

**Devon Children and Young People's Plan
2008 – 2011
Refresh 2009
Version 9/9/09**

1. Introduction and context

The Devon Children's Trust Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011 has been reviewed to provide this update on actions. Since the plan was written there has been progress and learning. Details are available in the annual report of the Devon Children's Trust www etc. This refreshed update is to be read in the context of:

Children and Young People's Plan 2008 – 2011 ([link](#))
Annual Report of the Devon Children's Trust 2008/2009 ([link](#))
Devon Safeguarding Children Annual Report 2009 ([link](#))
Serious Care Reviews
Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children Services Report ([link](#))
Post Ofsted Inspection Action Plan ([link](#))

The most significant influence on this refresh comes from the dreadful death of Baby Peter and the actions which followed including Lord Laming's progress report, the government response to that and the revisions to guidance on a number of fronts focused on safeguarding.

Safeguarding is everyone's business and that message should be seen throughout this refreshed plan. The recent Ofsted inspection on safeguarding and Looked after Children reinforced our joint responsibilities and provided further impetus for improvement. The action plan following the inspection is a six month plan which will be regarded and monitored as part of the CYPP.

The CYPP is threaded through with work to 'narrow the gap' and to ensure that the improving outcomes for all children and young people improve most quickly for those who are most vulnerable or underachieving. This can be seen most clearly through the priorities for:

- improving housing for children and young people
- improving outcomes for children with special needs and support for parents and carers
- improving life chances for children in care
- reducing exclusion
- reducing teenage pregnancies
- reducing child poverty

but is also inherent in all the priorities. The focus on narrowing the gap is the Local Area Agreement (LAA) priority for the inspiring young people theme.

Since the plan was written our economic situation has changed dramatically and the full implications are yet to be fully understood. This will affect all of us and will be a consideration in all our work in terms of the effects on children, young people, families and communities; and in the effect on the capacity of organisations within the Children's Trust partnership.

During the year two new priorities were agreed for the Children and Young People's Plan:

- Reducing Child Poverty
- Reducing Teenage Pregnancy

Further detail is in Section 4 below.

Devon is a changing society and we need to prepare our children and young people for their future. Our joint needs assessment provides the basis for our priority setting. The voice of children, young people is essential to make sense of our needs assessment, to make sure that it is grounded in reality. Our needs assessment is becoming more sophisticated and we will increasingly look at the detail:

- With a safeguarding perspective
- By smaller geographical areas so that we have a much better idea of ‘what is like to live in ...’
- To deepen our understanding of equality and diversity issues

so that jointly we can work on actions that really make a difference.

2. Vision

We feel passionately that all children and young people should be:

- happy
- healthy
- secure
- and have the confidence to achieve at school and enjoy their childhood.

This should happen regardless of their background. We will fight injustice, promote fairness and provide services to meet the needs of the individual child.

We aim to give each child the best possible start in life, lending a helping hand when needed, as early as we can.

- All children and young people will have the opportunity to enjoy their lives, and to play and learn creatively, so that they grow in confidence and can realise their ambitions.
- We all play a part in improving the life chances of children and we will make the biggest difference by working in partnership with families and communities.
- Every child and young person is an individual; we will listen to them and their families when we plan our services.
- All children and young people, irrespective of their background or circumstances, will be given the opportunity to succeed.
- The needs of children and young people are more important than the needs of service providers.
- All children and young people will feel safe and protected. Child safety is everyone’s responsibility.

To achieve these aims we will:

- aim for excellence in all we do, and expect nothing but the best from everyone working with children and young people in Devon
- encourage and celebrate the achievements of all our children and young people
- understand the issues facing children living in rural Devon, and do all we can to maximise the benefits and overcome the challenges
- provide continual support, learning and opportunities from before birth until adult life
- identify and commission high-quality services for all children and young people
- recognise the importance of promoting a positive way of life and identifying and resolving issues early

- overcome cultural and organisational barriers to develop high quality, wide-ranging services that meet every child's needs while tackling the unfairness and disadvantage that limit some children's life chances
- target resources to meet needs so that practitioners are able to help children in ways suited to each individual
- bring key staff together to provide more effective services.

All children, especially those who are disadvantaged, need our unreserved support and commitment so they can build better lives. We must not fail them.

2. Rights of the Child

Devon's Children Trust is committed to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Convention is a universally agreed set of non-negotiable standards and obligations. These basic standards—also called human rights—set minimum entitlements and freedoms. They are founded on respect for the dignity and worth of each individual, regardless of race, colour, gender, language, religion, opinions, origins, wealth, birth status or ability and therefore apply to every human being everywhere. With these rights comes the obligation not to infringe on the parallel rights of others.

The Convention spells out the basic human rights that children everywhere have: the right to survival; to develop to the fullest; to protection from harmful influences, abuse and exploitation; and to participate fully in family, cultural and social life.

The four core principles of the Convention are:

- non-discrimination;
- devotion to the best interests of the child;
- the right to life, survival and development;
- respect for the views of the child.

Every right spelled out in the Convention is inherent to the human dignity and harmonious development of every child. Further detail can be found

<http://www.unicef.org/crc/>

3. Equality and Diversity Statement

The CYPP 2008 – 2011 did not include an explicit equality and diversity statement as it was felt that it should be implicit throughout. On reflection it has been agreed that we need to be very clear. The following statement has been agreed:

*It is because **Every Child Matters in Devon**, that equality and diversity are important priorities for Devon Children's Trust. We are committed to embedding equality and diversity in our workforce, and in our service design and delivery, and to ensuring that the diverse needs of our children, families and communities are met.*

Our work on equality and diversity focuses on six key priority areas for improvement to ensure better outcomes for all, taking into account race, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability and sexual orientation.

These are:

- *Ensuring fair access and better outcomes through inclusive services*
- *Effective engagement with individual and groups of children and young people from minority backgrounds in order to ensure that their needs are met*
- *Effective and inclusive commissioning and procurement*
- *Developing our workforce to confidently work with the variety of communities in Devon*
- *Ensuring safety and tackling harassment and bullying for children and young people, and also staff in our children’s workforce*
- *Effective data collection and monitoring to inform our service development and delivery*

In Devon we are committed to promoting equality and community cohesion for all of our children and families. Our key principles are that:

- *We are all of equal value*
- *We seek to improve the access, participation, achievements and life chances of all children and young people living in Devon.*

4. Local Children’s Trusts

What does it mean locally? That is where the Local Children’s Trusts, based on District Council areas and including the full partnership of the Devon Trust, interprets Devon strategy for local circumstances. It is early days but the commissioning priorities have been agreed as follows:

Area	Priorities
Exeter	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teenage Pregnancy 2. Parenting 3. Play and Positive Activities 4. Speech, Language and Literacy
Northern Devon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting 2. Play and Positive Activities
South Hams	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting Support 2. Safe things to do in safe places including childcare 3. Access to facilities, services and transport
Teignbridge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Personalised learning 2. Parenting
West Devon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transitions 2. Parenting 3. Transport 4. Positive activities
East Devon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Family intervention
Mid Devon	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting support 2. Transitions 3. Raising aspirations – teenage pregnancy

The first steps have been using the Children's Fund to meet local priorities. Next steps are around jointly commissioning in the context of the whole resource for an area.

6. Actions

Be Healthy

Accountable Officer: Sara Gibbs
Lead Officer: Ian Tearle
Lead Body: Be Healthy Reference Group
Joint Commissioning Board:

Why is this important?

Investing in the promotion of good health for children and their families through early years, childhood and adolescence can have positive health benefits in terms of people having healthier and longer lives

What are we going to do?

Provide healthy lifestyle advice to all pregnant women:

- Offer advice and support on smoking cessation, healthy eating and avoiding substance misuse within ante natal care
- Encourage all parents/carers to immunise their children
- Promote breastfeeding and produce a new Infant Nutrition Strategy

Deliver a co-ordinated approach to promotion of a Healthy Childhood and Adolescence

- Develop the Healthy Schools Plus Programme focusing on schools serving the most deprived communities
- Support 95% of Devon schools with healthy schools status through the Healthy Schools Plus process
- Roll out the Physical Education, Daily Physical Activity and School Sport Strategy
- Implementing the Closing the Gap” Active Children and Young People in Devon Programme
- Develop SEALplus programme
- Deliver the National Child Measurement Programme
- Develop a care pathway approach for children who are overweight and obese
- To continue the quality and coverage of specialist substance misuse treatment for those young people who experience serious harm from substance misuse, building on progress to date
- Deliver the improving outcomes for Children in Care action plan

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- % of babies below 1500 grams and 2500 grams
- % of mothers receiving a Family Health Needs Assessment
- Immunisation rates at 12, 24 and 60 months
- % of mothers recorded ?? on quarterly basis
- % of mothers breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks
- % of schools accredited for Healthy Schools
- % of schools engaged on Healthy Schools Plus
- % of schools signed up to deliver the PEDPASS strategy to deliver 5 hours per week of activity (2+1+2)

- Annual 4% increase in active children and young people from the most inactive 20% (18,625) 5 to 16 year old pupils, identified as taking part in less than 3 sessions of 30 minutes duration per week (3 x 30) of physical activity beyond the curriculum
- Agreed number of schools/learning communities working on the programme
- Establish baseline data for pupil attitudes to school and self
- % of yr 6 pupils classified as obese
- Agree indicators as part of the Care Pathway development
- proportion of young people frequently misusing substances

Stay Safe

Accountable Officer Alan Wooderson
 Lead Officer Rory McCallum
 Lead Body: Devon Safeguarding Children Board
 Joint Commissioning Board: Child Protection

Why is this important?

Keeping all children safe and free from harm is everyone's responsibility. Children who are being bullied or abused, or simply left to look after themselves are unlikely to be as healthy or to achieve at school to the same level as children for whom there is proper care. Staying safe is fundamental to well-being.

What are we going to do?

- Ensure all areas of safeguarding responsibilities subject to Ofsted, and service specific inspectorate evaluation, are judged adequate or better
- Implement and monitor effectiveness of action plan to address recommendations of Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children Services
- Embed in frontline workforce practice and multi agency policies, the lessons learnt from Serious Case Reviews in Devon and the national overview reports into Serious Case Reviews, the peninsula Child Death Review Panel process, and the DSCB Multi Agency Case Audit report 2009
- Recruit a new strategic leadership post to implement safeguarding quality improvements across the Devon safeguarding children system
- Revise and implement via the DSCB Executive and working sub groups, a new Business Plan that reflects the expectations from the Laming and Singleton reports, the Government's 'Action Plan' and the revised 'Working Together' guidance and any new directives from the National Safeguarding Delivery Unit
- Develop Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in depth on children's safeguarding to establish:
 - the current resources and pattern of safeguarding services,
 - agree the safeguarding needs profile for Devon based on national best practice including the most common 'causal factors' found in Serious Case Reviews.
 - agree joint investment, service co location and integrated service delivery and consequent infrastructure requirements
- Implement a comprehensive quality assurance and quality improvement framework for the DSCB that assures communities in Devon that all DSCB partners prioritise safeguarding Devon's children and young people
- Regularly report on the experience of children and young people involved in safeguarding, and deliver key proactive safeguarding messages using varied media systems, to Devon's diverse communities, particularly vulnerable groups of children and young people, parents and carers

- Close any known gaps in service delivery which jeopardise the safety of children and young people particularly improving working arrangements with services provided to adults where it is known to have impact on the safety and wellbeing of children and young people e.g. mental health, substance misuse, domestic violence and abuse, known sexual and violent offenders
- Ensure that the children's workforce across all sectors in Devon are safely recruited according to national standards, trained to the levels of knowledge and competence to ensure they carry out their responsibilities prioritising safeguarding children, are managed and supported appropriately and are held to account for their professional judgements and behaviour.
- Deliver the improving outcomes for Children in Care action plan

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Inspection reports of all services
- Percentage of children and young people who feel safe
- Number of domestic violence and abuse incidents
- Use national indicators currently being developed

**Enjoy and Achieve -
Work in progress**

Accountable Officer Judith Johnson
 Lead Officer David Lowes
 Lead Body: Forum for Learning & Achievement (FLA) &
 Schools Commissioning Board

Joint Commissioning Board: Learning and Skills

Why is this important?

Having the ability to enjoy and achieve is fundamental to well-being in all its senses. What is provided needs to be tailored for each child or young person recognising their personal needs. For children to learn successfully and achieve they have to enjoy life and live in an environment where they feel safe and cared for. This sets them up for the whole of their lives and helps build resilient and well balanced citizens for the 21st century who are able to play their part in a rapidly changing global society.

The Enjoy & Achieve programme area is extensive, covering a broad range of national programmes and grant funded initiatives with their own parameters and plans. For Devon's plan we will place the emphasis on the 'enjoy' strand and ensure that we focus on those activities that nurture and support opportunities for achievement through a range of possibilities; that 'narrow the gap' - making sure that the lowest achievers reach their potential and 'raise the bar' – making sure that the most able reach their potential.

What are we going to do?

- Ensure **access to a full learning experience** for every child by rolling out a programme of area reviews across the county to secure the best possible pattern of sustainable and cost effective provision for 21st century schools. This universal work will incorporate ALL schools and settings and dovetails with the ongoing Stepping Stones programme of remodelling our provision for children with special educational and additional needs.
- Promote **transformational and personalised learning** for all cyp and their learning communities using technology via the primary capital programme (Strategy for Change) and the secondary capital programme (Building Schools

for the Future) and through a continuing focus on ways in which best practice is shared and effective leadership is secured.

- Secure progress on **narrowing the gap between the achievement of vulnerable groups** (*children in care, black & minority ethnic groups, boys & girls, disadvantaged, travellers and cyp with SEN*) and their peers using the statutory targets and progress measures associated with national programmes and the recommendations of recent national reviews, such as :
 - *Every Child a Reader/Writer/Talker, Every Child Counts – EcaR/ECaW/ECaT/ECC*
 - *National Challenge- NC*
 - *Gaining Ground – GG*
 - *Making Good Progress – MGP*
 - *1:1 Tuition*
 - *Rose Review – CYP with Dyslexia and Literacy Difficulties*
 - *Lamb enquiry – Review of SEN and Disability Information*
- RtB – G&T – ‘stage not age’ provision
- Service Delivery Integration - secure a **fully inclusive culture** in all schools where **wellbeing, inclusion and achievement are all equally valued and modelled in schools and settings** through the wide range of commissioned specification projects with the integrated school improvement and inclusion service – Devon’s Learning & Development Partnership.
- Deliver the improving outcomes for Children in Care action plan

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- The suite of statutory objectives in the **National Indicator Set** which include a new range of progress measures : tbd
- The **satisfaction with which children and young people view their learning experiences** through the annual Tellus Survey, through their participation records and through the individual stories behind those cyp awarded the annual ‘Spirit of Devon’ award.
- The annual **Devon Schools and College Performance Report** which includes a section on the progress of vulnerable groups.
- Through the **RAG performance of termly milestones** agreed as part of the commissioning specification with the Learning & Development Partnership.
- Through the extensive suite of **external moderation visits by National Strategies Field Force Advisers**, their termly RAG ratings and comparative benchmarks with statistical neighbour groups of LAs which is reflected in the LAIT, and their annual stocktake report for the performance assessment of the council.
- Through comparisons with national data collected through Ofsted inspections and outcomes within the LA

Making a Positive Contribution

Accountable Officer	Judith Johnson
Lead Officer	Dillon Hughes
Lead Body	Integrated Youth Support & Development Services Board
Joint Commissioning Board:	Participation and Positive Lifestyles

Why is this important?

This is about helping children and young people to develop the skills and opportunities they need to be a positive part of the community beyond their immediate family group, both giving and receiving, to be full and respected members of their communities.

What are we going to do?

- Re-focus the Participation and Democracy Development Team on work within DCC and the CT Partners
- Support the work of the YOS performance board to reduce recidivism rates
- Develop more opportunities for young people to volunteer
- Develop the statutory Behaviour and Attendance Partnerships between schools to secure increased engagement with young people
- Use the national curriculum review to ensure that cultural, sport and personal, social and health education programmes enable all young people to develop their potential more fully.
- Help young people to appreciate their place in the wider national and international community
- Address the link between community cohesion and under-achievement of vulnerable individuals and groups of young people;
- Deliver the improving outcomes for Children in Care action plan.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Feedback from Children and Young People
- Numbers of young people participating the UKYP elections
- Participation in regular volunteering
- Young People's participation in positive activities

Achieve Economic Wellbeing

Accountable Officer:	Judith Johnson
Lead Officer:	John Davey
Lead Body:	Integrated Youth Support and Development Services Board
Joint Commissioning Board:	Learning and Skills

Why is this important?

Young people need to have the right skills as they become adults and move into further or higher education or work. They need a rich and diverse curriculum that is relevant to young people in their local area and for Devon's economy.

What are we going to do?

- Develop the Stepping Stones programme as the delivery mechanism for many aspects of the Integrated Children's Provider Service aligning with local working of AXS programmes (Team Around the Child and CAF)

- Develop individualised funding for children with disabilities, linking the learning from budget holding lead professionals and direct payments.
- Fully implement the 14-19 strategy
- Commission Integrated Youth Support and Development Services through the IYSDS Board
- Develop a personalised and individualised curriculum for young people 14+
- Deliver the LSC transition and establish the Strategic Regional Group including a skills strategy
- Deliver the improving outcomes for Children in Care action plan.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19
- Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19
- Participation of 17 year olds in education or training
- Employers satisfaction with young people's readiness for work

Strengthening Families

Accountable Officer: Rory McCallum

Lead Officer: Philippa Court

Lead Body: Parenting Strategy Board

Joint Commissioning Board: Participation and Positive Lifestyles

Why is this important?

Parents are the single most important influence on securing positive outcomes for children and young people. Good parenting is an important precursor to achieving fully the ambitions of the CYPP and this is recognised by all the Local Children's Trusts as a priority. We all need to think family – beyond the Children's Trust to give every child the chance to achieve the five outcomes.

What are we going to do?

- Identify an infrastructure which will drive and deliver the Parenting Strategy/ Think Family Agenda
- Provide Accessible Services which meet identified need
- Support and empower parents to participate in the development of services
- The development of excellent services which can be proven to be effective

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Reduce recidivism rate (outcome)
- Emotional health of children (national indicator measure)
- Achievement at Level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2
- Secondary School persistent absence rate
- Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years foundation Stage Profile and the rest
- Reduce first time entrants to YJ system (outcome)
- Numbers of families completing FIP (YCAP) programme (output)

Developing more things to do in safe places to be

Accountable Officer: Dillon Hughes

Lead Officer: Early Years Claire Rockliffe

Extended Services Philippa Court

Young people Dillon Hughes

Lead Body: ????

Joint Commissioning Board: Participation and Positive Lifestyles

Why is this important?

Access to positive activities enriches lives and includes play, sport, arts, volunteering, and a whole range of providers. It is a way to ensure all children and young people have the opportunity to feel safe whilst learning and developing skills, knowledge and understanding about themselves others and the world. It can also support carers and parents by reducing risky behaviours, offending and unplanned pregnancies. There is still an inconsistent offer of activities across the county and not all children and young people have access equal to their need, especially children with special needs.

What are we going to do?

- Provide good information on what is available from all providers using a common website
- Pilot the extended services disadvantage subsidy with five Learning Communities in order to remove economic barriers to participation after school and holiday activities for school age children.
- Provide positive activities in places and at times children and young people have requested
-

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Participation in activities in pilot areas for disadvantaged subsidy
- Feedback from users and non users on their influence on activities
- Provision of play spaces

Improving Access and Transport

Accountable Officer: Debbie Pritchard
Lead Officer: Lisa Boon
Lead Body: Improving Access and Sustainable Travel Group
Joint Commissioning Board: Participation and Positive Lifestyles

Why is this important?

Feedback from children, young people and partners has highlighted that access to services to services, education, training, and leisure and social activities is essential to achieving potential. In rural Devon this is often difficult for all ages let alone those too young to drive. Access to courses as part of broadening the 14 -19 curriculum as part of personalising learning is a particular driver as is making use of existing resources for the greatest benefit.

What are we going to do?

- Identify Youth Activities and Extended Services opportunities where there are barriers to access;
- Identify 14-19 activities where there are barriers to access;
- Audit Existing Transport Infrastructures;
- Identify sustainable access solutions;
- Cost additional transport provision required to support access;
- Engage with children and young people regarding access issues;
- Rationalise existing transport arrangements across services to children and young people;
- Ensure the work of the 14-19 transport partnership supports extended access;
- Continue to support the Independent Travel Training programme;
- Roll out of the Extended Services in and around Schools Disadvantage Subsidy taking account of access issues.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- % of schools who have a travel plan;
- Number of schools running 14-19 diplomas planning transport solutions via 14-19 Transport Coordinator;
- Number of children and young people undertaking Independent Travel Training and potential savings as a result;
- Feedback received by children and young people on access issues;
- Number of children and young people receiving Extended Services in and around Schools Disadvantage Subsidy with access issues that have been overcome;
- Number of children and young people for whom sustainable access solutions identified and potential savings as a result.

Reducing Bullying

Accountable Officer: Debbie Pritchard
 Lead Officer: Annette Lyons
 Lead Body: Devon Safeguarding Children Board
 Project Board: Reducing Bullying Steering Group
 Joint Commissioning Board: Child Protection

Why is this important?

Children and young people tell us in a variety of ways that bullying is a significant concern to them. It is not easy to get hard information but children and young people who are seen as different often suffer from bullying. This may be because they have a disability, are in care or are perceived as having a different style, ethnicity or sexuality. The fear and experience of bullying can blight lives.

What are we going to do?

- A range of activities to provide guidance and support for schools
- A range of activities to promote community cohesion
- Information, analysis and intelligence: Strategies to collect, record and report incidents of bullying to inform effectiveness and next steps

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

<i>Number of schools achieve 'healthy schools' status</i>
<i>% of Schools and local learning communities with Healthy Plus status</i>
<i>Emotional health of children</i>
<i>Emotional and behavioural health of children in care</i>
<i>Children who have experienced bullying</i>
<i>Tellus survey</i>

Improving Housing and support for families and young people

Accountable Officer: Rory McCallum
 Lead Officer: Tim Todd
 Lead Body:
 Joint Commissioning Board: Vulnerable Adolescents

Why is this important?

Devon has specific problems regarding housing and homelessness as a large county with a mixture of urban and vast rural areas. Lack of suitable and affordable private sector and social housing coupled with affordability of owner occupied housing mean that for many the process of living independently is very challenging, especially for the groups seen as vulnerable (e.g. Children in Care, 16 & 17 year olds unable to stay at home, Young People with a disability). A stable and supportive living

environment called home directly impacts on well-being and the ability to achieve in education, employment and beyond.

What are we going to do?

- Develop early intervention & education
- Improve access to Emergency Accommodation in Rural areas
- Improve access to advice and information
- improve the quality and quantity of accommodation and support
- Ensure that all housing and support services working with young people & families have robust safeguarding policies in place.
- Improve the range of move-on accommodation accessible for all vulnerable groups
- Further develop the Joint Working arrangements between all the relevant agencies
- Engage with young people, families and carers to enhance the quality of decision making

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

Objective 1	Numbers of young people aged 14 plus accessing education on housing related issues
Objective 1 & 7	Number of 16/17 year olds prevented from becoming homeless
Objective 1 & 7	Number of 16/17 year olds accommodated under S20 due to homelessness.
Objective 3	Number of 16/17 year olds presenting for housing advice
Objective 3	Number of young people with a disability/additional need & going through Transitions needing housing advice & support
Objective 2	Number of units of emergency accommodation available in Devon
Objective 3	Number of CAFs carried out by housing prevention posts
Objective 4	Number of units of supported housing improved
Objective 4	Number of new units accessed via the Private Rented Sector.
Objective 5	Number of safeguarding policies audited
Objective 5	Number of organisations accessing further training on safeguarding arising from Audit
Objective 6	Number of move-on units developed
Objective 7	Number of staff receiving how to improve outcomes training
Objective 7	Number of homeless prevention panels taking place
Objective 7	Number of family panels meeting feeding into future needs assessment
Objective 8	Numbers & range of young people consulted with around agreed areas
Objective 8	Numbers and range of young people involved in different parts of the commissioning cycle

Improving services for children with special needs and support for parents, carers and young carers

Accountable Officer: John Shaw
Lead Officer: Anne Porter
Lead Body: Children with Special Needs Partnership Programme Board
Joint Commissioning Board: Integrated Inclusion Strategy

Why is this important?

Children, young people and families where there are people, children or parents, with additional needs, require and deserve additional support that is appropriate to their situation so that all can achieve their potential. Their experience varies across the county and we know that, in line with national initiatives, we can do more to improve outcomes.

What are we going to do?

- To meet the Full Service Offer for Aiming High for Disabled Children by 2011 linked to delivering the outcomes in Healthy Lives Brighter futures.
- Deliver the Stepping Stones programme to provide integrated inclusion strategies and practice
- Continue to re-commission all services for children with additional needs to ensure equity of access and outcomes wherever they live in Devon
- Ensure that the needs of all children with additional needs are recognised in all other strategies linked to the CYPP.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Services for children with LDD/SEN
 - Increase in numbers of children receiving carers breaks from 08/9 baseline.
 - Reduction in waiting times for service provision across all service areas.
- NI 54 Parental Perception of services in Devon 08/09 baseline 57/100
- Parent and carer conversation events
 - Parent carer participation Parent Carer Voice year report
- The SEN and non-SEN achievement gap and key stage 2 and key stage 4
- Progress of children and young people with SEN and outcomes through person centred plans at Transition.
- All Education placements for CYP with SEN
- Number of children and young people in each area with a Joint Agency Record
- NI54 PSA 12 Parental satisfaction

Improving Life for Children in Care

Accountable Officer: Rory McCallum
Lead Officers: Deborah Booth and Karen Cleave
Lead Body: Children in Care Council and Corporate Parenting Forum

Joint Commissioning Board: Children in Care

Why is this important?

The Children's Trust partners have joint responsibilities as corporate parents for Children in Care. We want for Children in Care what any parent should want for their

child, to feel love and cared for, to be happy, able to achieve their potential and given the best chances in life. Too often this is not the case and we need to do all in our power to make things better for the future.

What are we going to do?

- Implement the action plan to address the recommendations from the Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Children in Care
- Action plan to improve the stability of placement of Children in Care and reduces teenage admissions into care
- Actions to:
 - reduce offending by Children in Care
 - continue to focus on 'Narrowing the Gap' and raising the educational achievements and attainments of Children in Care
 - continue reduction in fixed term exclusions
 - improve attendance,
 - improve personal education plan (PEP) quality
 - improve support to Children in Care via trained and supported designated teachers and virtual head system with a special focus on those Children in Care with statements of special educational needs.
- Continue to improve our foster care service, offering an improved number of quality placements
- Improve our 'Early Years' support to Children in Care by providing additional support for under 5's to access a full Early Years curriculum.
- Develop targeted public health campaigns focused on key issues for our Children in Care i.e. smoking reduction and reduction in teenage pregnancy.
- Further develop our participation processes for Children in Care and ensure their views are fully integrated into policy development and delivery.
- To develop quality measures and focus on wellbeing of Children in Care and their satisfaction with the care they receive.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Feedback for Children in Care Council
- Children in Care reaching level 4 in English at key stage 2
- Children in Care reaching level 4 in mathematics at key stage 2
- % of young people leaving care age 16+ in the year to 31 March with 1 GCSE at A*-G
- Looked after children achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (inc. English and Maths)
- Care leavers in education, employment or training
- Attendance at school
- Exclusions from school

Reducing exclusions from schools

Accountable Officer: Judith Johnson

Lead Officer: Ernie Lloyd

Lead Body: Integrated Youth Support Service Board

Joint Commissioning Board: Vulnerable Adolescents

Why is this important?

The consequences for young people who are excluded can be dire; it is a significant factor in the development of further risks and problems for those who often already have other problems in their lives. The cost to the individual and society in the short and long term can be very significant.

What are we going to do?

- Increase the capacity of formal alternative provision settings
- Develop the efficiency and effectiveness of the alternative provision workforce
- Increase the capacity of Behaviour and Attendance Partnerships to address the needs of young people with social, emotional and behavioural difficulties (SEBD) issues.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

Number of secondary aged permanently excluded pupils enrolled with Link Education
Rate of Permanent exclusions from secondary schools
Rate of temporary exclusions of children in care

Reducing Teenage Pregnancy

Accountable Officer: Sara Gibbs

Lead Officer: Becky Carmichael

Lead Body: Teenage Pregnancy and Young People’s Sexual Health Board

Joint Commissioning Board: Vulnerable Adolescents

Why is this important?

Teenage pregnancy impacts on the poorest communities and most vulnerable young people.

- Children of teenage mothers have a 63% increased risk of being born into poverty compared to babies born to mothers in their twenties. They have lower academic attainment and are at higher risk of economic inactivity in later life.
- The majority of teenage pregnancies are unplanned and almost half end in abortion. 20% of teenage births to under 18’s are second pregnancies.
- Half of all under18 conceptions occur in the 20% most deprived wards.
- Among the most vulnerable girls the risk of becoming a teenage mother is almost 1 in 3.

Tackling teenage pregnancy is a complex issue because there are so many different factors that affect a person’s life and choices. The evidence shows that it is not one individual intervention that makes the difference but a combination of different interventions that together can reduce rates of teenage pregnancy.

For Devon as a whole, rates of teenage pregnancy are low. However some wards are within the 20% of wards nationally with the highest rates of teenage conceptions and our rates are not reducing in line with national targets.

What are we going to do?

Reducing the under-18 conception rate and increasing the proportion of teenage parents in education, training and employment will help to improve the lives of teenage parents and their children.

Devon invited the Teenage Pregnancy National Support Team to advise us on what needs to be done. Key actions were agreed:

- Ensure that we have robust data sources that enable us to target resources most effectively and measure progress.
- Develop and implement a marketing and communications plan that ensures that partners across the Children's Trust understand that teenage pregnancy is everyone's business and that consistent, coherent messages are delivered to young people and their families.
- To make sure that commissioning provides an accessible, equitable young people friendly sexual health service across Devon that continues into adulthood.
- In partnership with young people, develop a Devon wide approach to universal and targeted Sex and Relationships Education provision both within schools and the community
- Develop specific, preventative interventions to meet the needs of a range of vulnerable groups including those with additional needs.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- The number and rate of teenage pregnancies by ward
- Feedback from young people and local key stakeholders and groups
- Performance monitoring of the Teenage Pregnancy and Young People's Sexual Health action plan.

Reducing Child Poverty

Accountable Officer: Debbie Pritchard
Lead Officer: tbd
Lead Body: tbd
Joint Commissioning Board: Strengthening Families

What's the story?

Poverty is closely linked to all the five outcomes and tends to be cyclical. Evidence shows that even from the earliest age that income is more important than ability for educational achievement. In Devon it is very easy for the poverty to be hidden:

- The majority of poor children (57%) live in a household where at least one adult works
- The majority of poor children (58%) live in a household headed by a couple

Poverty affects families in a variety of ways:

Low income leads to social exclusion. Of those children living in the bottom 20% of the income distribution:

- Over half can't afford a week's holiday away from home with the family
- Over 1 in 5 can't afford to go swimming at least once a month
- 1 in 6 can't afford to have their friends round for tea or a snack once a fortnight

Whilst in safeguarding terms:

- Children living in poverty were 37 times more likely to die as a result of fire than those not. This related to housing and chaotic living.
- A child living in poverty was less likely to be injured in a car and more likely to be injured by a car.

We have a good story with regard to increasing benefits take-up for families where there is a child with special needs. This has provided us with good knowledge on what works and does not work with regard to increasing benefits take-up. There is a need for good information that is easily available for families and those working with families to signpost; children's centres, schools and social workers provide excellent opportunities.

The current recession is extending the risk.

What are we going to do?

- Develop needs assessment with poverty focus
- Scope what is currently happening, what could happen and who should be engaged
- Build on the good practice of the benefits take-up campaign for families with additional needs

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Free school meal entitlement and educational achievement
- Other indicators that emerge from the needs assessment

Participation of children and young people

Accountable Officer: Debbie Pritchard
Lead Officer: Rachel Henderson
Lead Body: Children's Trust Hear by Right Champions Group and a range of children and young people's groups

Joint Commissioning Board: Participation and Positive Lifestyles

Why is this important?

Our experience and national research evidence shows that by engaging children and young people in decisions about their lives that we provide better services and they achieve better outcomes. It is also part of our commitment to Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (see page ?). We have an excellent story to tell so far but know that we can do much more and in particular for those groups whose voices are less often heard and are often the most vulnerable such as Traveller children.

What are we going to do?

- Develop further methods and mechanisms for Local Children's Trusts to consult with and engage children and young people in decision making
- Develop further 'Making a Difference' training for workers to include one to one work, children and young people with particular needs and younger children
- Establish clear methods and opportunities for encouraging and hearing the most vulnerable of our children and young people, especially those with child protection plans
- Use external review to measure our continued achievements and the challenges still to meet
- Develop methods for ensuring there are specific outcomes and impacts as a result of children and young people's involvement with the Trust
- Further develop our mechanisms to collate evidence in order to inform planning

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

- Number of young people taking part in UKYP elections
- Map and benchmark groups and ages of those currently involved
- Number of school councils and other forums in existence
- External review
- Take-up and evaluation of training
- Number of Get UR Voice Heard local groups set up

A workforce strategy to support the delivery of the CYPP

Accountable Officer: Debbie Pritchard

Lead Officer:

Joint Commissioning Board: Children's Trust Workforce Strategy Commissioning Board

Why is this important?

Everyone who work with and comes into contact with children and young people will have an effect on them. The quality of the workforce, its expertise, its culture, its commitment are key to achieving the outcomes of this plan and that includes everyone from those for whom it is their full time job (school staff and social workers) to those for whom there is occasional links (planning officers and doctors).

What are we going to do?

The national drive for the workforce through the One Children's Workforce Toolkit provides Devon with a tool to engage staff and measure our progress and its key strands (known as the rainbow) are developing:

- Shared identity, purpose and vision
- Common values and language
- Behaviours focused on positive outcomes for children and young people
- Integrated working practices
- High quality, appropriately trained workforce
- Complementary roles focused around children and young people
- Capacity to deliver and keep children safe

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

The progress against the rainbow – *show graphically*

AXS Programme – multi-agency integrated working

Accountable Officer: Miles Hapgood

Lead Officer: David Roberts

Lead Body: AXS Board

Joint Commissioning Board: Early Years and Family Support

Why is this important?

The key to making a transformational shift in improving outcomes for the most vulnerable is through integrated working focused on the needs of the child and family. This is supported through the workforce strategy and a range of tools and processes to support the workforce such as the common assessment framework (CAF).

Personalisation is the ability to deliver timely, and flexible responses which are 'tailor made' to meet the support needs of an individual child or young person and in so doing, improve the chances of them achieving the 5 Every Child Matters outcomes. It is an approach to supporting children and young people, whatever their level of need, and includes:

- the ability to deliver support in a way that is accessible and 'makes sense' to the child or young person and their family- increases the choice of support available
- involves children, young people and their families in finding creative solutions
- builds on their strengths and local support networks
- is needs led and outcome focussed

A number of activities are key in achieving Personalisation:

- assessment of need
- person centred support planning
- commissioning
- monitoring and review
- market development

There are already some good examples of personalisation in practice in Devon, such as Direct Payments for children who have disabilities and their families through the Fair Access to Carers Break Scheme, the establishment of Person Centred Planning for young people with disabilities in transition from Children to Adult Services, Personalised Learning approaches within schools and Education and the Budget Holding Lead Professional & Individual Commissioning project for children and young people who have additional needs, requiring a preventative co-ordinated multi agency response, through the CAF process. During 2009-11, we aim to build on existing personalisation practice and develop a joined up vision and workplan that embeds the methodology across all initiatives.

Because the work is dependant upon the dual functions of integrated working and commissioning, accountability will be jointly held across the AXS Programme and the Joint Commissioning Team.

What are we going to do?

- Develop a series of performance indicators that reflect qualitative and quantitative statistics supporting impact on children, young people, families and staff, agency engagement, shift to prevention work, comparison with neighbours
- Further embed the cultural shift in co-ordinated networks and broker a move to formally managed networks
- Streamline the care pathways across children's services which may require replacement or alignment with the CAF. This will be underpinned by the further development of national and local tools and processes with the promotion of resources on an online toolkit.
- Workforce planning/development through the One Children's Workforce Toolkit provided by the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC)
- Develop key partnership and initiative interfaces such as Stepping Stones and Integrated Youth Support and Development Service.
- Formalise the links and responsibilities of Local Children's Trusts and Local Learning Communities,
- Establish broad reference groups to quality assure developments,
- Develop the personalised learning approach described above.

How will we know if we are making a difference? We will measure and analyse:

Joint commissioning

Accountable Officer: Ingrid Fisher
 Lead Officer: Brian Grady
 Joint Commissioning Board: Commissioning Overview Board

Why is this important?

Commissioning is the strategic activity of identifying need and then allocating available resources to meet it in the most effective way. Based on knowing the needs of children, young people and families and an evidence based approach it will ensure that resources really make a difference.

What are we going to do?

- Improve outcomes for children, families and communities, by helping people to think differently
- Reflect, consult, research, analyse & plan to make things happen right across the CYPP

6. Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Schedule (MARS)

(Subject to review depending on circumstances)

September 09	Be Healthy Teenage Pregnancy DSCB Annual Report
October 09	Parenting Extended Services in and around Schools Things to do in safe places to be
November 09	Reducing Bullying Stay Safe Post Ofsted Action Plan
December 09	Enjoy and Achieve Achieve Economic Wellbeing
January 10	Workforce Strategy Children in Care Children's Centres
February 10	Access and Transport Participation Post Ofsted Action Plan
March 10	Children with Special Needs AXS
April 10	Housing LAA
May 10	Reducing Exclusions Making a Positive Contribution Integrated Youth Support and Development Services
June 10	Joint Commissioning Reducing Poverty