



# Children and Young People's Plan 2013 – 2015



CEB  
Children's Executive Board



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# Summary

The 2013 – 2015 plan outlines our vision, ambitions and key priority outcomes for children and young people in the City of London. The City of London's Children's Executive Board has agreed this plan as the strategy for Children and Young People in the City for 2013 -2015.

Its purpose is to set out the priorities across all partners responsible for providing services to children and young people, our objectives for the next three years and how we will deliver them.

It is the key driver for helping us to strengthen our early intervention, prevention and integrated working approach to ensure that our specialist services are targeted at the most vulnerable members of our community.

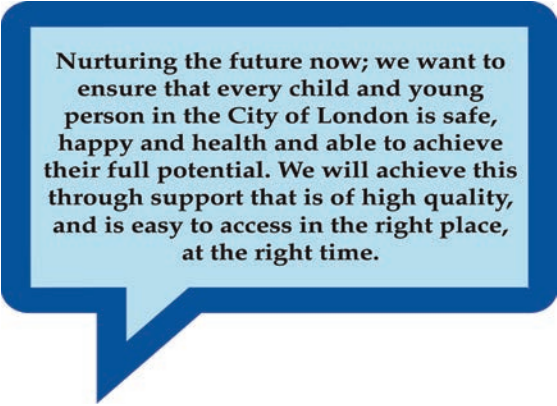
In the City of London we are committed to a long-term shift in our mainstream resources towards greater prevention and early intervention. We have invested in services that are open to all children and families to prevent children and young people's needs from escalating into difficulties.

Prevention and Early Intervention was our first strategic priority on the City of London's Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2012 and we believe that our investment in prevention results in very low levels of referrals to specialist services. It is our aim to sustain investment in preventative services and continue to develop more joint working around these.

The reduction in demand for specialist services means that we are preventing children growing up to experience behavioural

problems, mental illness, substance misuse, teenage parenthood low educational attainment, crime and anti-social behaviour. We are improving our ability to identify children and families with high risk factors and low protective factors. For these children and families, we will intervene to support children at a much earlier stage, which will prevent them from requiring more specialist services at a later stage in their life.

This plan establishes the Executive's agreed priorities for 2013 - 2015 within the framework of the strategic objectives set out in the Health and Wellbeing Board and the one year action plan also sets out the agreed priorities for 2012 - 2013.



**Nurturing the future now; we want to ensure that every child and young person in the City of London is safe, happy and healthy and able to achieve their full potential. We will achieve this through support that is of high quality, and is easy to access in the right place, at the right time.**

## **Our vision statement**

# Partnership Priorities

The Children's Partnership day held on the 11 January 2012 brought together over 70 representatives from partner agencies to reflect on the last three years and plan for the future. As a result seven key strategic priorities were identified.



## The seven key strategic priorities are:

1. **Stronger Safeguarding** - Focuses on ensuring that there are high standards of safeguarding across all agencies and there is a seamless service for children and families in the City of London.
2. **'Early Help' offer** - We are committed to a long term shift in our mainstream resources towards greater prevention and a cohesive offer of services to ensure that families' needs are identified at an early stage so that they receive the right service at the right time to further reduce the demand for specialist services.
3. **Children's Workforce Development** – The children and young people in the City have a suitably skilled and trained children's workforce.
4. **Healthy Living**- With a key focus on young people adopting a healthy lifestyle and knowing what resources are available in the City of London.
5. **Achievement & Learning**- That we can continue to close the gap in attainment and skills between disadvantaged groups and their peers.
6. **Partnerships** - There is effective joint working sustained by a shared language and shared process e.g. Common Assessment Framework.
7. **User Engagement** - we will specifically focus on consulting, involving and engaging everyone across the City of London in developing, improving and evaluating the services we offer to ensure that we are collectively 'making a difference'.

# The Strategic Priorities

For each of the seven strategic priorities, we have set out what we expect to have changed by the end of the plan period (2015).

## Stay Safe

### Strategic Priorities 1 and 2 – Stronger Safeguarding and Early Help

The City of London had its Safeguarding and Looked After Children Ofsted Inspection in March 2012. The safeguarding aspect of the Inspection evaluated the contribution made by relevant services in the local area towards ensuring that children and young people are safeguarded.





Safeguarding services in the City of London were judged as Good across all evaluated areas, meaning the service exceeds the minimum requirements. Prevention and Early Intervention was identified as being outstanding. This was due to the excellent preventative initiatives in the community.

The City of London will be striving to move towards delivering outstanding services to children and their families. Outstanding is defined by Ofsted as a service that 'significantly exceeds minimum requirements'. In addition, to driving improvement as part of the Inspection Action Plan, the following areas will also need to be in place in order to achieve this objective:

- An integrated early help model that is designed, implemented and reviewed by all partners with a single point of entry for services for children young people and families offering a seamless service.
- A robust performance and quality assurance framework that looks at statistical and performance information as well the quality of intervention with families in line with recommendations from Professor Eileen Munro.
- Implementation of the workforce development strategy and aligning this with the recommendations from the Social Work Reform Board.

## Strategic Priority 3 – Workforce Development

The Workforce Strategy that the City of London and its partners have developed has been set out using a framework to enable the integration of services. The framework has eight headings and was largely developed by the former Children's Workforce Development Council to support integration across organisations and professional groups working with children, young people and families.

### The framework headings are:

1. Shared identity and vision
2. Common values and language
3. Behaviours focused on positive outcomes for children and young people



4. Integrated work practices
5. High quality, appropriately trained workforce
6. Complementary roles focused around children and young people
7. Capacity to deliver and keep children safe
8. Outcome focus

**The strategy for the City of London is that by 2014 service will be:**

- Outcomes-driven, rather than either staff, provider or procurement led, sourcing practitioner expertise independently;
- Make intelligent, coherent and consistent use of different commissioning methods and provider sectors;
- Build a stronger internal capacity for commissioning public health and community wellbeing outcomes;
- Be sensitive to the diverse needs of the different City communities including its neighbourhoods, homeless and workers;
- Align effectively with the parallel arrangements of NHS and police commissioning through a Health and Wellbeing Board.

# Be Healthy

## Strategic Priority 4 – Healthy Living

The City of London is unique. Alongside its primary business function the City has many other roles including being a home to around 7,000 residents. The key priority for the City of London for 2013 - 2015 is to focus on ensuring poverty does not have a negative impact on children and young people's outcomes.



The Index of Multiple Deprivation is a composite measure that attempts to combine a number of elements that contribute to deprivation. It aims to reflect the overall experience of individuals living in a small geographical area.

### **Aspects of deprivation that are included in the measure are:**

- Income
- Employment
- Health and disability
- Education
- Skills and training
- Housing
- Crime
- Living environment

In 2010, the City of London was ranked 262 (out of 353) boroughs. However, there is considerable variation between its wards. The rate of child poverty in the Portsoken Ward is 41%, compared to 15% in Cripplegate and 8% in Farringdon Without.

### **The strategic objectives within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2012 – 2015 are to:**

- Reduced health inequalities and child poverty in Portsoken ward. The City of London will assume responsibility for leading on public health by April 2013.
- Improve the take up of immunisation.
- Improved access to primary healthcare for city workers.
- More residents taking up sport and exercise facilities.
- Supporting and empowering our communities and enabling people to make a positive contribution.

# Enjoy and Achieve and Achieve Economic Wellbeing

## Strategic Priority 5 - Achievement and Learning

The City of London is committed to creating an environment where the impact of parental disadvantage including poverty is addressed, by ensuring that schools and services can identify and support children who are vulnerable or disadvantaged. Through offering appropriate early support individual planning and targeted interventions, children are supported to achieve improved attainment closing the gap with their peers.

The strategic objective for 2013 to 2015 is to raise the education standard to national levels and beyond for all children – by providing appropriate support to schools, parents and pupils;

### We will do this by:

- Intervening early to identify underperformance to ensure accelerated progress through appropriate tailored support for children and young people.
- Ensuring there is a focus on self-evaluation to ensure swift robust action to improve the performance of schools.
- Promoting excellent leadership at every level of the education system.
- Embedding support for parents and encouraging parental engagement in learning.
- Securing higher numbers of young people seeking to go onto higher education and being successful in doing so.



- Supporting the young people in making the right choices as to whether to pursue an academic or vocational route, such as the Apprenticeship Programme or the Pre-apprenticeship Course.
- Being ambitious and championing the achievements of Looked After Children to ensure that they have the same opportunities as their peers.



# Make a Positive Contribution

## Strategic Priorities 6 and 7 – Partnerships and User Engagement

All children and young people should be given the opportunity to participate in the consultation and decision making process. Whilst participation and consultation should be encouraged, it should be acknowledged that not all children and young people will want to be involved; they should however, be given the opportunity. The aim of the City of London's strategy is to bring a coordinated approach to the participation of children and young people.

### It should bring about:

- A consistent standard of participation and involvement across local agencies.
- A culture change, improving participation levels.
- A culture of sharing best practice and learning from each other's experiences.
- An environment where joined-up working is considered the norm.
- The development of an improvement in the opportunities for children and young people to be actively involved in decision making for and about them.



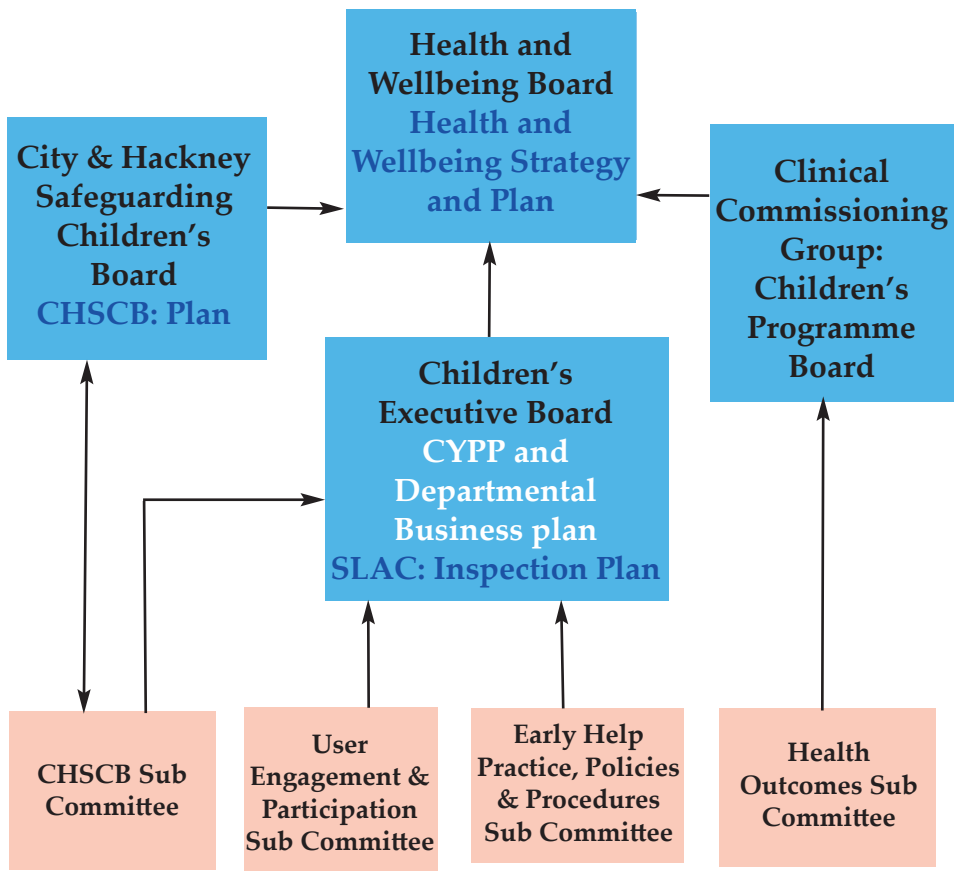
## **The following objectives should support achievement of the aims;**

- To actively promote children and young people's participation and involvement across public, community and voluntary sector organisations in the City of London.
- To ensure the participation is meaningful, valued and not tokenistic.
- To support and develop the knowledge and skills in organisations.
- To support the development of children and young people to give them the skills and capacity to participate.
- To support the development of participative practices in all children and young people's services across the City.
- To support agencies who do not work directly with children to understand how their decisions still affect children and young people.

# Governance

The new governance structure surrounding the Children and Young People's Plan includes the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

**Figure 1: Showing the governance surrounding The Children and Young People's Plan**



## Appendix : List of acronymns

<b>CAF</b>	Common Assessment Framework referrals
<b>CHSCB</b>	City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Board (when referenced within the 'links' section of the one year action plan, it refers to the identified priorities of the Board)
<b>CYPP</b>	Children and Young People's Plan
<b>DCCS</b>	Department of Community and Children's Services (when referenced within the 'links' section of the one year action plan, it refers to the 2012/13 Community and Children's Services business plan)
<b>HWB</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board (when referenced within the 'links' section of the one year action plan, it refers to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy)
<b>School Development Plan</b>	The plan of Sir John Cass School
<b>SLAC inspection Plan</b>	City Of London Corporation's response to the Ofsted Safeguarding and Looked After Children Inspection Action Plan

If you would like this information in another language or another format such as Braille, Large Print or Audio Tape etc please contact the Family and Young People's Information Service on 020 7332 1002, or email us at [FYI@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:FYI@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

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