

Cambridgeshire Children's Trust Plan for 2014-17

What is the Children's Trust?

The Children's Trust works as a partnership between different organisations to improve the services that are delivered to children, young people and their families across Cambridgeshire. The Children's Trust Board will support and facilitate local activities, informing and delivering key work areas on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Children's Trust includes three Area Partnerships which identify emerging needs and commission activities to meet these needs locally.

The Children's Trust will support and facilitate the work which is being delivered both locally and countywide. Partners will work together on a number of different projects, initiatives and plans at every level to ensure the best outcomes can be achieved.

The Children's Trust will review their governance arrangements regularly to ensure they are fit for purpose and to strengthen the vital links needed to move forward.

The Children's Trust is the primary delivery mechanism for Priority 1 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy: Ensure a positive start to life for children, young people and their families.

The role of the Area Partnerships

The Children's Trust has three Area Partnerships:

- East Cambridgeshire & Fenland
- South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City
- Huntingdonshire

Each Area Partnership has developed its own local commissioning plan. This plan identifies local activities which are delivered collectively with local partners to meet the needs of families. Each Area Partnership informs the Children's Trust Board of local issues and emerging needs to ensure these can be taken forward in the planning process.

What are the priorities?

The Children's Trust has agreed to take forward the following priorities over a three year period (2014-17):

- Addressing the impact of welfare reforms and poverty on educational attainment and health outcomes
- Improving children's mental health and considering parental mental health
- Addressing drug and alcohol misuse within the family environment

The priorities have been developed from the views of partners on the Children's Trust Board, each of the Area Partnerships and feedback captured at the Children's Trust Conference held in November 2013.

What is this plan for?

This plan sets out the strategic direction of the Children's Trust for the next three years, highlighting key needs, success criteria, and lead responsibilities. This plan will be reviewed annually alongside a more detailed action plan.

How will this plan be monitored?

A detailed action plan will be developed annually to capture the key priority work areas, activities and outcomes both locally and countywide. Every six months the Children's Trust Board will review progress and highlight the next steps to take forward.

The Children's Trust has an annual commissioning cycle:

April - ongoing	Agreement and implementation of annual action plan
July - September	Begin to review emerging needs (using latest needs assessment)
October	Review progress of action plan
November - March	Deliver annual conference to inform forward planning and refresh annual action plan

What are the key areas to improve the way we work together?

- 1** Better understanding and communication of what each agency does (including VCS), what services they offer, the threshold to their services and referral processes they use
- 2** Earlier use of intervention and preventative services is required, strengthening the link between children and adult services and considering a whole family approach to enable the delivery of services to be more joined up, effective and efficient
- 3** A more joined up approach to sharing of data and information between agencies

This will form part of the first year's action plan for the Children's Trust.

Workforce

All partners contribute to the Children's Trust Workforce plan which identifies the opportunities and delivery methods for providing workforce development across all organisations in a multi-agency way. Further details can found in the latest annual Children's Trust Workforce Plan. www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/children-services/workingwithpartners/childrenstrust

Partners of the Children's Trust have agreed to:

- Deliver the priority areas together in a multi-agency way
- Progress and work through the areas to improve the way we work together
- Provide support and challenge to each other to deliver the best outcomes for children, young people and families

What other work areas link to the Children's Trust

- Special educational needs and disability (SEND)
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Healthy Child Programme
- Think family approach:
 - Together for Families
 - Family Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
 - Child Poverty
 - Welfare reforms

These have been identified as key projects and are currently being developed and implemented across multi-agency organisations.

Need Analysis

Poverty:

- Almost 16,000 children living in poverty in Cambridgeshire
- Around 70% come from lone parent households
- 75% come from workless households
- Homelessness and financial hardship are increasing in Cambridgeshire
- There is hidden and dispersed poverty in otherwise affluent areas over 70% of families in poverty in Cambridgeshire live in less deprived areas, and these children often have the worst outcomes.

Attainment:

- Cambridgeshire has wide attainment gaps between the achievement of pupils who are deprived and those who are not.
- At Key Stage 2 (KS2), a significant proportion of children failed to achieve Level 4+ in reading, writing TA and maths and the gap widened for a number of vulnerable groups in 2013. **This included:**
 - 72% of children with SEN,
 - 53% of children eligible for FSM,

- 78% of Gypsy/Roma children,
- 52% of children with a Central or East European language
- 72% of children who are Looked After

Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND):

- 3116 children and young people have a statement of Special Educational Needs; this is 3.4% of the school population
- Over the last 18 months there has been a significant rise in the number of statements issued. This rise is continuing.
- There are 876 children and young people who have Autism as their primary need on their statement, this makes up 28% of the total statement cohort
- Pupils with SEND are eight times more likely to be excluded from school compared with pupils with no SEND.
- Pupils with SEND are disproportionately likely to have higher levels of absence:
 - 6.7% absence rate compared with 4.6% at primary level
 - 9.1% compared with 4.8% at secondary level.

Mental Health:

- 5,500 preschool children with mild mental health problems
- 8,000 children school age children with a diagnosable mental disorder
- 1,275 children aged 17 years with a mild mental health problem
- There are more children with mental health problems in the most deprived areas of Cambridgeshire

Drug & Alcohol abuse:

- Nationally the 138 overview reports from Serious Case Reviews featured:
 - Substance misuse – in 59 (42%) cases
 - Drugs misuse – in 41 (29%) cases
 - Alcohol misuse – in 38 (27%) cases

In Cambridgeshire, it is estimated that:

- 5,400 children and young people are living with a problem drinker with mental health issues.
- 3,300 living with a drug user with concurrent mental health problems
- 1,300 living with parent with all three

(DfE: New learning from serious case reviews: a two year report for 2009-2011)

Our Priorities

What we need to do

Priority 1: Addressing the impact of welfare reforms and poverty on educational attainment and health outcomes

1a	Accelerate the achievement of vulnerable children and young people	Refresh of the Narrowing the Gap strategy to 'Accelerate the Achievement of Vulnerable Groups'
1b	Health inequalities across vulnerable children and young people are understood and addressed	Build understanding across the workforce of health inequalities and action needed to address them
1c	The needs of and support to vulnerable groups, including those physical and learning disabilities, are identified as early as possible	A focus on early intervention and preventative work with families with children with a disability of special educational need and the development and implementation of a commissioning strategy to meet these needs
1d	Outcomes for children and families from deprived backgrounds are improved and the impact of poverty is minimised	Refreshing the Child Poverty Strategy to mitigate the impact of the welfare reforms on vulnerable families and support families in crisis
1e	The uptake of Free Schools Meals countywide are increased and the effectiveness of pupil premium to vulnerable families are increased	Area Partnerships identifying eligible families for Free School Meals to register.
1f	The benefits of nurturing aspirations within the family environment are understood and promoted	Further actions are set out in the detailed action plan

Priority 2: Improving children's mental health and considering the impact of parental mental health

2a	Children's mental health needs are recognised, understood and supported appropriately	A county strategy for mental health, which covers the spectrum of need and early intervention and community service alongside the service provided by CPFT for more acute need
2b	The impact of parental mental health is considered and understood across the workforce	
2c	Our workforce are supported and equipped with the right tools to support children and young peoples' emerging mental health issues	

Priority 3: Addressing drug and alcohol misuse within the family environment

3a	Parents, children and young peoples' awareness of the effects of alcohol and drug misuse are increased	Issue of guidance on substance misuse and the implementation of a 2 year project to strengthen the link between children's and adult treatment services
3b	Adults and children's services delivering drug and alcohol misuse across organisations have an increased synergy between organisations	Further actions are set out in the detailed action plan

South Cambs & Cambridge City Children & Young People Area Plan Progress Report. June 2015

1.1 Supporting mental health initiatives in primary schools in the Bassingbourn/Melbourn/Gamlingay cluster – Allyance

Emotional well being conference for year 5 students (April 2015) 200 students participate (emotional wellbeing is universal need) Practical workshops looked at mental and physical health and coping strategies, included dance, art, music, drama and protective behaviours.

Heads from participating schools have taken activities back into their own schools to follow up. Protective Behaviors work is now taking place in all Y2 classes

Cluster will look to repeat the initiative in future. Year 5 is an appropriate target group

In addition to direct benefits to young people the event also strengthened partnership working between schools in the cluster and with local providers

1.2 Pilot project to deliver mental health services for primary school aged children in schools South of the River Y

The steering group have been approached by Cambridge Family Social Enterprise that is interested in the contract. They presented a proposal which seems on the face of it to fit the spec offering: 'Early evidence-based treatments for mild to moderate mental health need.' They have been accepted by the Judge Business who will support the evaluation of the project. They are aware of the timescales for RFQs. RFQ will be published on 10th June with a deadline of 9th July for responses. Bids will be evaluated on 13th July with a view to a contract start date of 14th September

2.1 Developing a pilot project with North Cambridge Academy offering intensive support to improve work readiness G

Initial discussions with NCA and agreement to begin pilot project in Sept 2015. Cohort of young people who are likely to choose apprenticeship/work with training as a post school option will participate in employability initiatives (additional to universal school provision). Their progress and choices will be tracked to Y14

The group have £3k to allocate to this project. This has been allocated to City Council to add capacity to staff delivering this project

As the project becomes established there will be costs eg transport; additional staff for trips. Funding needs to be identified

2.2 Promoting work and meet the employer opportunities within planned projects Y

Employers invited to participate in City Council 'Big Wednesday' family events
Gamlingay young people's summer projects to consider including workplace/employer visits. Linking with Cambridge Area Partnership contacts
Looking at possibility of linking employer contacts to arts projects in Sawston

3.1 Supporting New Communities Y

Key developments - Northstowe; Southern Fringe; North West Fringe and Cambourne West. All have community representation on working groups looking at local service needs and facilities.

Lack of funding for service delivery is a common issue across the developments and is likely to result in higher demand on services in the longer term as experience with new developments is showing a higher demand for services in new developments.

Current Issues:

Northstowe – lack of service delivery for early residents

S Fringe – Community space and capacity to deal with safeguarding/child protection (high need)

NW Fringe – Potential divisions between communities – University site and Darwin Green

Cambourne W – High birth rate putting children's services under pressure and distance of new development from existing resources which may lead to new residents feeling excluded

The focus of the new communities team has been on Northstowe over the last few months the 2nd phase has recently received planning permission. Although not formally agreed yet the S106 requirement includes resources to be used to form a purpose built multi agency group to support new residents. The focus will be on preventative and early intervention with a view to create a resilient community. This resource is not available in phase 1 (phase 1 residents will start to move in early in 2016). The partnerships influence may be required to establish an informal multiagency group to support phase 1 residents.

The CCC Supporting new communities strategy is due to be taken to GPC in September. The area

partnership are invited to comment on the strategy prior to this.

4.1 Promoting the voice of young people in projects linked to the Area Partnership Y

The Youth Council is now working with Kirstin Donaldson to put together a project plan for the 'Babel' Network. The Network would be made up of young volunteers to support children and young people whose first language isn't English. Support would be for things like conversational English, social and day to day situations and schooling. The overall aim would be for these young people to develop their speaking and written English so that they could take a full and active part in their communities, establish social networks, as well as supporting the more formal mechanisms in place through the education system

5.1 Supporting families experiencing multiple problems R

No action

5.2 Increasing the Up-Take of Free School Meals Y

Current work priorities for Education Welfare Benefits Service have had to be processing the 3000 Early Years Pupil Premium applications for Early Years settings. This work however will benefit the new September 2015 intake into schools and the impact of the universal free school meals and pupil premium issue. As we will be able to identify new children entitled to FSM even if their parents have not applied for free school meals, as the information taken from Early years premium entitlement can be rolled over to the School year. So with this work we hope the impact of free school meal figures will not decrease as initially suggested