

CESC – Progress Against SIPs, 2006-07: High Level Summary

SERVICE GROUPING: Children, Education & Social Care
CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SIP
Theme: Be Healthy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A range of initiatives is in place through the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy, overseen by the TP Partnership and supported by a TP Co-ordinator appointed on a permanent basis. The robustness of the strategy has enabled the national ‘traffic light’ rating for the area to move from red to red-amber. ▪ The Substance Misuse Commissioning Plan is being reviewed to enable more effective monitoring of activity. Training for front-line workers continues. The Drug Education Team (DET) is supporting schools across the Borough and is on target for 80% of schools to achieve the DET Award by summer 2007. ▪ A Hidden Harm Partnership has been developed, involving statutory agencies, voluntary sector, parents and carers to raise the profile of drug/alcohol misuse by parents/carers, identify service gaps, and review existing policy/procedures/guidance. ▪ The Obesity action plan is in place, following completion of the obesity baseline exercise (with high response rate), and an obesity referral pathway is now in place. ▪ School meals and healthy eating strategy is in place leading to improvements in healthy foods in schools and other settings. ▪ 55% of schools have achieved the national healthy schools standard and we are on target for all schools by December 2009. ▪ Children’s Centre programme is on track, supporting work to address health inequalities. ▪ A robust health assessment process for looked after children is in place, with services being delivered within the local authority’s children’s homes and with foster carers, in order to address the needs of some of the more hard to reach children and young people. <p>Key Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teenage conception rates remain a high priority for attention. Work has progressed in developing local indicators, enabling better local understanding of the problems and better targeting of services. ▪ Addressing health inequalities remains an area for further development, including improvements in nutrition and healthy lifestyles; and targeting of alcohol misuse within wider substance misuse strategy.
Theme: Stay Safe
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Placement choice and stability for children looked after has been improved further through foster care developments, completion of the review of residential provision and use of external specialist provision, where a clear need has been identified. ▪ There have been positive CSCI inspection reports on internal fostering services and children’s homes. The Feb 07 Fostering Inspection gave an overall judgement of ‘excellent’. ▪ Private fostering guidance and procedures have been updated. A campaign has taken place to raise the awareness of the need to register with the local authority if engaged in private fostering. A registration incentive has been offered to encourage more to come forward. ▪ The Lead Consultant for the DfES Placement Stability Programme (08 January 2007) gave very positive feedback on arrangements for assuring placement stability for looked after children. ▪ Stockton has continued to play a lead role in the development of the North East Regional Commissioning Unit (NERCU). In the past 12 months, the unit has attracted funding from both the North East Centre of Excellence (NECE) and DfES to implement key projects including improved matching of services to meet specific children’s needs.

- The LSCB is firmly established, supported by a Safeguarding Manager. The board has an action plan in place and task groups set up including the Child Safety Prevention Sub-Group.
- Under the LSCB, interagency policies and procedures are in place and regularly reviewed. A comprehensive programme of safeguarding development has been delivered.

Key issues:

- Focus on early intervention and preventative services remains an area for further development; this will be facilitated through the roll out of integrated services across the borough.
- Further development of fostering resources, including use of independent fostering services.
- Ensure safe working practices across all agencies involved with children and young people through development of clear CRB policies and practices.

Theme: Enjoy & Achieve

- Pupil attainment – 2006 results sustained the progress of recent years. Improvement generally in line with, or above, national trend.
- Effective use of data to track individual pupil progress and subsequently challenge and support schools, has resulted in vulnerable groups of pupils making good progress against their peers.
- Good procedures, developed in partnership between schools and support agencies, ensure effective preventative measures are taken to support good behaviour and attendance.
- A highly effective portage team within the Early Support Service provides a much valued service to families of very young children with complex/multiple special needs.
- Specific training programmes and good outreach support promotes the inclusion of children with complex needs in mainstream settings, and all private providers offering nursery education have trained Early Years SENCOs and access to support by the Area SENCO and SENCO network.
- Extended Schools have developed a borough wide directory both Web and paper based to support access to the core offer for parents and carers.
- School Ofsted reports reflect good practice in terms of inclusion; and leadership, management and governance.
- A range of curriculum based distance learning packs have been developed by the Traveller Education Consortium, in partnership with schools.
- A multi-disciplinary, cross Council working group is engaged in developing a borough wide 5 year Play Strategy.
- Good collaboration between Extended Schools and Sports Development Service has delivered Holiday Sport programmes in all 5 extended school clusters across the borough and the programme runs all year round.
- A full-time BSF Project Director has been appointed and the Project Team is in place. With the support of external advisers and the involvement of headteachers, college principals and the local LSC, an initial BSF strategy has been prepared for wider stakeholder consultation

Key issues:

- Continue to embed strategies to improve value added at Key Stage 3.
- Reduce the number of schools below the floor target at KS2, KS3 and KS4.
- Continue to raise the educational achievement of LAC across phase.
- Implement the recommendations of the Complex Needs Review.
- Further develop parental involvement across phase.

Theme: Make A Positive Contribution

- The Participation, Involvement and Consultation (PIC) Network provides a focus for engagement with children and young people, champions the participation agenda and oversees the progress of the PIC Strategy Action Plan.
- The YOS is an effective service, one of only a small number nationally graded at the

<p>highest level 5 for overall performance in 06-07. Multi-agency initiatives through the YOS Preventions team are having a positive effect and are targeted at particular areas or groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Youth Service targets groups and ‘hot spots’ often working in partnership with other agencies, e.g. YOS and Connexions or with voluntary sector schemes. Many of these are targeted in NR areas. <p>Key Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of a Parenting Strategy is being given high priority in order to provide a more coherent framework for further improvement to parenting support arrangements. ▪ The PIC strategy is to be developed further so that participation arrangements cover all user groups, and are embedded in service planning and review. ▪ High priority is attached to continue developing targeted programmes to engage young people in positive activities and prevent anti-social behaviour. ▪ Reducing offending / re-offending (including by LAC) is an area for attention. Actions to address this issue include the Prevention Strategy (element of the Youth Justice Plan) and targeted support for LAC commissioned through the Corner House.
<p>Theme: Achieve Economic Well Being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data on reducing NEETs shows further improvement, exceeding performance of comparator groups in most cases. ▪ Vulnerable groups under-represented in education have been targeted effectively and supported by an identified Connexions PA and other support strategies. ▪ Participation rates in learning post 16 have been rising steadily in Stockton. ▪ The proportion of care leavers living in suitable accommodation is high and above comparator groups. ▪ A Supported Lodgings scheme has been developed. ▪ A Multi Agency Youth Homelessness Strategy is under development in consultation with young people and key agencies. The authority has been selected as a Centre of Excellence for the North East Region for this work. <p>Key Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the proportion of young offenders moving into ETE. ▪ Improve services for homeless young people through implementation of the Young People Homelessness Strategy. ▪ Continue to develop a wide curriculum offer across the 14-19 phase ensuring an inclusive range of vocational courses. ▪ Further develop careers education and enterprise learning for Key Stage 3.
<p>Theme: Service Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good progress has been made in developing the Children’s Trust Board (CTB) to provide leadership and champion the development of services in the area. The CTB is now firmly established, with an agreed remit and constitution. Regular meetings have been held enabling a broad range of partners to share in strategic overview of services, consider progress and performance, and make decisions within an agreed delegation framework. ▪ The Integrated Services project, including Integrated Youth Support Services, is being driven forward through a phased programme, leading to establishment of integrated teams serving localities based on the existing Area Partnerships and jointly funded senior management posts between the LA and PCT. ▪ The CYPP has been reviewed and updated in conjunction with partners, following analysis of needs based on progress in improving outcomes for children and young people ▪ Good progress is being made in implementation of integrated information sharing arrangements which will underpin preventative work. A single Project Board has been established to oversee all the developments in this area. The integrated Children’s system is now being implemented with a new database system provided by Careworks; piloting of the Common Assessment Framework process is taking place; development of the Information Sharing Index is progressing in line with the national

milestones.

- An agreed joint commissioning framework provides a sound basis for developing services in response to identified gaps and for ensuring that appropriate quality assurance and value for money measures are built into agreements with providers.
- There is a range of contracts in place, commissioned by the local authority and/or primary care trust across a wide range of partners, including voluntary sector and independent providers. Service level agreements have been developed (with schools for example) and are beginning to be used to define in-house provision. All are subject to contract compliance processes.

Key issues:

- Governance arrangements for the CTB to be reviewed and clarified.
- Complete work on mapping of all Partnerships linked to the CTB, and undertake phased programme of partnership health checks.

SERVICE GROUPING: Children, Education & Social Care

ADULTS SIP

Theme: Improved Health

- True Cost of Care has been fully implemented.
- Good progress in take-up of Smoking Cessation Services – LPSA target achieved for the number of people who approached the smoking cessation service between 1st April 2004 and 31st March 2007 who were still quitters at the four week follow up stage.
- GP registration progressing for adults with Learning Disabilities.
- Progress made in developing drug treatment services, with an increase in the number of people participating in drug treatment programmes.
- Users and carers have been well engaged and feedback from the Healthcare Commission/National Treatment Agency performance review recorded a high rating for user involvement and satisfaction.

Key Issue:

- Further development of drug move-on services required.

Theme: Improved Quality of Life

- A Carers' Strategy is being developed. Access to services for carers has increased, reflected in improved performance against the national indicator for carers receiving a service.
- Additional Extra Care housing places now in place following opening of the Hardwick development in April 07.

Key Issue:

- Pressures from cost of 'out of area' placements for adults with Learning Disabilities continue to be a concern. Tees Valley joint commissioning work is now progressing in order to develop sub-regional resource to address this issue.

Theme: Making a Positive Contribution

- Supporting People Inclusion Forum established to engage users and providers in service development.
- The STEPS employment and training team has had good success in assisting vulnerable adults to return to work.
- Access has improved to a range of advocacy services for all service user and carer groups. Self-advocacy has been developed and additional independent advocacy commissioned when necessary.

Key Issues:

- Further develop access to training and employment opportunities for those with learning disabilities.

Theme: Exercise of Choice & Control
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Person centred planning has become more embedded in the care management process. ▪ The number of Direct Payments arranged for service users and carers was increased in line with our LPSA stretch target. ▪ CareSupport system integrated with CareFirst. ▪ Slippage in timescale for electronic solution to Single Assessment Process (SAP), linked to national delays. <p>Key Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Build on progress in direct payments through development and piloting of other options such as personalised budgets. ▪ Roll-out of E-SAP needs to be considered in the context of longer term national and local ICT strategy. ▪ Referral and assessment processes need to be reviewed to further improve waiting times for social work assessments and provision of care packages.
Theme: Economic Well-being
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learning Disability Employment Strategy in place. ▪ More Person Centred plans have been developed for those with learning disability. <p>Key Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop more employment and training opportunities for those with disabilities. ▪ Improve arrangements for transition of young people with complex needs to Adult services.
Theme: Personal Dignity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improvements made to timescales for completing major adaptations. ▪ Previous significant backlog of items of equipment and minor adaptations has been removed. ▪ CareFinance system has now been implemented. <p>Key Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Further work is needed to improve performance in the timely delivery of equipment and minor adaptations.

SERVICE GROUPING: Children, Education & Social Care
LIFELONG LEARNING SIP
Theme: Improved Quality of Life
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adult Learning Partnership established. ▪ Targets have been met for participation of students in adult learning opportunities. ▪ Progress towards LPSA targets for adults achieving literacy and numeracy qualifications are overall on track. ▪ Adult Education service is linked into Extended Schools developments. <p>Key Issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish revised partnership to oversee development of lifelong learning agenda.
Theme: Healthier Communities & Adults
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Library Service achieved 9 out of 10 of the Public Library Service Standards. 90% net satisfaction with Libraries (Ipsos MORI). ▪ Greater partnership working between Library Service and the PCT including the introduction of new health offer e.g. Books on prescription service, Dementia and Depression reading groups. <p>Key issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complete and implement Library Service Review.
Theme: Organisational Developments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Management arrangements for Lifelong Learning within CESC revised to support integration across Adults, Children's and Cultural Services.

SERVICE GROUPING: Children, Education & Social Care
ARTS & CULTURE SIP
Objective: Revitalisation and reconfiguration of the Museums Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work in progress on initial improvements to Preston Hall Museum. ▪ The 'Museum on the Move' initiative has been launched to support the community programme. ▪ National Museums Accreditation has been achieved. 57% net increase in Museums satisfaction (Ipsos MORI) <p>Key issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progress on Preston Park & Hall major redevelopment, subject to capital and revenue funding.
Objective: Strengthening the arts infrastructure and supporting cultural business growth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strategic and financial support continuing for ARC - financial and user number targets achieved. ▪ Successful completion of the Stockton Cultural Quarter first phase. ▪ New external resources for Carnival and Street Arts development have increased the opportunities for growth in the arts. <p>Key issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued development of the Cultural Quarter to strengthen the arts infrastructure.
Objective: Raising the profile of SIRF
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2006 festival exceeded target growth in participant numbers (18% increase to 738) and visitor satisfaction increased for third year running to 98%. ▪ Journal North East Culture Awards Best Overall Event 2006 for SIRF <p>Key issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustaining growth in the popularity and profile of SIRF, in the context of a decline in national resource for commissioning, resulting in less work available 'on tour' and pressure on our own costs for producing new work.
Objective: International Street Arts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Temporary street arts facility opened. ▪ Development of bespoke facility to be progressed subject to work on the master plan for Preston Park and Hall.
Objective: Refocusing the Renaissance Arts & Culture Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Action plan being developed in response to IDeA review.