerably closing the gap with national rates.

Safer - where people feel safe and live free from crime, antisocial behaviour and abuse

- There has been a reduction in the number of First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System from 512 in 2007/08 to 258 in 2008/09
- 62 young people have been reported to the Serious Youth Violence Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) of which less than 2% have been re-victimised with Risk Management Plans completed for all MARAC clients and Common Assessment Framework assessment on all MARAC clients under 17 yrs.
- More than 100 people including residents, representatives from housing, youth service, the Community Wardens, and the voluntary sector have been trained in applying Restorative Justice.

Empowered and responsible - where people can be actively involved in their local area and contribute to supportive communities.

- There was a 52.5% turn-out by young people in the October 2009 election for the Young Mayor, up from 49% in the previous year.
- 900 young people were recruited to the young citizens' panels forum across the borough
- 11 young people completed the 44 week V volunteering programme and have moved into employment and training. A further 16 young people have been recruited for the next cohort.

Healthy, active and enjoyable - where people can actively participate in maintaining and improving their health and well-being

- There has been good progress in reducing the proportion of low birth weight babies, with the proportion falling to 7.5% in 2008/09, exceeding our target.
- More than 81% of 5-16 year olds participated in at least two hours per week of high quality sport, equal to the national rate and 4 percentage points above that of comparable areas.
- Breastfeeding rates at six-eight weeks in Lewisham are in the top five primary care trust areas nationally.

Dynamic and prosperous - where people are part of vibrant localities and town centres well-connected to London and beyond

- The proportion 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training was reduced to 4.6% in December 2009, and reduced overall during 2009, and was significantly lower than the national average and the rate in comparable areas.

Key issues for the partnership

The Partnership has identified the following four key areas for impact in the period from 2009 to 2012. The information below highlights the progress made on these during 2009-10 but the real impact must be judged by the eventual improvement in outcomes amongst children and young people.

Early Intervention and Family Support

In Autumn 2009 the Partnership Board decided that, in order to improve the quality of family support and early intervention, the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) needed to be used more effectively across the partnership as a multi-agency assessment tool underpinning the Team Around the Child, Family Support, and strong multi-agency plans to ensure impact on the identified problems. This is being implemented effectively, with the number of CAFs being conducted increasing and reaching our target of 300 per month. The quality of information in CAFs is improving, with up to 70% of CAFs received by our Children Social Care teams now containing sufficient good quality information, up from only 40% in November 2009.

During 2009/10, we also have reviewed our family support arrangements on a partnership-wide basis and commissioned a new single targeted service that will begin from April 2010, replacing and improving on our existing offer. The specification will lead to a strengthened service able to deliver greater direct contact and direct family support provision and improving equity of access to families across the Borough. Three contracts been streamlined to one which will deliver an initial efficiency saving in management costs and potential further efficiencies based on clearer care pathways into the service and improved working models.

Raising aspirations and closing the gaps

During 2009/10, we have commissioned a full range of educational and training opportunities for 16-19 year olds which ensure our young people have access to a choice of provision which stimulates their desire for success and prepares them for further and higher education, training and employment, including a range of apprenticeships. This is underpinned by high quality, impartial information, advice and guidance about the range of opportunities available.

We have developed more young people from a range of backgrounds as leaders by extending peer mentoring and role model programmes

We have also built aspirations in younger children, ensuring they have access to exciting opportunities which raise their sights for the future. During 2009/10 the Connexions service has developed a programme of delivering Information Advice and Guidance to children of primary school age, designed to work with parents, carers and children, raising expectations within a whole family unit. This programme will be piloted further during 2010/11.

Reducing child poverty and its impact

The Partnership has initiated work to help parents find sustained employment as part of reducing the extent and impact of poverty on children and young people. This has included promoting flexible working arrangements across the partnership ensuring work life balance for working parents; and ensuring that there is sufficient, good quality childcare available within the borough.

The Partnership has also begun its work to implement the requirements of the Child Poverty Act 2010, which enshrines in law the commitment to eradicate child poverty by 2020.

Strengthening the positive influence of young people

In addition to the role of the Young Mayor and the Young Citizens' Panels, many other young people are becoming involved in the development of services which they will use or will affect them. During 2009/10, this included local assemblies agreeing to fund additional provision for young people and improving the information for young people so that they are aware of the services available to them, particularly through better use of social networking sites.

Young people were heavily involved in the commissioning of positive activities through the Youth Opportunities Fund, with 100 Positive Activities to be delivered all through the year, including evenings, weekends and summer.

Disabled children, young people and their families were involved in consultations to determine what short break services they would like to see piloted in 2009/10 and how they would like to access them. This led to eight new pilots being established, including a club night, youth clubs and sports activities. Disabled young people will continue to be involved in consultations, commissioning and evaluation of services through a dedicated disabled children's commissioning panel.

Partnership resources

However, in the current financial climate, the key goal for 2010 -11 will be to maintain impact in the context of reducing resources. We have therefore added a more specific focus on "partnership efficiencies" to ensure we are true to our value that 'all money is children's money'. The Children's Joint Commissioning Group, which reports to the CYPSPB, has identified five areas where collective savings are being sought and shared amongst partners. These are:

- a single service across the partnership for training ;
- the rationalisation of pathways and provision for children with complex needs ;
- a single service across the partnership for early intervention ;

- a single service across the partnership for universal under 5s ;
- maximising the use of school's budgets and Dedicated Schools Grant to improve outcomes generally for children and young people

LAA Performance

Please see 2009/10 LAA performance reports circulated separately or on the LSP website

Key Activities for 2010/2011

The Partnership is focused on delivering the second year of our CYPP 2009-12, the following priorities have been identified and each is underpinned by a programme of work. All the LAA priorities are captured within the CYPP.

Be Healthy

BH1 Reduce health inequalities by improving

- the take up of immunisation and
- reducing the number of babies born with low birth weight

BH2 Improve the health of Looked After Children

BH3 Further reduce teenage conceptions and reduce the rate of sexually transmitted infections

BH4 Reduce childhood obesity

BH5 Reduce substance misuse, including alcohol and tobacco

BH6 Promote mental and emotional well-being

Stay Safe

SS1 Reduce child abuse and neglect

SS2 Reduce harm to children and young people caught up in domestic violence

SS3 Provide secure and consistent support for LAC, particularly placement stability

SS4 Support families at risk of being in crisis

SS5 Ensure that children and young people feel safe

Enjoy and Achieve

EA1 Raise educational standards for all Key Stages

EA2 Close the attainment gap between underachieving groups and their peers

EA3 Continue to improve school attendance

EA4 Ensure that all children have opportunities to play and that all young people have a range of accessible culture and leisure activities available to them

EA5 Meet the needs of pupils with SEN and disabilities

Make a Positive Contribution

MPC1 Strengthen further youth participation and involvement

MPC2 Reduce youth crime and support young people who are the victim of crime

MPC3 Provide integrated youth support for all young people to ensure they are able to make informed choices about their lives

Achieve Economic Well-being

EWB1 Support parents into employment, including the provision of sufficient affordable child care

EWB2 Reduce further the number of young people who are NEET

EWB3 Raise participation and achievement at age 19

EWB4 Secure a diverse 14-19 offer which meets the needs and aspirations of learners

EWB5 Meet the housing needs of young people and families

Contributions from the LSP

The LSP board and partnership boards can and do support the work of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board in a number of ways.

- Continue the LSP Board commitment as employers to increasing apprenticeships and access routes to employment for young people and parents
- CYPSPB to continue to work with the Economic and Enterprise board to address the requirement for a child poverty needs assessment alongside the need to undertake a Local Economic Assessment
- Lewisham DAT to work closely with the CYPSP Board to ensure that children, young people and their families receive the help and support they need to keep them away from, and free of Drugs and/or alcohol.
- The CYPSP Board are working with the Housing Options Board to look at reducing social exclusion among young people who are homeless and to reduce overcrowding within families.