

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....19th March 2009

1. Title of Item/Report

Children & Young People's Plan 2009-2012

2. Record of the Decision

Members were provided with a copy of the proposed Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012.

The Plan had been developed following extensive consultation with partner agencies and organisations with inputs from children and young people, parents and carers through the course of this last year.

Cabinet noted that it was a statutory requirement on Children's Services Authorities to prepare and publish a plan, setting out their strategy for discharging their function in relation to children, young people and their families.

It was explained that a Children and Young People's Plan could cover any time-period and there was no formal structure for plans proposed by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. There was a requirement though to review the plan on an annual basis.

Stockton-on-Tees Children's Trust Board had proposed that the plan continue as a three-year plan, with annual reviews. The structure of previous and existing plans had been commented on positively by all stakeholders, so this had been maintained in the new plan.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families was proposing new statutory regulations for the production of Children and Young People's Plans. It was anticipated that this would be produced during 2009/10 and enacted in 2011/12.

The major implications of the new statutory regulations were likely to be that the plan would become a statutory plan on all relevant partner agencies and organisations and that a new plan would need to be produced for 2011 and beyond, to fit with the new regulations.

The new regulations are also likely to put Children's Trust Boards into a

statutory framework. The details and implications of the new regulations will be reported to a future Cabinet, following their publication and enactment.

The Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2012 set the vision and key priorities for the Children's Trust Board and identified the key actions to be taken to address those priorities. The key actions were primarily in the form of other strategies and action plans, which supported the overall Children and Young People's Plan. These provided the detailed actions to deliver on the priorities and would be monitored and overseen by the range of partnership groups, sitting under the Children's Trust Board.

This suite of strategies and action plans would be in place and available on a 'CD' and through the Children's Trust Board Website in April 2009.

The Children's Trust Board, at a special meeting on 10 March 2009 received the plan and recommended its approval to Cabinet and Council.

The Children and Young People's Plan would also be the basis of the Service Improvement Plan for the Children and Young People's Section of CESC's Service Improvement Plans.

The final version of the plan would be graphically enhanced through work with young people before it was published.

RECOMMENDED to Council that the Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012 be approved

3. Reasons for the Decision

It was a statutory requirement on Children's Services Authorities in England to prepare and publish a plan setting out their strategy for discharging their functions in relation to children, young people and their families.

This plan would be reviewed annually and replaces the existing 2007-2010 plan. It was anticipated that a further new plan would need to be produced for 2011-2014 in line with proposed new statutory regulations which were due to be implemented.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable.

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not Applicable.

Proper Officer  
23 March 2009