

Committees: Community and Children’s Services Committee – For Decision Education Board – For Information Culture, Heritage, and Libraries – For Information	Dated: 03/11/2022 02/12/2022 14/11/2022
Subject: Children and Young People’s Plan 2022–25	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3,4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director – Community and Children’s Services	For Decision – CCS For Information – CHL & EB
Report author: Scott Myers, Strategy & Projects Officer, Department of Community and Children’s Services	

Summary

The Children and Young People’s Plan 2022–25 (CYPP) sets the strategic priorities for the City Corporation to ensure that children and young people who live or study in the Square Mile, or access our services, live the best life that they can.

This paper sets out the final version of the plan for Members’ approval. This final version was developed in response to feedback from a 12-week public consultation.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Approve the Children and Young People’s Plan 2022–25

Main Report

Background

1. CYPP’s were introduced by the Children Act 2004 which asked local authorities to write a single, strategic, overarching plan for all services provided for children and young people. Statutory regulations were revoked in October 2012, and local authorities are no longer required to prepare a plan. However, it is still seen as best practice to develop a plan that focuses on several shared strategic priorities that drive the continued improvement in outcomes for children and young people.
2. The draft CYPP for 2022–25 put forward to public consultation five key outcomes, each with four areas of focus. These outcomes were as follows:

- a. Children and young people are and feel safe
 - b. Children and young people are happy, healthy and enjoy good mental health and wellbeing
 - c. Children and young people have the resources to develop independence and empowerment over their services
 - d. Children and young people have the tools to fulfil their potential and are prepared for success in adulthood
 - e. Children and young people grow up with a sense of belonging.
3. The plan was updated following consultation, and a copy of the final plan for approval can be found in Appendix 1. Details of the changes can be found in the section below.
 4. The development of a dedicated action plan will be undertaken after the approval of this Plan. Actions will be developed by using the feedback from the public consultation, other engagement work recently completed, as well as further discussions with our key partners.
 5. The action plan will show how we are going to tackle the identified outcomes and focus areas and will be measured by stating what success would look like in delivering each action.
 6. The CYPP and future action plan will be overseen and monitored by the City of London's Children's Partnership Board.
 7. Details of the public consultation, as well as a summary of the initial engagement activity during the start of the development of the strategy has been set out in Appendix 3.
 8. The design of this Plan represents a change to previously developed strategies within the Department of Community and Children's Services. The design of this Plan aims to be more relevant and engaging to children and young people by being more concise, visually appealing through use of graphics and being outcome focused.

Current Position

Response to consultation feedback

9. As a result of the consultation feedback received, through either response to the consultation, responses to other related surveys, and verbal feedback from residents, elected Members of the City Corporation and City Corporation staff, the following changes to the proposed Plan have been made. Other than these changes, the rest of the proposed Plan remains the same.

Outcomes and focus areas

10. Feedback received tended to highlight some confusion regarding one of the five outcomes listed as part of the Plan – ‘Children and young people have the resources to develop independence and empowerment over their services’.
11. Some feedback received noted confusion regarding the wording of this outcome, and what it is attempting to achieve.
12. Therefore, because of this feedback, this outcome has been removed and the priorities related to it will be merged with the four outstanding outcomes.
13. Consultation feedback also raised internet safety and protection from online harms as being a priority for children and young people. To address this, an online harm focus area has been added to Outcome 1.

Data

14. All data shown within the Plan has also been updated to the latest figures as of August 2022.

Action Plan

15. Consultation feedback strongly noted the need for meaningful actions to achieve the proposed outcomes and focus areas, with clear identification of which agency is responsible, how and when this will be delivered, and what success will look like.
16. An action plan will be developed to sit alongside this Plan after approval by Members. This is to ensure that both consultation feedback, other recently undertaken engagement work with the City’s young people, and further conversations with key partners result in actions that are evidence-based, using feedback from children, young people and families, as well as other residents and service professionals.

Design

17. The design of the Children and Young People’s Plan has been developed with accessibility at the forefront, and therefore it meets the required accessibility standards.
18. In response to feedback received relating to the design and layout of the Plan as part of the consultation, accessibility has been rechecked to ensure that standards have been met.
19. To improve accessibility further, an easy-read version of the Plan will be developed based on feedback received.

UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Initiative

20. During the consultation phase of the Plan, some City Corporation Members raised the prospect of the City Corporation working towards becoming a UNICEF Child Friendly City.
21. The UNICEF Child Friendly Cities Initiative is a wide-ranging programme that requires a significant multi-year commitment.
22. Many of the requirements to become a recognised Child Friendly City align with the outcomes and focus areas of the Children and Young People's Plan, and therefore signing up to the initiative could be seen as repeating work already underway.
23. It is therefore proposed to use the Children and Young People's Plan and future action plan to match some the requirements, rather than pursuing the initiative formally, to drive progress much more quickly than through signing up to the initiative.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

Strategic implications

24. This Plan's outcomes are designed to contribute to the delivery of the Corporate Plan 2018–2023 by aligning to these four outcomes:

Outcome 1: People are safe and feel safe

Outcome 2: People enjoy good health and wellbeing

Outcome 3: People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential

Outcome 4: Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.

25. The Plan also sits below the Department of Community and Children's Services business plan by contributing to its delivery by mirroring its priorities and applying them to the needs of our children and young people.
26. The Plan also supports, and is supported by, several other strategies and documents, such as:
 - Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
 - Barbican and Community Libraries Strategy
 - City & Hackney Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy
 - City of London Safer City Partnership Strategic Plan
 - City & Hackney Joint Mental Health Strategy
 - City of London Early Help Strategy
 - City of London Early Years Strategy
 - City of London SEND Strategy

Financial implications

27. None identified

Resource implications

28. None identified

Legal implications

29. None identified

Risk implications

30. None identified

Equalities implications

31. Developing a dedicated Children and Young People's Plan with a strong action plan will work towards tackling inequality across the Square Mile. A dedicated Equality Impact Assessment has been developed to demonstrate this, as inequality disproportionately impacts on those with protected characteristics. A copy of the Equality Impact Assessment can be found in Appendix 2

Climate implications

32. None identified

Security implications

33. None identified

Conclusion

34. The proposed Children and Young People's Plan 2022–25 is the overarching strategic document that guides services and activity related to children, young people and their families in the City of London. The outcomes and focus areas it sets out will guide our work and vision for children and young people over the years set out in the Plan. This Plan is a partnership document that allows us to deliver our services and activities in synergy with our key partners to improve the lives of children and young people in the City of London.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Children and Young People's Plan 2022–25
- Appendix 2 – Children and Young People's Plan 2022–25 Equality Impact Assessment
- Appendix 3 – Children and Young People's Plan 2022–25 Consultation Responses

Scott Myers

Strategy & Projects Officer
Department of Community and Children's Services

T: 020 7332 3653

E: scott.myers@cityoflondon.gov.uk