

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SUNDERLAND  
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2007-09**

**Published in September 2009**

## Contents

## Page No

<b>1</b>	<b>FOREWORD</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Children, young people and families in Sunderland	5
2.2	Our performance in 2008-09	6
2.3	Award winning services	8
2.4	Our achievements in 2008-09	10
2.5	Opportunities for 2009-10	13
2.6	Our priorities for 2009-10 and beyond	15
2.7	How the review was carried out	15
<b>3</b>	<b>PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS IMPROVING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>17</b>
3.1	Being healthy	17
3.2	Staying safe	24
3.3	Enjoying and achieving	30
3.4	Making a positive contribution	35
3.5	Achieving economic well-being	40
<b>4</b>	<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO NEED EXTRA HELP</b>	<b>44</b>
4.1	Learning difficulties and disabilities	44
4.2	BME Groups	45
4.3	Children in care	45
<b>5</b>	<b>THE CHANGE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGY</b>	<b>47</b>
5.1	Preventative practice and service integration	47
5.2	Parenting	49
5.3	Safeguarding	50
5.4	Children and young people's participation	51
5.5	Equality and diversity	52
5.6	Human resources and workforce development	53
5.7	Joint commissioning	54
5.8	Locality based working	54
<b>6</b>	<b>PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE</b>	<b>55</b>
6.1	CYPP 2009-10	55
6.2	CYPP 2010-25	55

## 1 FOREWORD

A welcome from Dr Helen Paterson (Executive Director of Children's Services) and Councillor Pat Smith (Lead Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People).

### Our vision is

**“Working together to improve the life chances and aspirations for each child and young person in Sunderland.”**

There are two important messages in this vision:

- Working together
- Improving life chances and aspirations

Effective partnership working will truly improve outcomes. When all the different agencies delivering services for children and young people work together well, we take huge steps forward in improving the life chances of the children and young people we work for.

Four core **values** provide the ground rules for how we work together for the good of children and young people, enabling us to be consistent in our approach and ensuring that we all put children, young people and their families at the centre of our thinking and actions:

- **Valuing people** – this means having respect for all people and acknowledging different points of view. This doesn't mean we will always agree but if we respect each other's opinions, it gives us a starting point from which a common set of goals can be worked on
- **Delivering results** – we must strive to provide high quality services that deliver real results for children and young people
- **Openness** – to different opinions and ways of working. Openness is also about celebrating our successes
- **Positive Outlook** – having a 'can do' attitude so that we create opportunities for children and young people to reach their full potential

Seven key **principles** underpin how we work, both individually and within partnerships, to better the lives of children and young people by enhancing our understanding, skills, experience and resources:

- Having every child and young person at the heart of what we do
- Celebrating children and young people's achievements
- Being focussed on better outcomes
- Being focussed on prevention and early intervention
- Promoting the participation of children, young people and their families in our work
- Maintaining the highest standards
- Working in partnership

The **vision, values and principles** have been put into practice in developing the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). They are now well established, but how do we know we're making a positive difference?

The annual review of our CYPP is an opportunity for us to measure progress against the targets we have set ourselves to improve the life chances and aspirations for each child and young person in Sunderland, by reviewing the contribution that local services in Sunderland make to the Every Child Matters outcomes:

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

It is also an opportunity to reflect on our models of service delivery, and to consider how close we are to being able to say that all services:

- focus on prevention and early intervention, being proactive in the support they provide
- are planned around the needs of the whole family
- involve children, young people and families in their design, planning and delivery
- are based in local communities, and structured around need
- provide information to families that is clear, simple and accessible
- share information and work together effectively

We hope you will agree that we have a lot to be proud of in terms of what has been achieved by and for children and young people in 2008-09. We aim to be equally ambitious in 2009-10, and our intentions are set out throughout this review. Our CYPP comes to an end in March 2010. We are taking a longer term strategic view for the future. We are developing a plan that spans 15 years. The Children and Young People's Plan 2010-25, which will also be known as a commissioning strategy, will have ambitious targets that fit with both the vision set out in the Government's Children's Plan, and in the Sunderland Strategy.



**Helen Paterson**  
**Executive Director of Children Services**



**Cllr Pat Smith**  
**Portfolio Holder for Children's Services**

## 2 INTRODUCTION

This document is the 2009 annual report of the CYPP 2007-09. It reports on the progress that has been made towards the CYPP 2007-09.

In 2008, the Children's Trust decided to prepare a 15 year commissioning strategy from 2010 that would be aligned to the Sunderland Strategy. The 15 year strategy will be the framework for the CYPP and comprehensive plans - or CYPP's - will cover 3 year periods.

The CYPP 2009-10 is a transformational plan that provides continuity for the priorities and actions in the CYPP 2007-09 as well as setting out the planning process for establishing the 15 year strategy for the Children's Trust.

The Annual Report 2009 reports on the progress that has been made towards the CYPP 2007-09 and is a precursor to the CYPP 2009-10.

### 2.1 Children, young people and families in Sunderland

Sunderland has relatively high deprivation levels; the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) ranks Sunderland as the 35<sup>th</sup> most deprived local authority (out of 354). The IMD ranks authorities using seven categories: income; employment; health deprivation and disability; education, skills and training; barriers to housing and services; crime; and living environment.

The review of the CYPP tells us:

#### Child population

- The **number** of children and young people aged 0-19 in Sunderland is 65,800 (Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid 2007 estimates), a fall compared to previous years
- The number of **pupils** in primary, secondary and special schools has fallen from 41,934 (2008 School Census) to 40,047 (2009 School Census)
- The numbers of children and young people aged 0-15 in Sunderland from a **black or minority ethnic heritage** is 2800 (5.4% - ONS mid 2006 estimates)
- The number of children and young people eligible for **free school meals** has fallen from 8,224 (2008 School Census) to 7213 (2009 School Census)
- Figures for 2008 indicate that 29.3% of children and young people in Sunderland are living in poverty compared to 21.3% nationally

#### Children with additional needs

- The number of children and young people with a **special educational need** has also fallen from 9,525 (2008 School Census) to 8963 (2009 School Census)

- The number of **children in need** has risen to 2,251 (January 2009) compared to 2,017 in March 2008
- The number of **children in care**, and therefore looked after by the Council, is 392 (January 2009) compared with 398 in March 2008. The number has remained stable and below the average for both England and Sunderland's peer group
- The number of children and young people who are subject of a **Child Protection Plan** is 249 (January 2009) compared with 198 in March 2008

## Health

- 15% of 5 year olds and 15% of 11 year olds are classed as overweight; 10% of 5 year olds and 21% of 11 year olds are classed as **obese** (National Child Measurement programme 2007-08). All categories are above national averages
- **Teenage pregnancies** have significantly reduced since the baseline period 1998-2000, from 63.1 per 1,000 females to 55 in 2006, but latest data available shows an increase to 57.3 per 1,000 population in 2007
- 1 in 4 children and young people in Sunderland have some form of **mental health problem**
- 23% of women in the city continue to **smoke during pregnancy**

## Education, employment and training

- The gap between the percentage of pupils achieving **Key Stage 2** Level 4+ in both English and Maths, who were eligible and are not eligible for free school meals, has reduced from 25% in 2007, to 23% in 2008
- The number of schools with **persistent absence** has increased from five in 2007-2008 academic year to seven in 2008-2009. 1,118 secondary age pupils were classed as persistent absentees in 2007-2008 (Spring and Autumn terms), representing 6.5% of enrolments, compared to 6.4% nationally
- Pupils at **Key Stage 4** recorded the city's highest results ever GCSE results, with 64% achieving five or more A\*-C grades in 2008 and 43% achieving 5+A\*-C grades including English and Maths
- 12.8% of 16 to 18 year olds are **not in education, employment and training** (2008). This is higher than the national average of 6.7%

## 2.2 Our performance in 2008-09

### Some key improvements include:

- **Oxclose Community School**, one of four mainstream **BSF secondary school** in England to be operational for at least a year, made national headlines as 62% of its students were awarded five or more GCSE grades A\* to C, including English and Maths, compared with 41% in 2007

- Initial figures from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) suggest that Sunderland should no longer be classed as a **Persistent Absentee (PA)** authority. The average persistent absence rate in Sunderland has now dropped from 7.09% in 2006-07 to 5.4%
- **Key Stage 2 results** for 3,200 Sunderland 10 and 11-year-olds have shown improvements. In Sunderland, the figures are almost identical to last year with 79% of Year 6 pupils gaining a level four or above in English, 77% in Maths and 88% in science
- **A-level results** have moved up by a percentage point to 94% for the overall pass rate and to 52% for grades A to C. The results come from students sitting their A Levels at the City of Sunderland College centres and the sixth-forms of St Aidan's and St Anthony's in Sunderland, and St Robert's in Washington
- The **annual attainment national league tables** show Sunderland schools are improving faster than the national average, with the percentage of young people leaving school in the city with five or more grade A\*-C increasing by 4.5% to 63.9%. The number of students in Sunderland achieving the Government's gold standard measure of five or more grade A\*-C GCSE's including English and Maths is also improving faster than the national average, with achievement levels in Sunderland rising from 38.5% in 2007 to 43% in 2008
- The DCSF released figures showing that 75.3% of **school leavers** went on to full time education in 2007, compared with 70.8% in 2006. Figures show that almost 91% of Sunderland young people were in education, training or employment straight after leaving school, showing clear progression towards the Government's ambition of every young person staying in education or training up to the age of 18 by 2015
- All of the city's 116 schools reached the goal of providing **Extended Services** to the community in December 2008; two years ahead of the Governments December 2010 deadline
- The Sunderland **Healthy Schools Programme** is moving ever closer to its national targets with 98% of schools participating in the programme and 68% achieving Healthy School status. We're moving closer to the national target of 75% achievement
- Significant efforts saw the city screen 7080 15-24 year olds for Chlamydia and exceed their 17% target for 2008-09 (an increase of 330% compared to 2007-08). An action plan for 2009-10 has been developed that sets out how we plan to screen 9575 15-24 year olds (25% of 15-24 population)
- There has been a steady increase in the number of **children adopted** in recent years. On top of this there was a substantial jump in 2008 - 2009 up to 47. Ahead of both England and our peers.

## 2.3 Award winning services

In 2008-09, the quality of our staff and services was recognised in a number of local and national awards:

- Sunderland was presented with a prestigious **Beacon Award** for Reducing Re-offending at a Gala Dinner in London in March 08. The citation commended the city for its “improved outcomes on youth offending, and against the national trend, the rate of custody for young offenders has dropped from 12 per cent in 1999 to a current figure of 2.8 per cent, with no negative impact on levels of offending
- A group of young people from Sunderland Youth Offending Service spent 14 weeks during February to June 2008 creating and shooting a powerful short film on knife crime, called “Cut-Up”. The film was produced in partnership with Superkrush films and is about a range of issues including drugs, peer pressure, violence and custody. After its premiere in late 2008 the film attracted significant positive media interest and won two awards at the **North East Youth Justice Awards**. The film also took the **Royal Television Society “Niche Audience Best Drama Production Award”** for opening a window into the experiences of inner city youths
- Three of our schools were successful in the **Northern Grid ICT Awards** in June 2008. The awards provided a showcase for schools, teachers and pupils together with the chance to win valuable ICT prizes. Broadway Junior School were overall winners in the Promotion of the Region category. Richard Avenue Primary School were highly commended in the Digital Media category for primary schools. St Aidan's Catholic School and Language College were highly commended in the Digital Media category for secondary schools
- The 2008 **Teaching Awards** were held to celebrate excellence in schools throughout the North East and four of the city's best were awarded for their commitment and dedication in the classroom at the awards, held at the Sage Gateshead in June. Richard Wilkinson, headteacher at Biddick School and Sports College, was voted secondary headteacher of the year, while Dorothy Elliott, of Portland College, won school governor of the year. Thornhill School Business and Enterprise College had a double reason to celebrate with Ian Redford picking up the trophy of secondary teacher of the year and Amer Sheikh clinching the enterprise in teaching award. Susan Kershaw, of Hylton Red House Primary School, was given a commendation in the lifetime achievement category
- Sunningdale School special needs teacher Anne Oliver won the regional heats of the **ITV Teacher of the Year** in September 2008 and went forward to the final of the Daily Mirror Pride of Britain awards
- Sunderland Youth Offending Service had outstanding success in the **North East Youth Justice Awards** in October 2008 when they won the three categories of Innovation, Tackling Youth Crime and Partnership. Young people from Sunderland won both of the two young people's categories of 'Putting

Something Back' and 'Getting Ahead' with other young people from Sunderland also commended in these categories

- Sunderland's BSF programme was "highly commended" for its strategy of helping transform education at the **Excellence in BSF awards** in November 2008
- Sunderland Youth Offending Service were finalists in the 'Management Team of the Year' in the 2009 **Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards**
- The National Youth Agency (NYA) granted The **NYA Quality Mark National Award** to Sunderland Youth Development Group in March 2009. The award is valid for 3 years and held by only 19 organisations nationally. The Quality Mark framework is based on some core principles of quality: Reliability, Consistency, Customer focused, Assures its processes, Committed to continuous improvement - assessor recommended the Youth Development Group for the highest category established
- Sunderland Youth Development Group hosted its annual **Young Achievers Awards** ceremony in March 2009. The event, now in its 16th year, celebrated young people's achievements, their bravery, their talents and their positive contribution to the life of the City of Sunderland
- Sunderland City Council hosted its annual **Employee of the Year Awards** ceremony on 20 March 2009. Karen Burrell - Assistant Adoption Officer, Alyson Conroy - On Track Project Worker and Karen Quill - Plains Farm Primary School Teaching Assistant were all Highly Commended in the Employee of the Year category. The LetsGo Card Team and South of Tyneside Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP) Consortium were Highly Commended in the Partnership Award category. Angela Chrystal was announced as Winner of the Customer Service Individual Award for her role in the South of Tyneside ISSP Consortium and Kate Riddell was announced as Winner of the Manager of the Year Award as Manager of 10 Sea View Road West
- At the end of June 2009 around 150 of the city's foster carers were personally thanked by the Mayor of Sunderland, Councillor Dennis Richardson, at a prestigious celebration event. The evening also saw **long service awards** presented to foster carers for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 40 years of fostering in Sunderland
- Sunderland foster carers Linda and Colin Parkin, who have just started to foster child number 149, have been voted '**Pride of South Tyneside**' in the carers category. Foster carer Gill McCourt also won the runner up award in the **Evening Chronicle 'Mother of the Year' Awards**
- Sunderland City Council was highly commended in the **Alarm Annual Risk Management Awards** 2009 for the category of People Risk, for the work of the External Visits Advisory Service based at Derwent Hill. The awards are given in recognition of excellence in the management of people risk, asset risk, operational risk, and strategic risk in the public services

- Award winners in the **North East and Cumbria Region Teaching Awards 2009** were Mr Arthur Ball, Southmoor Community School, winner of the award for Teacher of the Year in a Secondary School and Mr Graeme Shillinglaw, Springwell Dene Special School, winner of The Royal Air Force Award for Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School. Other nominees receiving a Distinction or Commendation were: Richard Avenue Primary School – Distinction - The DCSF Award for Sustainable Schools, Tom Heaney, Biddick School Sports College – distinction - The SSAT Award for Outstanding New Teacher of the Year, Claire Tubman, Columbia Grange Special School – Distinction - The TDA Award for Teaching Assistant of the Year, Paula Lockhart (Chair of Governors), Columbia Grange Special School – Commendation, The DCSF Award for Governor of the Year.

## 2.4 Our achievements in 2008-09

2008-09 has seen a range of highlights for many of our services:

- **Three Sunderland Childminders** celebrated receiving ‘**Outstanding**’ Ofsted inspection reports in May 2008. Lesley Avison and Margaret Hawkins from Washington, and Carol Cameron from Fulwell, received the highest possible grade for providing **exceptional childcare services** and meeting all the national childcare requirements to a very high standard. They have 45 years of childcare between them and all achieved ‘good’ Ofsted reports in previous inspections – the highest grade possible at the time
- In June 2008 Foreign Secretary David Miliband joined Sunderland AFC Foundation trustee Niall Quinn to launch the **Football First anti-racism campaign**. The Football First project aims to challenge anti-social and racist behaviour in Sunderland. The scheme provides positive activities involving teamwork and looking at differences and diversity within communities. The scheme works at three levels: with primary children in prevention, with teenagers in diversion and with families in changing culture. In the last year Football First has worked with a total number of 1382 young people
- **Sunderland Nutrition Team** won national recognition and was named as an example of national best practice for a project to improve the cooking skills, nutritional knowledge and food safety of vulnerable young people in the city. The successful programme was adopted by Food Vision, a national local authority-backed initiative that promotes schemes that increase access to safe, sustainable and nutritious food, improving community health and well-being
- “Helping to unlearn the learnt” is the slogan for **REWIND anti-racist project** that has been specially adapted for Sunderland. From its origins as a ‘grass roots’ project in Sandwell, REWIND has grown to be an internationally recognised project, with supporters including the Home Office and the National Youth Agency. Dave Allport, Development Manager for REWIND, who came up with the original concept praised Sunderland’s programme: “Well done! It really is the best example by far of how anyone to date has taken the REWIND approach and used it”

- The **Positive Transitions Programme** hosted a celebration event at the Stadium of Light in June 2008 to acknowledge the achievements of the young people who participated in this scheme. Positive Transitions was a two year programme, funded by the Learning and Skills Council and the European Social Fund to help young people in Sunderland with learning difficulties and/or disabilities in the move from school to employment, education or training. Initially funded for 80 young people, over 170 participated in a wide range of schemes
- Sunderland City Council were ahead of the game when **18 Duke of Edinburgh members of staff and volunteers** successfully completed **Expedition Supervisor Training**, a new Pilot Programme to be rolled out across the country. Eight of these volunteers also completed the **Assessor Accreditation Scheme**, again a new Pilot Programme to be rolled out across the country
- A new website [www.sunderlandchildrenscentres.co.uk](http://www.sunderlandchildrenscentres.co.uk) was launched by **Sunderland Children's Centres** to offer families with young children improved support and make it simpler and easier for them to access important information
- Sunderland City Council Children's Services received grade 3 in the **Annual Performance Assessment** published in December 2008, which judged that we make a good contribution in maintaining and improving outcomes for children and young people in the areas of Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Enjoying and Achieving and Achieving Economic Well-being, and an outstanding contribution to Making a Positive Contribution
- Construction is well under way on the sites of the four new **BSF schools**. The new learning environments at Washington School, Academy 360, Red House Academy and Castle View Enterprise Academy are all due to be complete by September 2009
- The council's **Sustainability Team** and Groundwork East Durham are working with 19 Sunderland schools to develop and deliver the **Eco Schools national programme**. The project aims for 5 schools to become **Green Flag schools** with all others to have achieved their silver award. 1 school currently has silver and 6 have their bronze award
- Five **Children's Homes** in Sunderland were inspected by Ofsted during October and November 2008. Ofsted rated one as 'outstanding', three as 'satisfactory' and another as 'good'
- Three teachers from Sunderland, Angela Butler, Kerry Kilminster, Emma Milburn, have succeeded in being accredited by Roehampton University for their work in **Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)**. This is a national programme sponsored by the Government to enhance the professional development of PSHE teachers throughout the country. The teachers completed successful portfolios showing evidence of excellent practice in the development of PSHE in their schools

- **Sunderland Young Achievers** is being used as a model of best practice for pilots across the country. The Youth Development Group visited the Young People's Celebration Event in Birmingham on the 6 and 7 August where the Sunderland model was presented to ten Local Authorities from across the country
- Pupils in Sunderland are among the first in the country to study for the **new Diploma qualifications** at two centres of excellence in the city
- Sunderland Futures Centres of Excellence at Harraton and Pallion opened their doors for students to work towards the new Diplomas in Construction and Engineering. Pupils will also be able to take the Creative and Media Diploma in the Performing Arts Schools in the city and city learning centres.
- **Children's Centres** extended their opening times in January 2009 to meet a rise in public demand and help benefit more Sunderland families, allowing many more working parents and pregnant women to benefit
- Following an inspection, **Derwent Hill** has been awarded a Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge. This new national accreditation recognises that Derwent Hill offers high quality learning experiences and manages risk effectively
- "**Change**" (Sunderland City Council's Children in Care Council) published its first edition of 'Change News' in May 2009, highlighting its work and promoting some of the many positive images and achievements of young people in our care. This is planned to be published 3 times a year to enable 'Change' to communicate with all our young people in care, seek their views and raise both their self- and public image. Ofsted are currently gathering information about Children in Care Councils for future inspections, and have already given positive feedback for this new development
- The **Youth Development Group Training** team had a very successful monitoring visit from the External Verifier of City and Guilds. The small team assess NVQ's in Youth Work Level 2 and Level 3, and have recently gained approval to deliver A1 Assessor Awards and V1 Internal Verifier Awards. The team were delighted to be granted Direct Claims Status by City and Guilds for the certification of A1 Assessor Awards and their first candidate has achieved this Award through the centre. Comments in the External Verifier Report were very positive
- **Letsgo card** ended in May 2009 as the DCSF funding came to a close. It had been a very successful project with 100 different organisations offering a variety of activities across the city and further afield. 2001 young people used their Letsgo card spending power to participate in activities that would otherwise have been inaccessible without the Letsgo card subsidy
- The Council achieved Level 3 of the **Equality Standard**. Targets across the Council are to achieve Level 4 by April 2009 and Level 5 by April 2010

- The **Fostering Service** celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Foster Care Worker scheme** with Foster Care Workers and the children they care. This is one of the most successful pioneering fee paid fostering schemes in the country
- Following the assessment from 29 June – 1 July, **Connexions Hub Services** has been accredited to the matrix quality standard; both for its information, advice and guidance services for external clients and for its internal support for employees. Strengths highlighted by the assessor included: the provision of responsive non-judgemental client services which effectively develop users' self esteem and confidence, effective leadership and management with open communication, leading to a culture where staff that feel valued, empowered and trusted to do their jobs, strong partnership working with a willingness to both share good practice and learn from others. The accreditation is valid until July 2012
- In July, 43 disabled athletes aged 19 and under from Sunderland competed in the Special Olympics National Games in Leicester. Sunderland's **Aiming High for Disabled Children programme** provided financial assistance to enable the athletes and their supporters to attend the games. All the athletes have a learning disability and many of them have other disabilities ranging from mild to life limiting. Sunderland athletes enjoyed great success at the games, winning 48 medals, with 17 of them being gold.

## 2.5 Opportunities for 2009-10

Over the coming year, we have the opportunity to make a difference to even more children and young people's lives:

- A number of Sunderland **schools benefited from additional funding with an Awards for All in England grant** to help improve facilities in their out of school clubs/equipment: St Aidan's Catholic School - £9,940, East Herrington Primary School - £7,219, Highfield Community Primary School - £8,750, Barnes Junior School - £10,000, Redby Primary School - £ 2,500, Sunningdale School - £7,210, Thorney Close Primary School - £10,000, Sandhill View School - £9,378, Hetton School - £ 9,400, Springwell Dene School - £9,600 and Barbara Priestman School - £ 4,750
- From July 2008 the Children's Information Service became known as the **Families Information Service**. The name change followed a change in the Government's agenda and will now help support families with children aged up to 19 years
- The **Youth Development Group** Inclusion Co-ordinator is working with the Training Team to develop the 'Introduction to Youth Work' course to give young people with LDD (learning difficulties and/or disabilities) the opportunity to gain a qualification, which can lead to further training and employment which will promote equal opportunities for all

- The **Engagement, Support and Prevention Project (ESPP)** extend the provision of intensive personalised one to one support for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), or likely to become NEET. Connexions have recruited five ESPP Workers who began work November/early December. Approximately 80 young people are registered with the project, all at various stages of assessment, support and progression
- The **Healthy Schools Team** was awarded a £10,000 grant from the School Food Trust, to help make school lunchtimes happier and healthier. The Team have created a “let’s make lunchtime fun” programme, available to all the city’s nurseries and primary schools
- The DCSF have announced Sunderland’s successful bid to take part in **the 0-7 Partnership Pilot**. The Pilot will explore different ways of helping young children and their families, especially as they make the transition from early years to school. The city will receive around **£1 million** over the next three years
- Ministers announced £60 million in capital funding to create exciting, state of the art showpiece projects to boost teaching of the Diploma. Sunderland has been awarded **£1 million** as one of only 5 local authorities across the country delivering all ten of the available Diploma lines from 2009/10. Sunderland is also able to bid for up to £5 million for exemplar projects
- Additional funding of **£425,000** has come from the Government as part of the **National Challenge** initiative to help schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve five GCSEs at grades A\* to C, including both English and Maths
- Through the **Targeted Mental Health in Schools** Project, Sunderland has received an additional sum of around **£55,000** to develop therapeutic spaces in four of our secondary schools, the Key Stage 2, 3 and 4 Pupil Referral Units and three of the city’s special schools. The additional funding will help to create safe, welcoming environments, in which therapeutic work may take place, leading to improvements in young people’s emotional health and well-being
- Sunderland is now home to **30 additional Early Years Professionals** as a result of the City Council’s drive to encourage more people working in early years to increase their level of training. In order to reach the Government’s targets surrounding the Early Years Professional Status (EYPS) there will be at least one Early Years Professional working in each Children’s Centre in Sunderland by 2010 and at least one in every full day-care setting by 2015
- Sunderland **City Learning Centres** have had their Annual Performance Agreement 2009-2010 approved by the Department for Children, Schools and Families and BECTA (the government agency ensuring effective and innovative use of technology throughout learning). This will bring **£300,000** capital funding into the city

- Children's Services are participating in a new national scheme for **Newly Qualified Social Workers (NQS)**. The scheme was devised by the Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) to support and develop new social workers. Sunderland have 13 staff across the service taking part in this pilot scheme, which will help shape the future of the profession.

## 2.6 Our priorities for 2009-10 and beyond

In our CYPP 2007-09 the Children's Trust established **ten priorities to improve outcomes for all children and young people**. The Children's Trust wants children and young people in Sunderland to:

1. Be strong individuals, proud of their city and contribute to its future
2. Be aware of how their behaviour affects others and the importance of staying out of trouble
3. Make positive lifestyle choices
4. Lead healthier lives
5. Feel good about themselves
6. Be safe in the community, at school and at home
7. Achieve in their education
8. Enjoy sport, leisure and play
9. Live in decent homes
10. Get the right training, further education and jobs

These ten priorities were developed by listening to children, young people, and their families, and partner agencies who deliver services to them. We also used a raft of performance data available to us to inform improvements and target setting. To ensure these priorities are achieved, each has a lead officer, and each action to deliver on the priorities is embedded within a service plan or strategy.

The CYPP 2009-10 will focus on specific areas with each of these priorities, in which to improve outcomes.

A new CYPP for 2010-25 will plan a long term strategy to transform services for families, narrow the gap and reduce child poverty.

## 2.7 How the review was carried out

The review process is part of the Children's Trust's commissioning process. The commissioning process is based on the four activities of Assess - Plan - Do - Review. In completing the review, we have:

- Considered the progress that has been made towards each priority
- Determined what progress has been made towards each action and which actions have been completed
- Updated performance data to show improvements made

As part of the review process we have prepared two key documents:

- This annual report, which demonstrates what progress has been made

- The CYPP 2009-10, which is an extension of the CYPP 2007-09 and demonstrates what areas are still priorities and what actions still need to be completed

The review process will help inform the development of the 15 year commissioning strategy, the CYPP 2010-25.

### 3 PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS OUTCOMES

This section aims to demonstrate what progress has been made towards the CYPP 2007-09. It follows the same format as the plan and provides a progress update stating:

- What progress has been made against actions in 2008-09
- What is outstanding and will continue into 2009-10
- Progress against measurable targets and outcomes

Any actions that have not been completed between 2007 and 2008 have been transferred into the CYPP 2009-10.

#### 3.1 Being Healthy

For children and young people to be healthy, they need:

- to be physically healthy
- to be mentally and emotionally healthy
- to be sexually healthy
- to live healthy lifestyles
- to choose not to take illegal drugs
- parents, carers and families who are supported to promote healthy choices

##### 3.1.1 Progress in 2008-09

- **Making positive lifestyle choices (Priority 3 of the CYPP 2007-09)**

###### Improve sexual health and reduce teenage pregnancy

- All schools have an Sex and Relationship Education policy in place
- Teenage pregnancy data from the TPU is used locally to determine ward areas of high conception rates, and those at most risk of teenage pregnancy. The wards are indicated as hotspots areas to prioritise targeted work to those young people at most risk of conceptions, for example sexual health clinics, SRE education and targeted awareness
- Currently Sexual Health Services (contraceptive Nurses) and the sexual health outreach team currently provide information and advice on sexual health. We have a view to ensure any professional within the children's workforce will be able to signpost young people to local services and provide basic sexual health information.

###### Reduce substance misuse target amongst children and young people

- A screening tool has been introduced and risk areas have been identified for those children and young people misusing substances. The first round of training for staff is now complete

- Programmes to reduce substance misuse among children and young people continue to be delivered in high risk areas, for example:
  - The Target Youth Engagement programme successfully engaged with 1622 young people during the financial year 2007-08, in the hotspot areas directed by the LMAPS. The project increased participation levels of young people by a number of interventions and helped reduce the number of Youth ASB incidents in these areas. The reporting of youth ASB incidents, in the targets TYE areas, at the time of activity delivery showed a reduction of 33% from that of the previous year. The funding for this project has now come to an end
  - Positive Futures has also continued to deliver a social inclusion program using sport and leisure activities to engage with disadvantaged and socially marginalized young people in the North of the City. The project has been part funded centrally by the Home office, since 2002 via the national charity Catch 22. This year the project has linked with Sunderland North Alternative Curriculum and Sunderland North Community Business Centre, amongst others to deliver the program and has engaged with 476 young people during 2008-09, with each of the young people averaging 40 contact hours per year. Young people have had the opportunity to gain national recognised accreditations as well as receive appropriate information advice and guidance. The program is now entering a stringent reapplication process to determine funding allocation for 2010-2011, which we are hoping will be successful.
- Stop Smoking Services are available to young people aged 12 and over. It is recognised that it is much more effective to prevent young people taking up smoking by reducing their exposure to adults smoking, hence the focus on helping adults quit. NICE (National Institute of Clinical Excellence) will be publishing guidance re interventions in schools to help prevent take up of tobacco this is currently out to consultation and when the final version is published the Healthy Schools Teams will implement.

- **Lead healthier lives (Priority 4 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

- Reduce mortality rates in children aged 1 year or less**

- There has been progress in Sunderland in improving some behaviours and health outcomes which may reduce infant mortality. There has been a reduction in teenage conception rates and a reduction in the proportion of women smoking during pregnancy. The proportion of births that are low birth weight births has remained constant in recent years as it has nationally.

- Increase sport and physical activity levels amongst children and young people**

- School Sport Coordinators that are located within the City's 3 Sports Colleges are working with schools not yet delivering a minimum of two hours a week high quality PE and school sport to 5-16 year olds.

- Increase breastfeeding rates**

- Sunderland breastfeeding initiation rates has increased up to 51.4 at the first quarter of 2009/10. In order to increase our breastfeeding rates, Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust, City hospital Maternity Unit and Children Centres have decided to work towards prestigious WHO/UNICEF Baby friendly award which is globally recognised quality standard for breastfeeding support in the health care system. We are hoping to get the accreditation by year 2013. As part of this project Sunderland PCT has organised four UNICEF 3 days' breast feeding management courses during the year 2009 to increase our staff knowledge and skills up to UNICEF standards. This year 80 staffs have been trained up to UNICEF standards. Sunderland teaching Primary Care Trust has received £ 100, 000 extra funding from the inequality funding of department of Health to work towards UNICEF Baby Friendly accreditation process. City hospital appointed full time Midwife for breastfeeding promotion with PCT funding.

## Support all schools in achieving National Healthy School Standard

- The Sunderland Healthy Schools programme has supported over half of the city's schools (52%) in achieving Healthy School status over this past year. This has been recognised by the national programme as the most significant increase this past year in achieving status across the country. The Sunderland programme now works with 98% of the city's schools and has helped 68% in achieving status. Work has now commenced on supporting schools with the healthy schools enhancement model which is being launched in September 2009
- The School Food Strategy has been adopted and implemented following consultation with elected members and a range of partners. In the longer term the strategy will be reviewed and updated in line with future developments around the implementation of the national nutritional standards, the Healthy Schools Enhancement Model and the City's child obesity referral programme. Opportunities have been created for young people by creating access within 5 of the community wellness sites
- In partnership with the Council and Sunderland Teaching Primary Care Trust, the City of Sunderland College have embarked on a capital programme of works to ensure there is one 'clinical standard' medical room in each of five college sites across the city, which will allow for a range of external health professionals to deliver key services out of these rooms - from treatment to counselling. A dedicated Young People's Nursing Team consisting of three staff have been recruited to work across college sites. They will be developing a support programme of work around identified college need and will offer confidential health drop in sessions
- Five 'Health Info Points' (interactive health dispensers) have been procured and have been installed in each college site. These will use up to date confidential fingerprint and interactive touch screen technology to dispense health products and offer a range of information on key health messages and information on local services. The data gathered from these machines will assist in future service planning
- A planned information strategy along with the above will, increase accessibility to health services, encourage students to take ownership for their health and help to address the high rates of STIs and unplanned pregnancies in the college age group
- The College is fully engaged in national healthy Further Education Framework to help improve the health and well-being of students and staff in the college by extending the principles of the National Healthy Schools Programme to an older age group. There is a cross college responsibility for coordinating healthy strand of ECM allocated to senior manager.

- **Feel good about themselves (Priority 5 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

**Promote mental health and emotional well being across children and young people settings**

- Community CAMHS has joined with the Healthy Schools Coordinator and the Special Initiatives Manager (Health Improvement) to develop a series of leaflets for distribution in colleges, the 'Your Health' notice boards in secondary schools and will be included in the forthcoming 'Your Health' website, accessible by all young people. The range of Community CAMHS leaflets has been extended to include specific leaflets and posters appropriate for children and young people. These have been sent out to Schools, GPs' surgeries and Children's Centres' and are available at our three locality basis. In addition, this information is given out to every professional who attends our training sessions
- Within Community CAMHS there is widespread use of the Goodman's Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQs) for children (11+), parents and teachers. These are administered before assessment and on discharge. In our parenting groups, SDQs are used along with the Parental Stress Index, which is administered before parenting sessions begin and again at the end of the course. Scared questionnaires (Screen for Childhood Anxiety and Emotional Related Disorders) are used to give a baseline for young people with anxiety disorders, before group work begins and at the end of the course
- Community CAMHS sits on the Healthy Schools Quality Assurance Group (QAG) and is represented on the Steering Group, with a particular input into Theme 4 – Emotional Health and Wellbeing. There is a rolling plan of engagement of schools and a 10% example of schools are moderated quarterly. Where schools have chosen Theme 4 to be moderated, or where the Healthy Schools QAG wishes to moderate, a member of the Community CAMHS attends the moderation assessing the impact within the school both from the staff and pupil perspective, and, wherever possible, the parent's view. Staff are also available for consultation and advice when schools are aiming for Healthy Schools status
- There is a well established training programme, which links in with the city's SEN training plan, whereby the service offers basic mental health training to anyone working with children and young people. This training can be ordered through the website and is delivered in schools, at places of work and other venues. In addition, CAMHS delivers sessions around specific disorders throughout the year. There is also training offered to all Early Years practitioners, delivered by the Early Years Mental Health Service. Additionally, through Targeted Mental Health in Schools Initiative, extra school staff have been trained in a foundation course for Cognitive Behaviour Therapy. Staff in schools are receiving additional training, including peer mentoring to enable them to better understand and support the mental health needs of the children and young people in their care.

### Improve access to specialist CAMHS

- Community CAMHS is now well established in Community/Extended Services bases throughout the city. These bases include office and therapeutic space within community primary schools, specialist CAMHS workers integrated into the Youth Offending Service, and Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties School, as well as the Specialist Early Years Mental Health workers integrated into each Children's Centre cluster area.

### Monitor impact of service delivery

- CAMHS routinely record and monitor its impact on service users using agreed pre and post intervention measures. User Satisfaction exit questionnaires are also completed.

### Improve support to parents

- A project was undertaken to increase the range of social and cultural opportunities available to young parents through accessing various activities until May 2009
- The Early Years Mental Health Service offers specialist parent group intervention programmes via Children's Centres, individual and family support and intervention through Early Years/Children Centre referral routes, and universally available antenatal sessions to expectant parents via Parent Craft programmes, focusing on attachment/bonding
- As well as within Children's Centres, Community CAMHS delivers specialist parent group intervention programmes. These programmes are supported in their effectiveness through the delivery of parallel children's and teacher's groups.

### 3.1.2 Our plans for 2009-10 include:

**Our priorities** are for children and young people to...

- Make positive lifestyle choices
- Lead healthier lives
- Feel good about themselves

**We aim to:**

- **Make positive lifestyle choices**
  - Increasing the number of children and young people participating in physical activity and choosing a healthy diet – leading to a reduction in the rate of obesity
  - Reducing substance misuse amongst young people
  - Improving sexual health and reducing teenage pregnancy

- **Lead healthier lives**
  - Reducing mortality rates in children under the age of 1
  - Improving prevention, early intervention and effective management of childhood diseases i.e. through improving MMR vaccination rate
  - Support schools, colleges and children's settings by extending the Healthy Schools programme, developing support to deliver the Personal, Social and Health Education curriculum, developing wellness drop-ins, healthy eating and physical activity
  
- **Feel good about themselves**
  - Promoting mental health and emotional well-being and monitoring the impact of service delivery

### 3.1.3 Our progress against measurable outcomes

<b>Make positive lifestyle choices</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Improve sexual health and reduce teenage pregnancy</b>	Number of conceptions amongst 15-17 year olds per 1000 pop and percentage change year on year	55.4	49.4	45.2	59.3
	Diagnostic rate of new episodes of Chlamydia among under 16 and 16-19 year olds		% reduction	% reduction	2.1% (<16) 6.4% (16-19)
<b>Reduce substance misuse amongst children and young people</b>	Percentage of Exeter Health Related Behaviour Survey respondents that have smoked in the week prior to the survey	14%	14%	New PIs to be set	11% Year 8's 18% Year 10s
	Percentage of Exeter Health Related Behaviour Survey respondents that have consumed alcohol in the week prior to the survey	34%	34%	New PIs to be set	15% Primary 24% Year 8 44% Year 10
	Percentage of Exeter Health Related Behaviour Survey respondents that have ever taken drugs	19%	19%	New PIs to be set	13% in the year before the

					survey
	Number of young people under 18 entering, receiving and completing treatment	85	90	To be set	108
<b>Lead healthier lives</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Reduce mortality rates in children aged 1 year or less</b>	Breastfeeding initiation rates	40% (2.8% increase)	2% increase 41% end June 07	2% increase	52.3%
	Percentage of expectant mothers smoking during pregnancy	27% (2% reduction)	25.8%	24.6%	23.4%
	The gap in infant mortality between routine and manual groups and the population (measured in deaths under 1 year per 1000 live and still births)		4.9	4.8	3.8 (05-07)
	Percentage of 5-16 year olds participating in a minimum of 2 hours each week on PE and school sport within and outside of school	87%	90%	100% (Dec)	Figures not yet available for 08-09
<b>Support all schools in achieving National Healthy School Standard</b>	Percentage of schools achieved Healthy Schools status	2%	No target set	75% (Dec 09)	68%
<b>Feel good about themselves</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Promote mental health and emotional wellbeing across children and young people's</b>	Percentage of schools achieving Healthy Schools status	2%		75%	68%

settings					
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## 3.2 Staying Safe

For children and young people to be safe, they need:

- to be safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
- to be safe from accidental injury and death
- to be safe from bullying and discrimination
- to be safe from crime and anti-social behaviour at school and in the community
- to have security, stability and be cared for
- parents, carers and families who provide safe homes and stability

### 3.2.1 Progress in 2008-09

- **Be safe in the community, at school and at home (Priority 4 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

#### Develop and improve parenting strategies

- Family Nurturing is now available in each locality across Schools and Children's Centre and is being delivered by school staff, Health and Child and Family Workers
- Incredible Years is available in all three PCT localities and delivered by CCAMHS
- Triple P available in Children's Centres and delivered by Child and Family Workers
- Early Bird and Early Bird Plus delivered by the Autism Outreach Team
- Transitions available to Y7 parents and delivered by the Attendance Development Team
- 40 Strengthening Families places, 10 Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities places, 20 Teen Triple P places, 30 ADHD places and 30 places for parents of offenders commissioned in
- Informal parenting opportunities available for Parents' Week (October 2009) and delivered by a range of providers including Connexions, the Library Service, Relate and Impact
- The Family and Parenting Team are collecting data on the number of parents aged 18 or less who are accessing and completing parenting programmes
- The Parenting Co-ordinator is working with B2B+ to investigate whether they can deliver Family Nurturing or if their young parents can be supported into mainstream parenting provision

- Prevention and early intervention provided via Children and Family Support Services within Children's Centres. Specifically, parenting programmes, CAF and direct referrals target these children and families most at risk of becoming looked after
- The Case Management Team within the Safeguarding Service provides similar interventions to prevent older children from becoming looked after.

### Improve outcomes for children and young people affected by parental behaviour, including domestic violence, substance misuse and mental health

- Safer Sunderland partnership have devised an information sharing protocol in November 2008, the purpose of which is to facilitate the lawful sharing of information to prevent and reduce crime and disorder, substance misuse and anti social behaviour. This has been signed off by the core partners listed within the agreement and training to all agencies will be rolled out over 2009-2010
- Information sharing protocol in place around MARAC – (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference). The MARAC is a formal conference to facilitate the risk assessment process of cases of domestic violence victims. These cases invariably involve children. The purpose is for all agencies to share information with a view to identifying those at a 'very high' level of risk. All partner agencies must sign the Information Sharing Protocol in order to facilitate the exchange of information between partners in pursuant of the principles of the 'interest of the child' as contained within the Children Act 1989 and the power contained in Section 115 of the Crime & Disorder Act 1988
- All childcare concern notifications are sent electronically by the Police Public Protection Unit to IRT. Needs of risks to children are then assessed leading to an appropriate level of support and intervention by social care
- CAF arrangements are now in place and lower level needs can be managed through this process
- Children's Services and many other partner agencies are signed up to the MARAC process, the purpose of which is to address cases of domestic abuse categorised as very high risk. A MARAC meeting will identify the provision of appropriate services for all those involved in a Domestic Abuse case: victim, children and perpetrator. By using the knowledge and expertise of different agencies the identified risks will be either reduced or managed in the most appropriate and effective way

- The Multi agency hidden harm working group was established through the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) in order to take forward the hidden harm agenda in Sunderland. The Group aims to bring together commissioned substance misuse services and representatives from Children's services with the following objectives:
  - Clarification of pathways for professionals identifying anyone who has safeguarding concerns regarding a child whose parent/carer is misusing alcohol and/or drugs (either via adult substance misuse services or Children's Services)
  - Clarification of roles and responsibilities for professionals working in the substance misuse field in relation to safeguarding
  - Identification, facilitation and development of training packages for professionals working in the substance misuse field in relation to safeguarding
  - Establishment of training needs amongst the workforce in relation to safeguarding
  - Improving the standard of the collection and storage of hidden harm information by substance misuse services
  - Embedding safeguarding processes into the induction and day to day work of substance misuse staff
  - Independent social worker has been commissioned to write a hidden harm procedure
- Establishment of a virtual hidden harm team to enhance quality standards of each drug and alcohol treatment provider in terms of service delivery to children and young people.

- **Improve multi-agency arrangements and responses to bullying**

- **Put in place an Anti-bullying Strategy**

Sunderland Anti-Bullying Strategy was developed and written by officers representing Children's Services with consultation from children and young people and school staff. The Strategy was accepted by Children's Services SLT. Copies of the strategy were made available across Sunderland Children's Services.

- **Assess impact of Anti-bullying Chartermark in schools, and introduce to children's homes and Sunderland College**

35% of schools have registered their interest in the charter mark with 10% of them achieving at least bronze level. One care home has achieved bronze level with four other care homes registering for the charter mark. No equivalent has

been developed for Sunderland Colleges. An early year's version has been developed.

### Schools and partner organisations have anti-bullying policies and practice guidelines in place

All schools have an anti-bullying policy in place, this is a statutory requirement.

- **Improve multi-agency arrangements and responses to racism**

#### Put in place a strategic framework for responding to racist incidents

A strategic framework is in place across the Council for responding to racist incidents. The ARCH system is a web-based IT system for reporting, recording and monitoring racist incidents and consists of a partnership of agencies within the city to combat racism and hate. Currently, two pilots are being run to explore the implementation of ARCH in schools.

- **Investigate children and young people's fear of crime**

- A Fear of Crime Survey to investigate the levels and causes of children and young people's fear of crime was commissioned in 2008 between the Youth Offending Service and the BSG. The final report was produced in September 2008 and encompassed the following questions:
  - How safe children and young people feel in Sunderland
  - Where and when children feel safe or don't feel safe
  - Crimes and other factors that children and young people are frightened of
  - Crimes and other factors that are most frightening to children and young people
  - What makes children and young people fear these crimes/other factors?
  - What can be done to make children and young people feel safer?
  - Is children and young people's fear of crime justified by the incidence of crime in Sunderland?
  - Linkage to press and media coverage
- The final report was considered by the BSG. It was agreed that a further survey could be commissioned for 2009 that also included comparisons with the Adult Fear of Crime Survey. Overall the findings were consistent across all areas covered and across age groups. The results of the survey indicated that:
  - 52.3% of the children and young people involved feel safe in Sunderland; 11.5% feeling very safe and 40.7% fairly safe. This figure is slightly higher than the fear of crime postal survey (51%) involving mainly the adult population
  - The places where children feel least safe are in subways; in the city centre and in a local park. Children feel least safe during the evening

- Children and young people articulated a wide range of crimes/factors that frighten them, those specified by most groups (11+) were drugs related crimes, theft, robbery, burglary, stealing, knives, stabbing, murder, fighting, violence, assault, being attacked, rape, bullying, kidnapping, abduction
  - o The results of the survey indicate that children and young people are significantly influenced by press and TV coverage of crime, both documentaries and TV programmes. In some cases children gave examples citing programmes that were not appropriate for their age and many cited story lines in soaps
  - o Within this survey, children and young people reported that they 'stay together to feel safe' but accept that in doing so are often perceived as a gang by others/adults. Within the biannual fear of crime postal survey young people hanging around emerged as a key issue and furthermore the data collected indicated that people do not discriminate between young people hanging around and young people involved in anti-social behaviour.
- **Improve road safety**
    - o Work is ongoing to improve road safety and this is being driven through the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011. Key actions identified in the CYPP 2007-09 and in the Local Transport Plan 2006-2011 are to:
      - Ensure all schools have a School Travel Plan
      - Identify links between the rate of road traffic accidents and areas of high deprivation and use this in planning for the future
      - Strengthen joint working arrangements between multiple agencies
      - Embed and sustain road safety arrangements through Building Schools for the Future (BSF).

### 3.2.2 Our plans for 2009-10 include:

**Our priority** is for children and young people to...

- Be safe in the community, at school and at home

**We aim to:**

- **Be safe in the community, at school and at home**
  - o Providing mentoring and advocacy
  - o Supporting parenting
  - o Tackling bullying
  - o Tackling racism
  - o Investigating children and young people's fear of crime
  - o Improving road safety
  - o Improving rates of accidental injuries to children and young people

### 3.2.3 Our progress against measurable outcomes

<b>Be safe in the community, at school and at home</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Address parental behaviour: domestic violence, substance misuse, mental health</b>	Percentage of children on the child protection register (CPR) affected by domestic violence	57%	45%	40%	39%
	Percentage of children on the CPR affected by parental substance misuse	32%	50%	40%	25%
	Percentage of children on the CPR affected by parental mental ill health	52%	% reduction	% reduction	39%
<b>Improve multi-agency arrangements and responses to bullying</b>	Percentage of children and young people who state they had been bullied in school in the last 12 months (Exeter Health Survey - Year 8 and Year 10 students)	22%	No survey completed this year	35%	31% Primary 30% Secondary
	Percentage of schools with Anti-bullying policy that meets requirements of National Healthy Schools Programme	50%	70%	100%	100%
<b>Address road safety</b>	Number of 0-15 year olds killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road accidents	24	20	National target 50% reduction by 2010 (15 by 2010)	13 (2008 calendar year) No fatalities
	Percentage of schools that have an authorised School Travel Plan	21%	48%	73%	42%

### 3.3 Enjoying and Achieving

For children and young people to enjoy life and achieve to their full potential, they need:

- to be ready for school
- to attend and enjoy school
- to achieve stretching national education standards at primary and secondary school
- to achieve personal and social development and enjoy recreation
- parents, carers and families who support learning

#### 3.3.1 Progress in 2008-09

- **Achieve in their education (Priority 7 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

##### Offer support and challenge to schools and identify priorities in raising attainment at all key stages

- Strategies to raise attainment have been implemented which has resulted in those young people getting 5 or more GCSEs Grade A-C rising to 69%, above the national average of 67.1%, whilst those gaining 5 or more GCSEs Grade A-C, including English and Maths has risen to 45%. There has also been a significant improvement in early years outcomes where targets have been met. Intensive support is provided to those schools at risk of not meeting attainment targets, as well as groups of children and young people who are at risk of under achievement.

##### Establish an education improvement partnership to help shape the development of teaching and learning

- The key partners were identified and a strategy and action plan was developed. School Governing Bodies have now signed up to Memorandum of Understanding.

##### Improve the outcomes for all children under 5 years

- There are now 17 Children's Centres, of which 30% are located in the most disadvantaged wards of Sunderland, providing a citywide service ahead of the national target of March 2010. The centre's deliver a full core offer of services across the city including integrated childcare and early learning, health and family support services, outreach to disadvantaged groups, links with Job Centre Plus and childminder networks
- The implementation of Early Years Foundation Framework in all settings for children aged 0-5 has been completed including focused training provided for Head Teachers, Managers and Practitioners
- Childcare Sufficiency Audit and Reviews show that 300 Childcare Providers, including after school clubs, childminders, day nurseries, playgroups and

Holiday schemes have an overall 4,384 places available for children aged 0-5 years. In Sunderland the average take up per setting is 75%

- The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) process is now embedded in Children's Centres. 154 CAF referrals and 882 Access to Services requests have been made using multi-agency packages through Children's Centres and Schools
- Children from vulnerable groups are able to access childcare and family support services which meet their needs within mainstream settings. Training and advice is available to day care settings and bursaries are available to support disabled children in childcare.

### Implement the Building Schools for the Future programme including the building of three academies

- Overall, the BSF project is on programme and budget. Oxclose School was completed in June 2007, whilst three 'Sunderland Model' Academies (Academy 360, Castle View Enterprise Academy and Red House Academy) and Washington School open in September 2009. Biddick and St Robert of Newminster RC Schools will be completed in 2010. The ICT transformation project at Sandhill View is now complete

### Improve attendance at school

- All schools are banded according to absence rates and receive support in accordance with their individual needs. There has been a significant improvement and reduction in numbers in the Persistent Absence category, which is below the national threshold and the DCSF targets for attendance at school have been met. Secondary attendance figures indicate a marked improvement from 2006-07 and primary schools have received intensive support to improve attendance through the Every Schoolday Counts programme. The Local Authority continues to promote a strong message to parents about the importance of good attendance through promotional leaflets, publicity and specific attendance campaigns.

### Carry out school place planning review

- A full consultation exercise was undertaken on the analysis of citywide places and proposals were developed and agreed with Cabinet. The implementation of the final proposal is pending agreement by the School Organisation Committee.

### Expand 14-19 curriculum options

- Some Specialised Diplomas are now in place and there are some Level 1 qualifications now available at Pallion Centre for Special Schools. Foundation Learning Tier is a major focus for work in 2009-10.

## Amend current provision for services for children with special educational needs (SEN) and AEN (Additional Educational Needs)

- Phase 2 of the SEN Review of special schools was completed in July 2009. The outcome was the re-designation of Barbara Priestman, Sunningdale and Portland schools. This will result in clarity for parents and all partners about the range and type of needs that each school caters for and will provide an element of choice for parents in placing their children. The development of secondary Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) mainstream provision at Farrington School and the planned provision at Biddick School will also increase the range of provision available from mainstream through to special schools.

- **Enjoy sport, leisure and play (Priority 8 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

### Provide accessible and quality play opportunities

- In 2006 a baseline of 19% of children and young people in Sunderland had access to high quality play facilities within 1km of their front door was established
- Following the Big Lottery Fund project of upgrading 6 play areas in 2007, Community and Cultural Services are now actively engaged in a national programme to get more children and young people to play outside. So far 11 playgrounds have been upgraded and by March 2010 28 projects should be finished. When finished it is estimated that over 60% of children and young people in Sunderland will have access to high quality play facilities within 1km of their front door. This figure was just 19% before the project commenced
- Sunderland's multi-million Aquatic Centre opened officially for public use on Friday 18 April 2009. The profile of users at the Aquatic Centre is wide and varied. The Aquatic Centre has a number of children's inflatable sessions, aqua fit for teenagers and float sessions for toddlers. For children and young people there are Learn to Swim lessons, diving courses and the chance to become qualified in life guarding through the 'Rookie Lifeguard Course'. These pool activities are complimented by several opportunities for young people in the adjacent Wellness Centre
- The City Council is currently developing two new swimming pools in Silksworth and Hetton. Designs for the two 25m swimming pools were agreed by Cabinet in 2008, following detailed consultations with partners, local schools, clubs and community groups regarding each of the designs submitted. The contractor started work on the two swimming pools in late 2008. It is anticipated that the pools will be open towards the beginning of 2010. Consultation with young people to inform programming of the new facilities has commenced and will continue through 2009. Examples of the consultation include a survey on the City's 'Lets Go' website, young people's work shops, a questionnaire distributed to 12 schools across the Hetton and Silksworth areas, family questionnaires and discussion with the city's Accessibility Officer regarding special needs and disabilities

- There is now citywide co-ordinated support for schools, through one to one and cluster meetings, enabling 100% of schools to provide children and young people with the full range of varied menu of activities as set out in the Extended Services in and Around Schools Core Offer
- Feedback from looked after children has been sought in their reviews with regard to the activities they have undertaken and has been collated since September 2007. Ongoing reports will provide information on a regular basis to track changes in activity levels
- The Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) Pathfinder Programme has specifically targeted the inclusion of disabled children in universal services. This has included working to remove the simple barriers that prevent a disabled child or young person from participating in a short break activity in their community that their non-disabled peers access easily. During 2008-09 the programme also supported 11 disabled children and young people to access universal short break provision (a total of 1191 hours of support) and 85 disabled children and young people attended specialist group based short break provision based within universal community settings (4174 hours of support, an increase of 1755% from 2007-08). As a Play Pathfinder, Sunderland is developing a new play site at Silksworth and the partnership with AHDC is ensuring that it will be inclusive for disabled children when it opens in 2010. The AHDC programme is funding the provision of Max Cards which enable disabled children and their families reduced price or free entry to a number of cultural and leisure activities across the North East. In 2008-09 a total of 681 cards were issued.

### Research what impacts on children and young people's use of local activities

- Community and Cultural Services have focused on developing activity programmes that are either 'free of charge', subsidised, or reduce the impact of transport costs by taking activities to localities for young people, including investment into free and accessible play and urban games facilities; implementation of the free swimming initiative for children 16 years of age and under; implementing an Affordable Pricing Framework; taking young people's activities out into communities and adopting an area approach towards facility provision and service standards.

### 3.3.2 Our plans for 2009-10 include:

**Our priorities** are for children and young people to...

- Achieve in their education
- Enjoy sport, leisure and play

## We aim to:

- **Achieve in their education**
  - Supporting children with Special Educational Needs
  - Achieving improvements in results at Foundation Stage Profile, Key Stage 2, GCSEs
  - Reducing surplus places as part of a school place planning review
- **Enjoy sport, leisure and play**
  - Providing accessible and quality play opportunities through for example, free play areas and new facilities, such as swimming pools
  - Engaging more children and young people from BME groups (black and minority ethnic)
  - Researching the impact that transport has on sport, leisure and play

### 3.3.3 Our progress against measurable outcomes

Achieve in their education		Baseline at Mar 07	Target Mar 08	Target Mar 09	Actual Mar 09
<b>Offer support and challenge to schools and identify priorities in raising attainment at all key stages</b>	Raise the achievement of boys and girls to reduce the gender gap (whilst ensuring girls attainment remains at an appropriate level): %5+A*-C grades GCSE / GNVQ equivalent – gender difference	8.3%	8%	8%	9.8%
	KS2 English Level 4+	75%	83%	83%	81%
	KS2 Mathematics Level 4+	74%	82%	82%	78%
	GCSE - 5+A*-C Grades including English and Maths	34%	46%	48%	43%
<b>Improve the outcomes for all children under 5 years</b>	The number of settings achieving an average total score of 78 points or more in Foundation Stage Profile (FSP)	67.8%	71%	72%	74%
	The % gap between those children with an average FSP score in the bottom 20% and the median point score will decrease	40.8% (Actual June 06)	38.3% (Target June 07)	34.8% (Target June 08)	42.1%
<b>Improve attendance in school</b>	School absence at primary school	6.1	5.36	5.3	5.2%
	School absence at	8.4	6.79	8.3	7.23%

	secondary school				
	School absence for the City	7.2	6.87	not set	6.24%
<b>Carry out school place planning review</b>	Reduce surplus places according to outcomes of planned review	13%	13%	10% (Sept 09)	14%
<b>Enjoy sport, leisure and play</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Provide accessible and quality play opportunities</b>	Percentage of young people who have access to at least 3 free areas for play, one of which is a dedicated equipped play area		% increase	% increase	Indicator not introduced nationally
	Percentage of young people with maximum 1km access to high quality local free play provision	15%	16%	20%	49%
	Percentage of 5-16 year olds participating in a minimum of 2 hours each week on PE and school sport, within and outside of school. (LPSA2 target)	86%	90%	90%	92%
	Number of new or refurbished sites per regeneration area	6	6	6	6
	Number of new young people involved in play design steering groups	140	650	1280	4655

### 3.4 Making a Positive Contribution

For children and young people to make a positive contribution, they need:

- to engage in decision making and support the community and environment
- to engage in law abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school
- to develop positive relationships and choose not to bully or discriminate
- to develop self confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges
- to develop enterprising behaviour
- parents, carers and families who promote positive behaviour

### 3.4.1 Progress in 2008-09

- **Be strong individuals, proud of their city and contribute to its future (Priority 1 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

#### Establish a mentoring and advocacy service for children and young people

- A number of young people attending Sunderland College were trained by the Youth Offending Service to act as peer mentors and were matched to young people. An Independent Advocacy Service contract for Children Looked After /Children in Need/Care Leavers has been in place with the external provider, Action for Children, since March 2008. The contract expires in March 2010 and the process for re-commissioning for 2010-13 has commenced.

#### Engage children and young people

- The Positive Futures programme has delivered a range of activities from understanding the need to recycle and actually doing it, to planning and developing a small gardening project. The programme is currently working with young people to produce a DVD on the change in their lives and the local environment which includes for example, the changes in the Southwick, ie demolishing the old housing and the building of new housing and the school
- This year a total of £418,192 of the Youth Opportunities Fund and the Youth Capital Fund was allocated to support 16 youth led projects. 157 young people were involved in leading projects and 4,917 young people were beneficiaries of those projects
- Sunderland Youth Parliament took part in the State of City Debate which brings together young people from across the city to discuss and debate major issues. A total of 89 young people and 56 adults attended the event in 2008. Sunderland Youth Parliament's Planning Residential, brought together young people to discuss and debate themes to forward to Schools, Youth Clubs and other local services. This was then debated further to finalise the 5 chosen issues for discussion at the State of the City Debate
- Different tools are used to consult and engage with young people, individual services use the tools most appropriate to the young people they are providing a service to, for example, extensive consultation took place with young people regarding the reconfiguration of youth provision in Sunderland
- In 2008 a project was established for people with high functioning Autism or Asperger's Syndrome to meet on Tuesday evenings at Pennywell Youth Project which also allows a parent support group to run at the same time. The group is now well established and have a programme which covers a wide range of activities and a well developed holiday programme.

## Integrate services for young people

- A Youth Board has been established which meets each month and has 4 sub groups. The impact of the Youth Board has been the completion of the Integrated Youth Strategy which sets out planning and delivery of targeted youth support
- An implementation and review of the commissioning of the Youth Work Strategy has taken place, leading to an increase of participants who gained a recorded personal outcome and an accredited outcome
- New staff and volunteers have been recruited from the BME community. A total of 19 volunteers participated in Introduction to Youth Work courses, 8 students enrolling on NVQ level 2, 1 on NVQ level 3 and 1 on NVQ A1 award
- The REWIND training programme has been delivered to over 140 workers and trainee workers making them more aware and confident in their approach to tackling racism as highlighted in course evaluations. REWIND continues to be delivered to young people in youth projects and schools. An indicator of impact is being requested and work has recently started with the Youth Offending Service to work with those young people convicted of racist crimes
- Enrichment Officers are now in place at each centre of Sunderland City College who deliver a well established programme of enrichment to encourage engagement and increase opportunities for children and young people in all learning environments. These include a youth dance group, a music collective for bands, inter-site and college football teams, photography, art and culture appreciation group and opportunities under the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme
- All provision at Sunderland City College is externally accredited or 'RARPA'ed (Recognising & Rewarding Progress & Achievements). Six celebration of learning events were held at each centre throughout 2008-09. There is continuous local and regional PR coverage of students' achievements for example; exam success; the College's travel agency opening and the development of a 'Burma Wall' at the college, built by students to show support for political prisoners.
- **Be aware of how their behaviour affects others and the importance of staying out of trouble (Priority 2 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

## Support those at risk of, and those offending

- Between 140-150 young people have been engaged through Wear Kids and 50 through the Youth Inclusion Project, both projects offer interventions aimed at preventing offending. In addition, 213 young people at risk of offending or re-offending were supported through parenting initiatives in 2008-09

- The Children Looked After Offending Group are now undertaking an offending analysis at the point of children coming into care, rather than analysing historical cases, therefore focusing on prevention
- All young people with SEN who are entering custodial sentences are identified through the Individual Learning Plan
- The proportion of the BME population in the criminal justice system is routinely monitored through performance management reporting. This has been extended to monitor the proportion of victims from the BME population.

### Support Victims

- A total of 36% of victims were supported to enable their participation in restorative processes for relevant outcomes referred to the YOS. 94% of victims participating in Youth Offending Service restorative justice processes report being satisfied with the outcome.

### Improve perception of crime

- The Youth Offending Service continues to take a proactive approach to addressing perceptions of youth crime through its media strategy and works with partners within the local media to engage and inform the public.

## 3.4.2 Our plans for 2009-10 include:

**Our priorities are** for children and young people to...

- Be strong individuals, proud of their city and contribute to its future
- Be aware of how their behaviour affects others and the importance of staying out of trouble

**We aim to:**

- **Be strong individuals, proud of their city and contribute to its future**
  - Mentoring and advocacy
  - Involving disabled young people in the Council's disability equality scheme
  - Increasing the number of young people engaged in service design and delivery, and those receiving accredited outcomes
- **Be aware of how their behaviour affects others and the importance of staying out of trouble**
  - Supporting those at risk or, and those offending
  - Supporting victims of crime

### 3.4.3 Our progress against measurable outcomes

<b>Be strong individuals, proud of their city and contribute to its future</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
	Number of young people involved in the Youth Participation Network	458	240	280	*
	Number of young person-led projects	17	20	25	16 new projects - 57 in total
	Number of young people with a recorded outcome	3257	2453	2392	3827
	Number of young people with an accredited outcome	1620	1226	1196	1804
	Number of CLA involved in the Youth Participation Network (age range?)	25	30	35	20 / 22
	Number of young people from BME groups involved in the Youth Participation Network	62	43	51	*
	Number of disabled young people involved in the Youth Participation Network	90	54	66	*
<b>Be aware of how their behaviour effects others and the importance of staying out of trouble</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Support those at risk of, and those offending</b>	Number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System	12.4% increase	1.9% reduction	1.9% reduction	16.7% reduction
	Rate of re-offending after 12 months by children and young people aged 10-17 year (based on YJB cohort methodology)		5% reduction	4% reduction	18.3% reduction
	Parenting – by working with		20%	No longer	34%

	20% of parents of young people via the YOS – an increase in parents stating increased confidence in parenting			national indicator	(Community penalties only)
<b>Support victims</b>	Establish a baseline for: Victims participating in restorative processes in at least 25% of relevant disposals (sentences) referred to the YOS		25%	No longer national indicator	38%
	Proportion of children and young people looked after (for 12 months or more) who offend compared to the general population	2.8	2	2.3 (Target for Sept09)	2.4

\* The Youth Participation Network was put on hold until the new Children and Young People's Participation Strategy has been agreed with targets being developed in October 2009

### 3.5 Achieving Economic Wellbeing

For children and young people to achieve economic well-being, they need:

- to engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school
- to be ready for employment
- to live in decent homes and sustainable communities
- to have access to transport and material goods
- to live in households free from low income
- parents, carers and families who are economically active

#### 3.5.1 Progress in 2008-09

- **Live in Decent Homes (Priority 9 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**

##### Identify need around homelessness

- A comprehensive needs assessment has been undertaken by Centrepont to identify the needs of all homeless young people in the city which will be used by Health, Housing and Adult Services to form part of ongoing housing strategy work. Homeless families continue to be given floating support. Eight additional satellite units are now part of the Ashkirk contract, held by Cheviot Housing Association, offering further support to homeless families with specific needs and preventing admissions to more costly types of temporary accommodation. The work of the Family Liaison Officers and the private sector families project has now come under the Supporting People contract, this has seen a more streamlined and coordinated approach to reducing homelessness, whilst enabling the monitoring of projects on a like for like basis, which allows the measurement of effectiveness and impact.

### Provide information, advice and support

- The development of a Young Persons Housing Strategy was not progressed as a decision was taken to have one definitive Housing Strategy, rather than specific client group strategies.

### Provide appropriate accommodation

- Centrepoint is now open for young people who have been made homeless and offers fifteen beds at any one time. Gentoo's Steps Scheme, which gives support to young parents has now been remodelled into five core and cluster support schemes covering each of the five committee areas to improve service delivery and in 2008, ten units of accommodation at Houghton were established for those at risk from domestic violence, this was over and above the original target of eight units
- Any review of the housing needs of young people from BME communities and those with LDD will be undertaken as part of young people homeless review and will be used by Health, Housing and Adult Services to form part of ongoing housing strategy work.
- **Get the right training, further education and jobs (Priority 10 of the CYPP 2007- 09)**
  - Young offenders are being provided with appropriate training and support for entry to employment, 2 staff at the Youth Offending Service are employed to work specifically with those who are NEET. Support is also given to vulnerable or hard to reach groups to enable them to continue or re-engage with education and secure priority access services through the Unlocking Potential scheme, for which the funding has been maintained
  - The NEET Contract Employment Support and Prevention [ESP] Project aims to increase young people's participation in learning through locally defined interventions focussing on:
    - provision to support progression into mainstream learning: work to prevent young people disengaging:
    - support for young people during periods of transition and; work to reengage those young people who are NEET
  - Delivery from June 09 will offer a range of Accredited Courses through the delivery partnership involved with the ESP project; City of Sunderland College, WBL/E2E network and Voluntary Sector
  - During 2008-2009, the Sunderland Futures Project was funded by Learning and Skills Council through the 14-19 Budget. It will receive a contribution to costs from the Learning and Skills Council for 2009-2010 with the expectation that it will be fully mainstreamed from 2010-11 onwards. The project provides vocational education opportunities for young people who currently attend special schools and the School Returners' unit in the City

- A project funded, during 2008-2009, from the Learning and Skills Council's National LLDD Fund, with the intention that it should be mainstreamed from 2009, enabled young people at Springwell Dene and Castlegreen to access vocational opportunities
- In order to understand the range of community based options available to encourage young people's learning and personal development schools have been asked to provide a list of the alternative learning providers that they work with, the possibility of compiling a list of alternative learning providers is being pursued that would meet the requirements of fulfilling Sunderland safeguarding and QA Standards. This would involve assessment of over 30 organisations
- Strategies to raise the achievement of looked after children and young people continue to be developed and implemented, including; the appointment of a Virtual Headteacher for looked after children who links with MALAP (Multi Agency Looked After Partnership), Looked After Children offending team and Designated Teachers in schools; a detailed action plan in place; a bespoke database developed for tracking and monitoring; a governing body established for virtual school; a focus on one to one tuition to support academic success (with approximately 500 sessions delivered so far) and a Looked After Children Education team focusing on achievement and attainment. The Personal Education Plan completion has increased from 65% to 97% and attendance procedures have been improved, leading to good attendance rates in the City.

### 3.5.2 Our plans for 2009-10 include:

**Our priorities** are for children and young people to...

- Live in decent homes
- Get the right training, education and jobs

**We aim to:**

- **Live in decent homes**
  - Homelessness
  - Identifying the housing needs of children and young people from BME communities (black and minority ethnic communities) and those with LDD (learning difficulties and disability)
- **Get the right training, further education and jobs**
  - Providing opportunities for young people to access training, further education and employment through for example, work-based mentors for young people, training and support package for employers

### 3.5.3 Our progress against measurable outcomes

<b>Live in decent homes</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
<b>Provide appropriate accommodation</b>	Percentage of care leavers aged 19 living in suitable accommodation	79%	85%	86%	88.5%
	The use of bed and breakfast accommodation for families		To be set	50% reduction	4 families as at Mar 09
	Number of supported housing places available for teenage parents	8	8	13	Not known
<b>Get the right training, further education and jobs</b>		<b>Baseline at Mar 07</b>	<b>Target Mar 08</b>	<b>Target Mar 09</b>	<b>Actual Mar 09</b>
	The proportion of 16-18 year olds who are NEET: Adjusted		10.1 %	9.5%	13.2%
	Percentage of young people at 16 in EET	88.3			89.7%
	Percentage of young people at 17 in EET	85.6			84.4%
	Percentage CLA in EET at 16	67.0			75%
	Percentage care leavers in EET	50.0			73.1%
	Young offenders supervised by the YOS in full time EET	85.8	90.0	To be set	53.9%
	Percentage of minority ethnic young people in EET (16 -25 year olds)	75.3			82%
	Percentage of disabled (LDD) young people in EET (16 - 19 year olds)	72.8			42.1%

## **4 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WHO NEED EXTRA HELP**

### **4.1 Learning difficulties and disabilities**

#### **4.1.1 Progress in 2008/09**

- The Futures Team is now established jointly with Adult Services. The team will undertake person centred planning with young people aged 14-25
- The Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) Pathfinder Programme has specifically targeted the inclusion of disabled children in universal services. This has included establishing a participation fund, accessed by 10 children in 2008-9, to remove the simple barriers that prevent a disabled child or young person from participating in a short break activity in their community that their non-disabled peers access easily. During 2008-9 the programme has also supported 11 disabled children and young people to access universal short break provision, providing a total of 1191 hours of support. In addition, 85 disabled children and young people attended specialist group based short break provision based within universal community settings, benefitting from 4174 hours of support, an increase of 1755% from 2007-08. As a Play Pathfinder, Sunderland is developing a new play site at Silksworth and the partnership with AHDC is ensuring that it will be inclusive for disabled children when it opens in 2010. The AHDC programme is funding the provision of Max Cards which enable disabled children and their families reduced price or free entry to a number of cultural and leisure activities across the North east. In 2008-9 a total of 681 cards were issued. In 2009-10 we have already issued 803 cards which is an increase of 18%.

#### **4.1.2 Plans for 2009-10**

- Ensure that children and young people, their parents/carers and professionals have information that is accessible, appropriate, and in a range of different formats
- Establish a resource baseline to enable a realistic analysis of need to be carried out in order to inform the commissioning business plan. Integrate working with pooled budgets, where appropriate
- Provide options and opportunities for employment, education and training. Develop pathways to ensure continuity of support and provision across Children's and Adult Services
- Involve parents and carers in the delivery of training to professionals working with children and young people with LDD; all staff, working with children and young people with LDD receive appropriate disability awareness training and skills development
- Ensure that the needs of children, young people and parents/carers are met in a consistent and appropriate way

- Ensure that mainstream services are accessible; ensure there is easy and prompt access to therapies; ensure access to equipment is timely and available consistently; ensure appropriate pathways for children and young people with mental health needs.

## 4.2 Black and minority ethnic groups

### 4.2.1 Progress in 2008-09

- Young people from the Youth Integration Project in Sunderland, which forms part of the North of England Refugee Service (NERS), took part in a regional conference in December 2008 to highlight problems encountered by young refugees and asylum seekers
- Young Asian Voices have continued to engage young people in the decision-making process of the organisation through continued development of the Girls' Committee and Boys' Committee during 2008/9
- Young people from the Youth Integration Project (NERS) and Young Asian Voices participated in the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Young People's State of the City Debate in October 2008.
- 19 volunteers from the BME community participated in the Introduction to Youth Work courses. 8 BME students enrolled on NVQ level 2. 1 on NVQ level 3 and 1 on NVQ A1 Award.

## 4.3 Children in Care

### 4.3.1 Progress in 2008/9

- Placements. Children looked after are receiving a secure and stable environment, with Sunderland outperforming the England average
- Over 70% of CLA are in the EET group, which compares well with the England average
- Health care for CLA continues to be good. 92% of CLA had an annual health assessment and dental check and 91% have up to date immunisations. 100% of children with adoption plans have a permanence medical and all adopters are offered an individual interview with the adoption medical advisor. Every children's home has a health coordinator who meets with the specialist nurse each month. Sunderland is strong in this area of work and offers this service consistently, outperforming the North East and England as a whole
- An Independent Advocacy Service has been established through a commissioning arrangement with NCH, and is available to all young people making complaints. A leaflet promoting the service has been distributed. So far 14 young people have sought advice and 9 have accessed the service
- The number of Looked After Reviews held within timescale has risen to 96%, and 100% of CLA participated in their review. A working party of 8 young people and 8 staff reviewed Looked After Review Procedures
- Training for carers continues to improve. Most of our approved foster carers have completed TCI (Fostering), 13 carers are NVQ 3 qualified and a further 18 are on course to complete the qualification. Foster carers and prospective adopters receive training on health issues twice yearly

- The educational attainment of CLA is improving steadily. The proportion of young people achieving more than 1 GCSE has risen from 65.8% in 2006 to 76.7% in 2007
- The MAX card scheme offers all CLA and their carers free or reduced entry to heritage and culture sites across the north-east, and usage of the card has increased by 300% since 2006
- A range of innovative prevention programmes for CLA who offend or are at risk of offending have been implemented, including a restorative justice coordinator in all Children's Homes, dedicated youth club, film project, and reduced reporting to the police, and have resulted in a 55% reduction in arrests of young people in residential homes
- Children's Homes are working towards the Anti-bullying Charter Mark after Sunderland Youth Parliament approved the Children's Homes' version of the scheme, which was adapted from the original by the young people and staff from Revelstoke Road Children's Home.
- An innovative groundbreaking partnership with Action For Children has developed a therapeutic foster care training programme (Holding the Space) for Sunderland foster carers combining Quaker and Native American culture, deep listening skills and person centred counselling
- Adoption rates are on target

#### **4.3.2 Plans for 2009-10**

- Implement the recommendations of the White Paper "Care Matters Time for Change"
- Improve outcomes for children and young people living in children's homes
- Reduce offending amongst children looked after

## 5 THE CHANGE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGY

The Change for Children and Young People Strategy was originally set out as a strategy within the CYPP 2007-09 and identified cross-cutting themes that impact on all outcomes and all services that support children and young people. They relate to how agencies can work together to improve outcomes.

In the future we will not refer to the Change for Children and Young People Strategy although we will continue to recognise cross-cutting themes.

	CYPP 2006-09 Change for Children Strategy themes		CYPP 2007-09 Change for Children Strategy themes		CYPP 2009/10 Cross-cutting themes
1	Integrated services	1	Preventative Practice and Service Integration	1	Locality based working
2	Parenting			2	Prevention
3	Prevention	2	Parenting	3	Participation
4	Safeguarding	3	Safeguarding	4	Workforce development
5	Attainment and the ECM agenda	4	Attainment and the ECM agenda	5	Safeguarding
6	Children and young people's participation	5	Children and young people's participation		
7	Equality and Diversity	6	Equality and Diversity		
8	Children and young people who are vulnerable	7	Children and young people who are vulnerable		
9	Workforce development	8	Human resources and workforce development		
10	Joint commissioning	9	Joint commissioning		
11	Resourcing the CYPP				

### 5.1 Preventative practice and service integration

#### 5.1.1 Progress in 2008-09

- Existing arrangements for the collection of data have been strengthened:
  - Single View of a Child - Work through to June 2009 has identified the Children's Services' priorities for improving information services through to 2012. The first stage of delivery involves contracts being signed in October to upgrade existing information services that provide a citywide view of pupil attainment and attendance. The upgrade will be completed in December 2009 to be followed by education support teams recording their assessments and plans in the single information system. This will make it easier for professionals to deliver services more quickly by having access to a more complete view of the child's needs. The project is also working with Children's Centres and Extended Services to procure and start implementation in February 2010 of information services to help target and increase use of services by hard to reach families while making it easier for schools to keep the necessary records to demonstrate impact of extended school services that leads to increased funding for disadvantaged young people to take part in out of school activities. In 2010 work will move to implementing tools that will help us to access information and work together while working in the community. Throughout the period covered by the project we will continue to link to other national projects for the

implementation of ContactPoint and the national systems for the electronic enablement of the Common Assessment Framework.

- A comprehensive needs assessment has been undertaken for the Children and Young Peoples Plan 2010-25
- Service Mapping has been tested through Durham University's 'Children's Services Mapping Exercise', using Health Service and Youth Offending Service data.
- The Joint Strategic (Health) Needs Assessment conducted for the Directors of Children's Services, Public health, and Health, Housing and Adult Services has been revised and improved from the previous year.
- Joint Commissioning arrangements have been strengthened through the Children's Trust Joint Commissioning Board and aligned partnerships, and with the establishment of a Children's Services Joint Commissioning Team to support and challenge the commissioning of improved outcomes for children, young people and families.
- The Common Assessment Framework was successfully rolled out during 2008 across the City in a phased approach, being fully in place by October 2008. Targeted Youth Support services were put in place to mirror the rollout of CAF citywide. Almost 2000 Children's Services managers and practitioners have received training in CAF during 2008/9 and use of the Common Assessment to address identified needs continued to grow during 2008, with a peak of 97 being completed in March 2009. The range of service providers who are using Common Assessments continues to grow, with schools and health using it most frequently
- There are currently steps in place to further develop the successful use of the CAF through the development of Locality Based Integrated Working Teams. These will operate within each of the five localities of the City and will help us to identify and address additional needs of children and young people and to respond swiftly and appropriately in order to improve outcomes overall. This multi-agency response will build upon the CAF principles and fully embed the use of CAF in Sunderland during 2009/10
- Integrated services for looked after children are in place, for example the Placement and Resources Panel, which gatekeeps admissions to looked after placements, works closely with the Looked After Children Education team and OK2, the dedicated health team for looked after children and there is a multi agency working group which looks at Children Looked After who offend
- Government guidance was used to develop a comprehensive, published Youth Offer that includes a website [www.letsgosunderland.com](http://www.letsgosunderland.com) that went live in April 2008 backed up by a promotion campaign. Young people were consulted and involved in shaping the design and marketing aspects of the site that is targeted at young people. Practitioners, parents and carers also have access to this exciting new resource. The impact has been more young people and their parents / carers becoming aware of the services available to them and having

access to a comprehensive, accurate and up to date menu of positive activities. The achievements and opportunities for young people are promoted and celebrated including details of how to access voluntary experiences. A central directory is held in one place and includes a statement of ambition to ensure everyone is aware of their entitlement.

### **5.1.2 Plans for 2009-10**

A Prevention Strategy is in place. In it, key actions are to:

- Implement the vision, principles and standards of preventative practice and service delivery, which all services in the City will operate
- Ensure timely responses to children, young people and their families at times of vulnerability and additional need, working within a Common Assessment Framework
- Provision of locally accessible services that can help build resilience of individuals and communities
- Integration of service delivery, achieving teams around the family and child based on effective partnership working and information sharing between universal, targeted and specialist services
- Commission a set of preventative services, which will support early identification of need and effective interventions to improve outcomes for children and young people and their families with additional needs.

## **5.2 Parenting**

### **5.2.1 Progress in 2008-09**

- The Family and Parenting Team is now in place and are working hard to ensure that the Family and Parenting Strategy 2008-2012 is being fully implemented
- The Universal Parenting Offer is available citywide with the Family Nurturing programme being delivered in Children's Centres, schools and community venues. Out-of-hours Parenting activities and engagement activities, specifically aimed at dads will be available from Autumn 2009. Parenting support and advice is available via the Families Information Service website or by contacting the Family and Parenting Team. A calendar of activities have been planned for Parents' Week 2009

- The Targeted Parenting Offer includes a range of programmes delivered in Children's Centres, schools and community venues including Triple P, Teen Triple P, Let's Talk, Strengthening Families, Transitions and Incredible Years. These are delivered by a range of partners including Child and Family Workers, the Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Barnardo's, the Youth Drug and Alcohol Project, the Youth Offending Service and the Attendance Development Team. For more informal Parenting support, Triple P tip sheets are available in Children's centres, GP practices and other community venues
- The Specialist Parenting Offer is available for families with more complex needs. The Autism Outreach Team deliver the Early Bird and Early Bird Plus programmes to parents of children with Autism. The Parent Factor is also available to parents of children with a diagnosis of ADHD. Barnardo's and Sunderland Carers' Centre jointly deliver the Extended Family Pathfinder Project. DISC and the Youth Offending Service deliver the Anti-Social Behaviour Family Intervention Project and the Youth Crime Action Plan Family Intervention Project
- The Parenting workforce has grown in recent months with free training for practitioners being rolled out across the city. Parenting practitioners can also access a new resource library, based at Wearmouth Community Development Trust and receive 1-1 or group support and training from the Family and Parenting Team
- Developments in the pipeline include the delivery of Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities to the traveller communities in Hetton and Houghton; Mellow Parenting being available to young parents who were brought up in the care system and engagement work with Black and Minority Ethnic parents.

## 5.3 Safeguarding

### 5.3.1 Progress in 2008-09

- Independent chair was appointed and is now in post
- SSCB underwent a review and from this a dedicated business unit was established to support the work of the SSCB. This unit consists of:
  - Business Manager
  - Development and Training Officer and
  - Business Support Officer
- As part of the SSCB review four new sub groups were established with chairs from partner agencies
- Worked with Children's Services to appoint a Local Authority Designated Officer
- 3 development days were undertaken with IDEA, which helped develop a 3 year business plan

- From the IDEA work the board have began developing a Risk Register and Risk Management Plan
- The development days also produced visions and values for the SSCB
- A 3 year E-Learning package has been purchased and implemented from the virtual college
- The SSCB have worked to strengthen relationship with the following key partnerships in Sunderland:
  - Children's Trust: the independent Chair attends the Children's Trust to report on the work of the Board and members of the Board report on Children's Trust safeguarding activities to the Board
  - Safer Sunderland Partnership: SSP are represented on the Board
  - Sunderland Safer Adults partnership: Safeguarding Adult coordinator is a member of and is the deputy chair of Legal and Procedures sub group, the Head of Housing, Health and Adult services is a member of SSCB and the SSCB Business Manager attends Adult Services Safeguarding Children Champions meeting
- Following the death of Baby P, a group was established to consider the findings of the Haringey Joint Area Review and the Laming report (2009) to ensure that the lessons from the Baby P case are learned.

### **5.3.2 Plans for 2009-10**

- Development of a training pool
- An official launch of the E-learning package
- Finalise Risk Management plan
- Establish a dedicated website
- Ensure Government guidance is reflected in policy, procedure and guidance
- Governance arrangements: Working Together 2006 is to be reviewed in light of Lord Laming's recommendations, with a new version expected in December 2009. This will provide increased clarity about the relationship between LSCB's and Children's Trusts.

## **5.4 Children and young people's participation**

### **5.4.1 Progress in 2008-09**

- A Strategic Implementation Group was establish during 2008/9, whose responsibility is to develop and implement a Participation Strategy

- Judith Hay, who is Head of Service for Making a Positive Contribution and Achieving Economic Wellbeing in Children's Services, was established as the strategic lead for participation
- The Youth Development Group carried out five area based needs assessment events with young people covering each area of the city
- The third annual Young People's State of the City Debate took place at the Civic Centre in October 2008
- 16 new youth-led projects were funded from the Youth Opportunity Fund and Youth Capital Fund
- Young people were actively involved in the development of the letsocard as part of the Empowering Young People pilot
- The first Citizenship Week took place in Sunderland during October 2008 involving over 400 nursery and primary school children on the theme of Sunderland being a child and young people friendly city. Citizenship Week will become an annual event and will be expanded to include more children and young people across the city.

#### **5.4.2 Plans for 2009/10**

- To commission a group / service to work with children and young people to develop a child and young person friendly version of the strategy
- To ensure that all services have systems in place to feedback to children and young people on how key messages have impacted upon planning, commissioning and service delivery
- To develop guidelines for services on the recording of equality data to monitor inclusiveness of participatory practice
- To adapt the Council's consultation resources to create a guide on the safe and effective engagement of children and young people
- To establish processes, procedures and protocols for all commissioned services around involving children and young people in, Recruitment Commissioning, Complaints and feedback

### **5.5 Equality and diversity**

#### **5.5.1 Progress in 2008-09**

- In June 2008 Foreign Secretary David Miliband joined Sunderland AFC Foundation trustee Niall Quinn to launch the Football First anti-racism campaign. The Football First project aims to challenge anti-social and racist behaviour in Sunderland. The scheme provides positive activities involving teamwork and looking at differences and diversity within communities. The scheme works at three levels: with primary children in prevention, with teenagers in diversion and

with families in changing culture. In the last year Football First has worked with a total number of 1382 young people

- Children's Services routinely collects and monitors data relating to the six strands of equality, to inform and improve service development
- All Teams across Children's Services completes Impact Needs Requirement Assessments (INRAs) and an INRA Register is maintained to ensure that they remain up to date. Actions identified through the INRA process are fed into, actioned and reported on through the service planning process
- A new Equality Framework for Local Government is now in place, which supersedes the former Equality Standard. The new framework is designed to be simpler, smarter and more relevant. It is based on three levels of achievement: 'developing', 'achieving' and 'excellent'. The Council is working to this framework and aims to achieve 'Excellent' status by March 2011.

## **5.6 Human resources and workforce development**

### **5.6.1 Progress in 2008-09**

- In December 2008, the Government published the 2020 Children and Young People's Workforce Strategy, with a vision "everyone who works with children and young people should be: ambitious for every child and young person; excellent in their practice; committed to partnership and integrated working; respected and valued as professionals." A workforce strategy group was set up, tasked with preparing a strategy for Sunderland. A number of further publications have directed and driven forward the workforce development agenda and the workforce strategy group has used these to build and shape the development of the local strategy
- All Children's Services staff were invited to participate in a skills and qualification audit through an online 2Develop questionnaire, the results of which were used to help form the city's needs assessment
- Representatives of a range of managers and frontline staff from Children's Trust partners; representatives of the Voluntary and Community Sector; and some children and young people attended focus groups and completed questionnaires via the CWDC One Children's Workforce Framework Tool
- A summary report was submitted to CWDC identifying how the 'Tool' will be used to monitor progress towards the establishment of a 'One Children's Workforce'
- Some preliminary work was conducted to audit the training and professional development activities undertaken across Children's Services that will continue into 2009/10 to establish how well needs are being met
- The Draft 'Children's Trust Workforce Innovation and Reform Strategy – Foundations for Development' was produced and consulted on (during 2009/10).

## 5.6.2 Plans for 2009/10

- Establish a strategy for workforce innovation and reform for children's services and partners
- Prepare a coordinated training and development plan
- Undertake a needs assessment and analysis based on robust data collection systems.

## 5.7 Joint commissioning

### 5.7.1 Progress in 2008-09

The Joint Commissioning Board manages the development of joint commissioning. The Board has:

- Begun discussions and set out plans to develop a Commissioning Unit/Team, which will be responsible for supporting aligned partnerships through the commissioning process
- Taken responsibility for the Prevention Strategy
- Been engaged in various regional developmental work, including Outcomes Based Accountability (a tool that enables groups of individuals to consider an issue with a focus on outcomes), taking a whole family approach (where services aim to support the holistic needs of a family rather than their service user only, in order to improve outcomes for their service user)
- Continued to deliver the workforce development programme with a number of training sessions delivered to multi-agency staff and ensures the relevant pages on the Children's Trust website are up to date.

## 5.8 Locality based working

This will be a new cross cutting priority for the CYPP 2009/10. It relates to providing services in local communities that meet the needs of local communities.

### 5.8.1 Plans for 2009/10

Developing a strategy that aims to:

- Increase the range of services which are locally accessible and delivered through a multi-agency approach
- Have effective procedures for partnership working and information sharing between universal, targeted and specialist services
- Ensure local service delivery is consistent with needs analysis and informs the commissioning process.

## 6 PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

The Children's Trust is taking a long term view to planning in the future.

During 2009, the Children's Trust will focus on:

- Preparing a CYPP 2009/10
- Developing a 15 year commissioning strategy, the CYPP 2010-25

### 6.1 CYPP 2009-10

The CYPP 2009/10 is a transformational plan providing continuity for the priorities and actions in the CYPP 2007/9 as well as setting out the planning process for establishing a 15 year strategy for the Children's Trust.

The 2009/10 plan:

- reiterates the ethos and principles of Sunderland Children's Trust and the context in which the Children's Trust operates
- provides an overview of our review into the CYPP 2007-09
- identifies the priority outcome areas within the ten priorities of the Children's Trust
- sets out the process for developing the 15 year commissioning strategy.

### 6.2 CYPP 2010-25

The CYPP 2010-25 will be a 15 year commissioning strategy that will set out priorities for children and young people in Sunderland. Every three years a delivery plan will be prepared focusing on the key priorities for that time period.

The CYPP 2010-25 will be developed using the commissioning process set out in the Commissioner's Handbook and the on the website [www.sunderlandchildrenstrust.org.uk/planning.asp](http://www.sunderlandchildrenstrust.org.uk/planning.asp).

In 2010, the 15 year commissioning strategy will be published, as will the first of the three-year delivery plans.