

## ITEM NO: 10

<b>-MAKER:</b>	CABINET COUNCIL		
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	ADOPTION OF 2009-12 SOUTHAMPTON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN		
<b>DATE OF DECISION:</b>	16 MARCH 2009 18 MARCH 2009		
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES		
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### STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

None.

### SUMMARY

The requirement for every local authority to produce a Children and Young People's Plan was introduced by the government as part of the Every Child Matters (ECM) agenda, so that local authorities clearly set out the improvements they intend to make to support the well-being of children and young people across the five outcomes, so that every child and young person will:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well-being

The plan is central to the work of the Children and Young People's Trust and to the delivery of the Local Area Agreement. The Plan reflects local and national priorities and the views of Southampton's children and young people and their families. Minor changes may be required to the plan between date of decision and publication to reflect performance targets currently being negotiated and clarification of resourcing for some parts of the action plan.

The plan impacts on all children and young people in Southampton including those from specific vulnerable groups, such as disabled children, children in care, and young people not in education, employment or training.

The detailed plan contains ten priorities for improvement and explains why these are priorities, what actions will be taken to make the improvements required, what money is available, and how success under each priority will be measured. The Plan reflects priorities in other corporate plans, particularly the Safe City Plan, the Health and Well-being Plan and the 14-19 Strategy. There is also an Executive Summary of the Plan which will be widely distributed.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **CABINET:**

- (i) To recommend the approval of the draft of the 2009-12 Children and Young People's Plan to Council (Document in Members Rooms).

### **COUNCIL:**

- (i) To approve the 2009-12 Children and Young People's Plan as part of the Council's policy framework (Document in Members Rooms).
- (ii) To delegate authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services and Learning, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, to make minor editorial changes, prior to the publication, which will not materially alter the content of the plan.

## **REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. The Council is required to have a new Children and Young People's Plan in place by 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.
2. The priorities in the plan have been determined by significant consultation with members of the Southampton Children and Young People's Trust, other local agencies and young people, local management information and data, government office and messages from inspection.

## **CONSULTATION**

3. The plan has been written by members of the Southampton Children and Young People's Trust and its steering groups. In addition, consultation has been carried out with:
  - All City council directorates.
  - Lead officers of other major partnerships within the City including Southampton Partnership Policy Board, Safe City Partnership, Southampton Communities and Renewal Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Partnership, 14-19 Partnership, Schools' Forum, Schools Admissions Forum, Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.
  - Children and young people and their families
4. A Southampton Children and Young People's Trust Conference was held on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 with wide ranging representation from agencies, children, young people and families which sought views on the identification of the main priorities for action to achieve improvement in outcomes for children and young people.
5. The matter was considered at Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2008. The four recommendations have been, or will be, implemented including:
  - Support of the PCT to be provided in carrying out health monitoring exercises in Southampton Schools;
  - The wording to Priority 2 has been changed as recommended;
  - The executive summary of the plan will be published and will include the priorities as recommended; and

- The action plan within the CYPP is consistent with the action plan being produced in response to the Ofsted Annual Performance Assessment.

### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

6. The Local Authority has a duty (under section 2 of the 2004 Children Act) to produce a Children and Young People's Plan. The content of the Plan is a matter for the Local Authority having regard to legislation and guidance and a range of alternative matters and priorities were therefore considered as part of the consultation process.

### **DETAIL**

The proposed priorities are as follows:

7. Priority 1: Every child and young person will be given the opportunity to have the healthiest possible start in life and be supported to make healthy lifestyle choices. This priority addresses the need to take action to prevent unintentional injury, dental ill health, teenage conception, childhood obesity and harm resulting from alcohol misuse.
8. Priority 2: We will support, challenge and empower parents and carers to give children and young people the best start in life. This priority reflects that families, in all their diverse forms, are the most important influence on children and young people. The vast majority of parents in Southampton do a good job but all parents at some point need and seek out extra support. Occasionally parents are not able, or more rarely not willing, to provide the kind of care and support their children need. The challenge is to ensure that the right measures at the right time are implemented to safeguard the children and young people.
9. Priority 3: More of our children and young people will be kept safe from abuse, domestic violence, bullying and harassment. This priority reflects our intention to protect children and young people from, harm and to ensure that Southampton is a safe city in which they will thrive.
10. Priority 4: We will improve outcomes for key groups of children and young people, especially children in care and care leavers, and children and young people with complex needs and disabilities. This is a priority because the outcomes for children in care are still worse than those of their peers. In Southampton, there are increasing numbers of children with multiple and complex needs. More babies with significant disabilities now survive and live into adulthood. Disabled children and their families still experience serious challenges.
11. Priority 5: More of our children and young people will enjoy, engage with and achieve well at school. This is a priority because, despite improvements, and the huge achievement of individual young people, the attainment and attendance of our children is lower than it could and should be.

12. Priority 6: We will support the transformation in educational attainment and outcomes for children, young people, families and communities by investing in new infrastructure and school buildings. This priority supports the programmes around Building Schools for the Future, the Primary Capital Programme, the National Framework for Academies Procurement and similar funding streams to ensure that they deliver maximum benefit to communities within Southampton.
13. Priority 7: Many more of our children and young people will engage in positive activities and fewer of them will be involved in crime and anti-social behaviour. This is a priority because youth crime is higher in Southampton than in comparable areas. Two Local Area Agreement priorities focus upon youth crime.
14. Priority 8: Many more of our young people will successfully achieve the right skills and qualifications needed for their future economic independence. This is a priority because too many of our young people are not in education, employment or training.
15. Priority 9: We will reduce significantly the number of children and young people living in poverty. This is a priority because in certain areas of the city there are high concentrations of poverty, with the associated issues of poor health and lower educational outcomes.
16. Priority 10: The Southampton Children and Young People Trust will develop and adopt new ways of leading, managing and organising services to support the delivery of this plan, with the fullest possible participation of children, young people, parents and carers. This is a priority because the way we commission and organise our services, develop our workforce, and involve young people in planning and designing services, will be crucial in delivering the other priorities.

## **FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

### **Capital**

17. The plan includes the use of capital funds in relation to the Building Schools for the Future programme, the primary review and other capital projects. Detailed plans for use of capital funds associated with these projects will be presented to cabinet as required.

### **Revenue**

18. The Local Authority and its partners invest £260 million each year on services and facilities for children and young people. The plan will include the current resources allocated under each of the priorities.
19. Plans will be presented to cabinet for decision as required in relation to the future use of resources to support these priorities.

### **Property**

20. Plans will be presented to cabinet for decision as required in relation to the future use of property resources to support these priorities.

### **Other**

21. None.

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

### Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:

22. The Local Authority has a duty (under section 2 of the Children Act 2004) to produce a Children and Young People's Plan.

### Other Legal Implications:

23. The Plan supports the priorities within the Safe City Plan, which the council is required to have under the Police and Justice Act 2006, particularly in relation to children and young people. The priorities in the plan have been produced having regard to the provisions of equalities legislation and the Human Rights Act 1998 together with the impact of the priorities on children and families in this regard.

## POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

24. The Children and Young People's Plan is within the Council's Policy Framework as such this Plan needs to be recommended by Cabinet and approved by Council.

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

### Appendices

(Non-confidential appendices are available in Members' Rooms and can be accessed on-line)

1.	Executive Summary of the Children's and Young People's Plan 2009-2012
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### Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	The Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2012
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### Background Documents

Title of Background Paper(s)

Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)

1.	None	
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Background documents available for inspection at: N/A

**FORWARD PLAN No:** CS03323      **KEY DECISION?** YES

<b>WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:</b>	All wards
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