

## Background

1.1 In 2014 partner organisations of the East Sussex Children and Young People's Trust were consulted on whether to replace the [2011-2014 Children and Young People's Plan](#) with a new Plan. Feedback determined that although partners were keen to develop a new Plan, there was a strong consensus that it would need to be a realistic document that is focussed on what can be achieved in partnership and that brings together a range of existing policies and services to reduce duplication.

1.3 The new Plan highlights the financial context and sets out key principles which partners will apply in taking decisions about services, such as protecting the most vulnerable and avoiding duplication/looking for efficiencies through joint working. The new Children and Young People's Plan will cover the period 2015 – 2018.

## Priorities 2015-18

2.1 The selection of priorities reflects consultation with stakeholders during summer and autumn 2014, overseen by the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group (CYPTEG). The consultation activity was designed to ensure that all stakeholder views were taken into account fairly. Additional consultation took place via the Youth Cabinet and locality based and service specific youth forums as well as two online surveys for residents.

2.2 The priorities in the new Plan are linked to the areas for strategic activity in the [national Child Poverty Strategy](#): supporting families into work and increasing their earnings; supporting families' living standards; and preventing poor children from becoming poor adults. The Children and Young People's Plan 2015-18 therefore also constitutes the statutory Child Poverty Strategy for East Sussex. Much of the work of CYPT partners is designed to help families address problems to support them in moving out of poverty. This Children and Young People's Plan therefore also constitutes the statutory Child Poverty Strategy for East Sussex.

2.3 The priorities for the 2015-18 Children and Young People's Plan are:

- **Improving the school readiness of young children, particularly early communication, language development and numeracy**
- **Helping more parents to enter, sustain and progress in work**
- **Improving the quality of life of low income families in other ways where possible**
- **Maintain and strengthen early help for vulnerable families**
- **Improve skill levels of young people 14-19, including through better access to a wider range of apprenticeships, vocational training and work experience opportunities as well as a strong academic route**
- **Improve support to children, young people and families to help maintain and enhance emotional well-being and mental health**

## Next steps

4.1 The Plan does not aim to map all outcomes and activity, but instead identifies a small number of issues on which the Children and Young People's Trust partnership will focus over the next three years. Our aim is that over this period we will regularly review what we can realistically aim to achieve the priority issues, and our progress, so that we can be sure that we continue to make the best possible use of our collective resources. The six priority areas will be addressed in the monitoring of outcomes achieved for children and young people at meetings of CYPTEG; two priorities at each meeting of the three that are held annually. It is important to note that there are three additional areas of service provision that all partners agreed will benefit from a shared approach to improving outcomes. Monitoring reports on the new Plan will include data and information in relation to these areas:

- Physical health and wellbeing
- Child sexual exploitation
- Educational attainment

4.3 The final version of the Plan will be approved for publication by the Lead Member for Children and Young People in consultation with the Director of Children's Services and the CYPTEG. Once approved, the document will be circulated to all members of the Children and Young People's Trust and will be available online in the CYPT section of Czone.

4.2 Any queries or comments can be sent to [Cypt.Enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Cypt.Enquiries@eastsussex.gov.uk)