

**CABINET
5 NOVEMBER 2024**

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN 2024 – 2027

**Responsible Cabinet Member -
Councillor Nick Wallis, Children and Young People Portfolio**

**Responsible Director -
James Stroyan, Executive Director of People**

SUMMARY REPORT

Purpose of the Report

1. This report provides an update to Cabinet on the development and planned implementation of the Children and Young People's Plan 2024 - 2027.

Summary

2. The Children Act (2004) introduced powers for the Secretary of State to require local authorities to produce plans to show how partner agencies with a duty to co-operate under the act were discharging their duties in respect of children's services.
3. Although there is no longer a requirement to produce a Children and Young People's Plan, it is considered good practice to still produce a strategic document across partners (there is still a statutory duty on partner agencies to co-operate to support and safeguard children). The draft plan supports the vision and seeks to contribute to the ambitions of the Council Plan, the overarching strategic plan for Darlington until 2027.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that :-
 - (a) Cabinet consider the content of the CYPP 2024 - 2027
 - (b) Cabinet agree the recommended next steps for the CYPP 2024 – 2027

Reason

5. To enable the CYPP 2024 – 2027 to be implemented.

**James Stroyan,
Executive Director of People**

Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

Christine Shields: Extension 5851

Council Plan	This report contributes to the priorities agreed in the Council Plan
Addressing inequalities	There are no implications arising from this report
Tackling Climate Change	There are no implications arising from this report
Efficient and effective use of resources	This report supports the efficient use of resources through shared partnership priorities
Health and Wellbeing	This plan supports the strategy to improve the health and well-being of children and young people
S17 Crime and Disorder	There are no implications arising from this report
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	All Children and Young People
Budget and Policy Framework	There are no implications arising from this report
Key Decision	This is not a key decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an urgent decision
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	This plan supports all children including Looked After Children or Care Leavers

MAIN REPORT

Information and Analysis

6. The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is one of the identified delivery plans within the Council Plan and identifies what key actions will be taken to deliver the agreed priority for children – the best start in life, realising potential and raising aspirations.
7. The CYPP is a partnership plan which shows how organisations and agencies in Darlington will work together collectively to improve outcomes for all children and young people in Darlington. A multiagency Steering Group has been in operation since 2017 and will continue to be responsible for implementing the CYPP over the next three years. Membership of the group includes:
 - (a) Darlington Borough Council
 - (b) NHS partners from the Integrated Care Board, primary care (GPs) and hospital trusts (County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust and Tees Esk and Wear NHS Foundation Trust)
 - (c) Local schools and colleges
 - (d) Police
 - (e) Fire Brigade
 - (f) Parent Carer Forum
 - (g) Darlington Hippodrome
 - (h) Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations including Healthwatch, YMCA, Family Action, Blue Cabin, Darlington Mind and Youth Focus North East.

Consultation

8. Extensive consultation and engagement activity has been undertaken with children, young people and key stakeholders in the development of the Children and Young People Plan, including sessions held across a number of schools within the Borough and with children attending sessions being delivered as part of the Holiday Activity Fund.
9. Feedback from children and young people identified that they would prefer to have the new plan to be in the format of a poster and video rather than a written document.

Outcome of Consultation

10. Analysis of data and engagement activity has identified five emerging priorities which will form the basis of the Children and Young People Plan for the next three years.

11. Emerging Priorities:

- (a) Health – Being as healthy as possible
- (b) Education – Schools and learning
- (c) Family and Carers – Life support and growing towards independence
- (d) Employment – Training and real opportunities
- (e) Community – Being part of Darlington’s activities, opportunities and environment

12. A poster and video have been produced by children and young people as part of the engagement activities undertaken to develop the CYPP. These can be found in the link below.

13. Five sub groups of the CYPP Steering Group have been established leading on each of the priorities. The groups are currently considering what key actions are needed which will make the most impact. These will be agreed by the end of October 2024.

14. The CYPP delivery actions will be launched in November 2024 with updates on progress being posted on the Council website (see link below) at six monthly intervals as well as through engagement and consultation activities being held throughout 2025.

www.darlington.gov.uk/cypp