

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

Wigan Joint Area Review (JAR)

In the last Members bulletin we discussed the JAR which takes place from the 4th - 15th September 2006 and is part of the broader Corporate Assessment. Here is a little more information.

The inspection will be lead by Ofsted in the form of Robin Goddard; he will be assisted by Meena Randhawa from the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI). A number of other inspectors will be visiting us:

Deanne Fishbourne:	Audit Commission (Use of resources Corporate Assessment)
Ian Menary:	HMIP (Youth Offending)
Roger Thompson:	Health Care Commission (Health Services)
Anita Wade:	Ofsted (Learning Disabilities Services)
Mike Livingstone:	CSCI Social Care Children : Looked After Children
David Lindsay:	Adult Learning
Jane Brook:	Ofsted - Enhanced Youth Inspection

➤ **Neighbourhood study : Norley**

The purpose of the neighbourhood study is to see what it is like to grow up in Wigan from a young persons' perspective. The neighbourhood has been confirmed as the Norley area. The inspectors will visit on the 5th, 6th and 7th September 2006. A Task Group involving many of the services for children and young people in the area met on the 13th June 2006 to begin putting together proposals for where the inspectors might visit and where we can showcase our services. The Youth Service will be identifying young people from Norley to show them around the area to kick the process off. A meeting of local Councillors was held on the 22nd June to ensure local political representatives are fully involved in the process.

➤ **Joint Area Review Self Assessment**

We have to say how we think we measure up prior to the inspection (including all our partner agencies) in meeting the needs of children and young people 0-19. This is called the JAR Self Assessment. It is structured consistent with the five Every Child Matters Areas : Staying Safe, Being Healthy, Enjoying and Achieving, Making a Positive Contribution and Ensuring Economic Wellbeing, with a section for 'Service Management'.

These are the strengths and areas of development in summary:

Staying Safe

Being Healthy

Strengths

- Consultation with children and young people has influenced priorities and key tasks within the CYPP
- Partnership working between the local health economy
- Investment in sports facilities, particularly in schools
- Immunisation rates
- Improving the healthy eating habits of young people

Areas for Improvement

- Number of teenage conceptions (CYPP Priority BH1C)
- Co-ordination of parenting activities (CYPP: BH1J)
- Health needs assessments of Looked After Children (CYPP: BH1L)
- Dental Health (CYPP Priority BH1H)
- Number of mothers initiating breastfeeding (CYPP: BH 1I)

Strengths

- Promoting the safety of children and young people
- Safeguarding arrangements
- Stability of placements of children and young people looked after
- All children and young people on child protection register allocated to a social worker.
- Action to reduce bullying

Areas for Improvement

- Data collection systems for children in need (CYPP: Children's Trust Arrangements Information Management)
- Timeliness of assessments

Enjoying and Achieving

Strengths

- Early years education, and achievement at foundation stage
- Achievement at age 7
- Improvements at all key stages in school
- Earlier intervention, together with a reduction in the number of statements, and more inclusive provision for children and young people with additional needs
- Quality assurance of educational provision, including support and challenge for schools and settings
- Learning provision for adults from hard to reach groups

Areas for improvement

- Diversity of curriculum at Key Stage 4 (14-16) in some schools (CYPP: EA3F)
- Value added at Key Stage 4 (CYPP: EA3I)

Making a Positive Contribution
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Involvement of children and young people in planning and delivering activities</i> • <i>Number and variety of universal and targeted activities on offer to children and young people</i> • <i>Partnership working, particularly with the voluntary and community sector</i> • <i>Support for social and emotional development</i> <p>Areas for Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Embedding the developing culture and co-ordinating the participation of children and young people within all partnership member organisations (CYP: PC4A)</i> • <i>Improving outcomes for young offenders with challenging behaviour, chaotic lifestyles and multiple needs (CYPP: PC4D)</i>

Achieving Economic Wellbeing
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Provision of childcare places for working families</i> • <i>Work-related learning in schools</i> • <i>Overall achievement at 'A' Level or equivalent (Level 3) post-16</i> • <i>Partnership programmes to provide vocational learning opportunities, including the Increasing Flexibility at Key Stage 4 Project and young apprenticeship programme</i> • <i>Proportion of care leavers in education, employment or training</i> <p>Areas for improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Embedding the 14-19 strategy (CYPP: EW5B)</i> • <i>Further improvement in post-16 provision for young people with learning difficulties/disabilities (CYPP: EW5D)</i>

Service Management
<p>Strengths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Robust and active partnerships across agencies and with young people</i> • <i>CYPS and CYPF Performance Management</i> • <i>Co-operation and collaboration of partner agencies in developing new schools and children's centres (Case Study 21 p45)</i> • <i>Commitment to and direction of Children's Trust Arrangements, including progress towards joint commissioning and area-based service delivery</i> <p>Areas for Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Implementation of area-based services (CYPP: Children's Trust Arrangements Integrated Processes)</i> • <i>Developing a joint financial strategy (CYPP: Children's Trust Arrangements Governance and Commissioning)</i> • <i>Strengthening Race Equality</i>

CYPF: Our Vision for Children and Young People in Wigan

The Children, Young People and their Families Strategic Partnership did a '60 Second' exercise to communicate what their vision was for the Borough's children

and young people to place in the JAR Self Assessment. This is what they said:

"The organisations of Wigan Children and Young People and their Families Strategic Partnership serve a Borough that has strong communities and a proud track record of effective delivery in industry, public services, sport and the arts. In recent years the Borough has responded energetically to the challenges posed by the decline of its traditional industries. Nevertheless, much remains to be done to ensure that deprivation is eliminated and the wellbeing of all the Borough's communities secured.

Our collective purpose is centred on improving the wellbeing of our children and young people. We believe that every young person should be able to enjoy good health; that they should be safe, and feel safe and secure in all circumstances; that through education, everyone should gain confidence because they find what they are good at; that they should have a stake in society through being given respect and responsibility; and that their experience as young people should give them the motivation and skills to enable them to make a living.

The CYPF partners are progressing this vision by working together effectively, within the framework agreed in the Children and Young People's Plan. The action in the plan will be delivered, and we will work tirelessly to revolutionise the way we collaborate, integrate services, align budgets, develop joint commissioning processes and share responsibility through robust Children's Trust arrangements to meet the diverse needs of the population."

At the same time as the JAR three other major inspections are going on.

- **Youth Service Inspection lead**
- **Youth Offending Team (YOT) Inspection lead**
- **Corporate Assessment of Wigan Council**

Children and Young Peoples Plan 2006 / 2009

This has now been published. If you have not seen a copy please ask for one. If you can't get a copy visit the Council website; go to "Departments"; then go to "Children and Young People's Services" and click on it there.

Additionally CYPS has produced a DVD on the CYPP along with a Young People's conference held on the plan held earlier this year.

Wigan Safeguarding Children Board

Likewise, you can find a copy of the Wigan Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) Business Plan 2006 / 2009 along with a CYPS structure chart on the same website.

The CYPS website is currently being updated; we hope to bring it fully up to date by September 2006.

Managers Day 23.06.06, Venue: Kilhey Court

CYPS held its latest Managers Day on the 23rd June 2006. The last Managers' day asked us to better communicate what all the different parts of CYPS actually do. In light of this we are organising workshops for the day for Managers to hear about services they may need more information about.

Implementing the Change for Children System for Wigan Borough

In response to opportunities offered by the Children Act 2004 and Every Child Matters: Change for Children to improve outcomes for children and young people, managers and members of the children's workforce from a range of different agencies have collaborated to develop the Change for Children & Young People System (CfCYPS) for Wigan Borough.

In March 2006 the Operations Group of the Children, Young People and their Families Strategic Partnership, and the Partnership itself, agreed the 'Change for Children and Young People System for Wigan Borough' would be implemented. Following these decisions it was identified that the implementation would be phased: starting in the West Inclusion Area in early autumn 2006, before progressing to the East and Central Inclusion Areas during 2007.

The 'Change for Children and Young People System' comprises: the local introduction of the national Common Assessment Framework (CAF); the local implementation of the role of 'lead professional'; and the development of inter-agency 'Change for Children and Young People' meetings. By late 2008, the 'Change for Children and Young People System' will be supported by the introduction of the Information Sharing Index.

A series of briefing sessions for managers in the Inclusion Area will be delivered during July and September 2006, followed by a rolling programme of training for direct delivery staff on the CAF and the role of the lead professional starting in September.

Gerald Meehan - Deputy Director of Children and Young People Services