

WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD 24th SEPTEMBER 2010

PROPOSALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN

1.0 Background

The Secretary of State has indicated that he proposes to revoke the regulations underpinning the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) in the Education Bill due to be published in the Autumn. This report outlines a proposal for the development of the new Wirral CYPP.

2.0 Introduction

Through current legislation Wirral Children's Trust Board has a duty to prepare and publish a jointly owned Children and Young People's Plan by April 2011. If government proposals are carried out the regulations will be revoked and there will be no requirement to produce a new CYPP in April 2011 unless the local area wishes to do so. In addition local partners can decide how the plan is put together and what it contains.

3.0 Proposals for the Development of a new CYPP

Through the Children's Trust Executive (CTE) planning for the production of a new CYPP for 2011 onwards is in progress. The CYPP is developed through a multi-agency approach involving all Strategy Groups in addition to consultation with children, young people and families. The CYPP is based on thorough needs analysis and is driven by the Sustainable Community Strategy and aligned with organisational plans including the Council Corporate Plan and the Local Safeguarding Children Board Plan.

In addition to the proposed legislative change a number of recent national and local initiatives have led to a review of the production of the CYPP by the CTE.

The October Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) will have a significant impact on the strategic planning of future services and the production of the new CYPP. The timing of the CSR and the subsequent analysis required will have implications for the production of a three year plan in April 2011.

In addition to the proposed 'austerity measures' through the CSR a number of government White Papers are planned in the autumn. These include the Schools White Paper in September and the Health White Paper in December. The content of these papers and subsequent guidance will have a large impact on the provision of services across the Children's Trust and implications for any strategic planning.

Wirral Council is currently undertaking a large scale public consultation exercise to inform Council strategic planning. The timing of the consultation and subsequent analysis will impact on the ability to include this information in a three year CYPP to be published in April 2011.

The CTE is in agreement concerning the importance of a multi-agency strategic plan and the benefits this can produce for service users and all agencies involved.

As a result of the factors described above particularly the uncertain position of both public sector finance and organisational structures prior to the publication of government White Papers the Children's Trust Executive suggests an interim one year CYPP is produced for 2011-12. This would allow partner organisations to fully analyse the implications of proposed changes before the production of any longer term plan. This proposal seeks to ensure that any plans produced are robust, relevant and achievable, and that the good practice developed by Wirral Children's Trust in delivering improved outcomes through effective strategic planning is maintained.

4.0 Recommendations:

- 4.1 That if the regulations are amended and there is no requirement to publish a three year CYPP in April 2011 Wirral Children's Trust Board approves the production of a refreshed one year plan for 2011-12.
- 4.2 That Wirral Children's Trust Board recommends a review of the development of a future CYPP by the CTE in 2011.

Report Author:
Nancy Clarkson
Head of Planning and Performance

Contact:
Phone: 6664329
Email: nancyclarkson@wirral.gov.uk