

Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2 2007-10



Every Lambeth Child and Young Person Matters

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

Members of Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Children's Trust Board

Stephen Bagley
Director,
Learning Skills Council

Phyllis Dunipace
Executive Director,
Children & Young People's Service, London
Borough Lambeth

Mary Lynch
Divisional Director
Housing Strategy and Partnership
London Borough of Lambeth

Jeremy Baker
Chair,
Lambeth Governors Forum

Roger Giess
Councillor

Sally Prentice (Chair)
Cabinet Member for Children and
Young People (Pictured Below)

Kevin Barton
Chief Executive,
Lambeth Primary Care Trust

Michael Gordon
Voluntary and Community Forum

Mike Richardson
Lambeth Governors Forum

Judith Bowden
Head of Child and Adolescent Mental
Health Service (CAMHS), South London
and Maudlsey NHS Trust (SLAM)

Sarah Grand
Chair,
Voluntary and Community Forum

Anita Wright
Headteachers Council
Woodmansterne Primary School

David Boyle
Headteachers Council
Dunraven Secondary school

Jill Gregson
Vice Chair,
Voluntary and Community Forum

Martin Bridger
Borough Commander,
Metropolitan Police Services

Caroline Hewitt
Chair,
Lambeth Primary Care Trust

Jo Cleary
Executive Director Adults Social Care
London Borough of Lambeth Hewitt
Chair,
Lambeth Primary Care Trust

Ian Jackson
Local Strategic Partnership Manager
Chair, Lambeth Primary Care Trust

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Message from the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board

Lambeth children and young people should have a voice in the way that services are delivered.

Dear Reader

This document is Lambeth's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership's second Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP2). It is an important strategic document which, for the next three years, will initiate changes across the borough that will support the improvement of the lives of children and young people in Lambeth. The priorities and the targets included in the plan are intended to be aspirational and are designed to be challenging. They will only be achieved through partnership working and joint planning to effectively improve outcomes for children and young people. The plan has been developed using contributions from children, young people and their families as well as many stakeholders and professionals who are involved with and support children, young people and their families.

Our vision statement for children, young people and their families' states:

"We will enable children and young people to be happy, healthy and safe to achieve their full potential. We will achieve this by:

- Developing integrated services that are seamless, efficient and improve outcomes for children and young people***
- Ensuring effective and efficient partnership working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people***
- Increasing early identification of need and intervention thus preventing a need in the future***
- Seeking to engage children, young people and their families, particularly those from hard to reach communities"***

We, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, are fully committed to providing the best services and opportunities we can for all our children and young people. For this reason, we have agreed a number of strategic priorities to support the achievement of our vision. This plan is a three year plan, 2007-10, which allows us to ensure that our plan is consistent with the planning timetables of our partners and is closely linked to the outcomes, indicators and the delivery of Lambeth's Local Area Agreement 2007-10. This plan exists for the needs and the aspirations we have for children and young people in Lambeth.

*The development of Children's Trust arrangements is the key mechanism for improving outcomes for children and young people, including the raising of schools standards. Over the coming three years there will be an ongoing focus on integrating service delivery, systems and processes, through the roll-out of the Common Assessment Framework and the role of the Lead Professional. Systems for sharing information that safeguard children following the integration of Education Services and Children's Social Care in 2005 will be further developed. The implementation of the Targeted Youth Strategy will ensure that providers integrate services to ensure they are accessible to young people so that **'they have more to do and more places to go.'***

This plan celebrates the many achievements of children and young people over the past year but also clearly sets out its expectations that they will achieve even more over the coming three years. The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership is committed to ensuring that the services, required to enable young people to benefit from improved outcomes, are excellent and focused on their need.

To make sure the Board is able to lead and manage the partnership we have reorganised the groups that support the Board so that they focus on the activities that will allow children and young people to achieve all five of the national outcomes.

*I hope you enjoy reading this plan and that the priorities support the work you do with children and young people and if you are a young person yourself or a parent/carer, that you agree with the things we have identified as being important in allowing children and young people in Lambeth to **be happy, healthy and safe to achieve their full potential.***

Yours sincerely,

***Councillor Sally Prentice
Chair,
Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership***

***Phyllis Dunipace
Executive Director,
Children and Young People's Service.***

Foreword

1.1. The Children and Young People's Plan 2 (CYPP2)

The Children and Young People's Plan 2 (CYPP2), sets out the vision and aspirations of Lambeth's Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership for the children and young people in Lambeth. It is focused on a number of shared strategic priorities that will drive the continued improvement in outcomes for children and young people that are the responsibility of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership. The Plan demonstrates the commitment of the Partnership to integrating service delivery, sustaining partnership working, raising standards; safeguarding children and young people and; developing the children's workforce. It also sets out how the partnership will ensure that all children and young people in Lambeth are healthy, feel safe, are able to enjoy and achieve to their full potential, make a positive contribution to their community and move on to achieve economic wellbeing. The plan is intended to be a useful tool in ensuring that service planning across the partnership is informed by shared priorities and is focused on improving outcomes for children, young people and their families in Lambeth and forms the basis of the Children's Trust arrangements of the partnership.

This three year plan replaces the one year plan published in 2006 and is designed to coincide with the production of the three year Local Area Agreement that spans the same timescale. The Plan and Local Area Agreement are complementary and are based on the same strategic priorities enabling coherency between the two.

The key purpose of the plan is to improve outcomes for all children and young people in Lambeth and ensure that we:

- Focus on children, young people and their families not services provided
- Support partnership and multi-agency working to provide seamless services to children and young people
- Promote early intervention and preventative working
- Reflect the experiences and needs of children and young people in Lambeth
- Demonstrate the responsibility of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership for the plan
- Build on the evidence we have that shows that performance is rising and that outcomes for children and young people are improving
- Identify areas of need and the actions and targets required to further improve outcomes for children and young people
- Provide a link between the plan and Lambeth's Local Area Agreement

- Engage schools and make the link between improving outcomes for children and raising standards
- Be accessible

1.2. Who will deliver the plan (CYPP2)?

The CYPP2 is owned by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, the Board of which also acts as the Children's Trust Board. The Board is made up of key representatives from the Council, Health, Social Care, Children and Young People's Service, Schools, Police, Housing and the Voluntary sector. The Board is responsible for the effective delivery of services to meet the strategic priorities of this Plan.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership represents a Partnership that is the children and young people's theme group of the Local Strategic Partnership and has a number of links to other partnerships that are also supporting children, young people and their families within the borough, such as the Safer Lambeth Partnership and the Health and Social Care Partnership



Section I

1. Introduction

Background

The Government's Every Child Matters 'change for children' agenda and the Children Act 2004 placed a number of requirements on Children's Services. To date the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership has overseen the achievement of four of these:-

1. *The appointment of a Director of Children's Service by 2006 (2008 at the latest).*
Achievement: Lambeth's Director of Children and Young People's Service was appointed in July 2005.
2. *Elect a lead member for Children's Services.*
Achievement: A lead member was elected as the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People in May 2006.
3. *Establish a Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) by October 2005.*

Achievement: Lambeth's Local Safeguarding Children's Board met for the first time in July 2005.

4. *Produce a high level strategic plan for Children & Young People.*

Achievement: The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership published its first Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) in April 2006, this is the second Children and Young People's Plan.

The final requirement is for the Partnership to establish Children's Trust arrangements to support improved outcomes for Lambeth's children and young people. This requires the:

- Integration of service delivery
- Joint funding arrangements through the pooling of budgets
- Joint commissioning arrangements

The Children and Young People's Partnership Board (CYPSP) agreed to also act as the Children's Trust Board in February 2007 and oversee the development of Trust arrangements in Lambeth.

2. The Vision and Principles for Children and Young People

The Vision

The Lambeth vision for children and young people has been reviewed to ensure it complies with new statutory guidance and has been drawn up in consultation with:

- Children and young people including, Looked After Children, members of Schools Councils, Lambeth Youth Council, Children with Disabilities
- Parents and carers including those involved in the Sure Start Local Programmes and the Parents Forum
- Professionals who work with children, young people and their families across the Borough
- The wider community
- Voluntary & Community Groups
- Schools, schools forums and admission forums
- Lambeth Corporate Parenting Board

Following this review period the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership has agreed the following

vision in relation to all children and young people in Lambeth:

We will enable children and young people to be happy, healthy and safe to achieve their full potential. We will achieve this by:

- 1. Developing integrated services that are seamless, efficient and improve outcomes for children and young people**
- 2. Ensuring effective and efficient partnership working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people**
- 3. Increasing early identification of need and intervention thus preventing a need in the future**
- 4. Seeking to engage children, young people and their families, particularly those from hard to reach communities"**

3. Achieving the Vision:

3.1 Developing integrated services that are seamless, efficient and improve outcomes for children and young people. What have we achieved?

Children's Centres – Children's Centres are the key mechanism for the delivery of integrated services for under fives. A total of 13 Children's Centres were designated in Phase 1 of the Children's Centre Programme. Work to designate a minimum of a further eleven Children's Centres by March 2008 is underway.

Children's Centres provide an excellent service for children under five and their families which includes family support, childcare, health services and employment training and advice. In Lambeth we are keen to make sure that the Children Centre programme and the Extended Services programme complement each other. In our Children's Centres many of our partner agencies are working together to deliver integrated services to families.

Team Around the Child - As well as the integration of services for Children with Disabilities and or Special

Educational Needs, the partnership has agreed to use the Team Around the Child as another mechanism for establishing Children's Trust arrangements. The Team Around the Child is currently being implemented for under 11s and has seen the integration of service delivery between agencies across the partnership.

The integration of service delivery is taking place in Children Centres and Extended Schools and will be used to support children with additional needs in all primary schools and secondary schools by March 2008

Children's Trust Arrangements for Children with Disabilities and Special Educational Needs – and those with additional needs - Lambeth is establishing children's trust arrangements for Children with Disabilities and Special Educational Needs. Services for children with disabilities and special educational needs within the borough are being integrated to better meet the needs and improve outcomes for this vulnerable group of children and young people. We are working with the Primary Care Trust, schools and other partners to integrate all services for the under fives who have a disability/ special educational needs. Joint assessment and casework management processes are being established and have been piloted for the under fives. This project has been informed by a pilot project previously commissioned by the partnership in 2004 and by the work of our 'transitions champion' who led a Department for Education and Skills pilot in Lambeth 2005/06 which has now become embedded in our secondary school for children with

complex needs.

Integrated Youth Strategy – Lambeth has a published youth strategy that was developed with young people including Lambeth’s youth council. The strategy relates to 11-19 year olds in Lambeth and its aim is to ensure that every young person living in Lambeth is able to make the transition from childhood to adulthood in a safe, secure, supportive and positive environment and is able to access a range of opportunities for physical and emotional development and health.

The development of Lambeth’s youth strategy ensures that the youth service and its partners are well placed to respond to the government initiative *Targeted Youth Strategy* which will be the focus of the implementation of the Team Around the Child approach for 11-19 year olds.

Lambeth’s Play Strategy – Lambeth’s Play Strategy sets out the vision for children’s play across the borough for the next ten years, covering children and young people aged 0 to 18 years. It clearly sets out why play is important to children. The play strategy will be a key strategy that has the potential to ensure that play is integral to new housing and other regeneration opportunities and quality play is promoted and developed across departments and with play providers and strategic partners. The development of the strategy has involved consultation with children, young people and play providers.

Schools are a key component to achieving the vision we have regarding the integration of services. All the initiatives we are engaged in as part of the National Change Programme: Children’s Centres; Extended Services; Team Around the Child; Integrated Youth Strategy etc centre in and around schools. Schools are pivotal in making sure all of these initiatives are coherent, co-ordinated and improve outcomes for children and young people.

The Children Act 2004 places a duty on partners to cooperate and focus on improving outcomes for all children and young people. Lambeth and its partners are able to demonstrate their cooperation or partnership working through the development of the Team Around the Child, integration of services for children with disabilities, a multi-agency approach to improving standards and raising achievement for Looked After Children and the provision of multi-agency support for schools whose results are below that expected nationally. In addition, there has been a great deal of cooperation to develop infrastructures that will support information sharing and partnership working to integrate service delivery for children and young people and their families. These are demonstrated by the Children’s Centre and Extended Services programmes and the development of joint service centres with the Primary Care Trust. The development of Children’s Trust arrangements has a firm basis in the development and implementation of the Team Around the Child and the integration of services for children with disabilities and or

Special Education Needs. During the life of this plan there is an expectation that other aspects of Children's Trust arrangements will be developed and embedded across the partnership.

Joint strategic commissioning will enable the partnership to use local needs data gained from the use of the Common Assessment Framework to jointly commission services using *pooled budgets*. *The pooling of budgets* has already begun as part of the Local Area Agreement.

3.2. Ensuring effective and efficient partnership working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. What have we achieved?

Establishment of Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) – Lambeth's Safeguarding Children Board was established in July 2005.

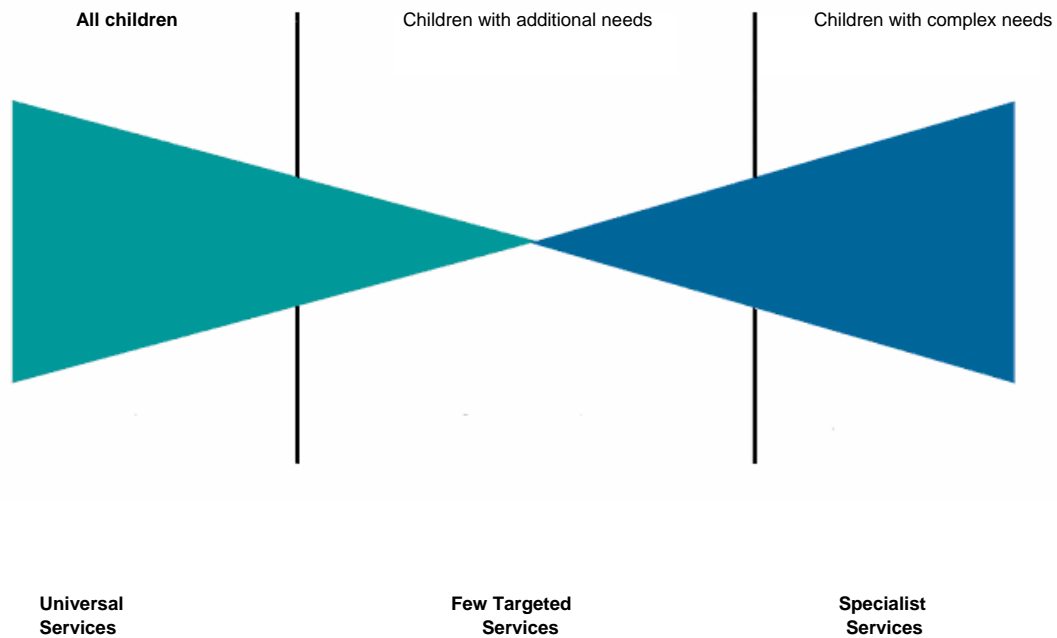
This was formalised in March 2006, with a large multi-agency conference. It is now the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in Lambeth will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the area and for ensuring the effectiveness of local practice. An executive group has been established which is attended by the Chief Officers of partner agencies. This group considers strategic issues for embedding

safeguarding practice across the partnership to improve outcomes for children and young people.

Implementation of Lambeth's Domestic Violence Strategy – Lambeth's Domestic Violence Strategy (2006/2008) has been produced by statutory and voluntary sector organisations working together to reduce the incidence of domestic violence in Lambeth and increase the safety of those experiencing domestic violence. The strategy sets out priorities and actions. Lambeth has the highest incidence of domestic violence in London. It is a priority of the partnership to reduce domestic violence because of the long term effects on children and young people.

3.3. Increasing early identification of need and intervention thus preventing a need in the future. What have we achieved?

Preventative working supported by early identification of need and intervention at a local setting is a key element of our vision for ensuring all Lambeth children and young people achieve the vision and are able to do so by remaining in their local community. The diagram below shows the way resources are currently funded, the only way to achieve the vision is for resources to shift into the centre as we become more preventative.



¹ *Serving Children Well: a new vision for children's services* London: LGA Publications 2002

Common Assessment Framework and Lead

Professional – The Common Assessment Framework will be used as the main tool to identify and assess children and young people with additional needs as part of the implementation of Team Around the Child. Over 800 staff have attended awareness sessions on the Common Assessment Framework. A number of professionals have received formal two-day training on the Framework and the role of the Lead Professional.

Children’s Fund – Lambeth’s Children’s Fund has continued to commission predominantly voluntary and community based organisations, to develop a range of preventative services and interventions for children (aged 5-13 years old) and their families

Youth Inclusion Support Panel – promoting prevention by improving children and young people’s resilience to risk factors is a key aim of the youth inclusion support panel. The youth inclusion support panel identifies children and young people at risk as early as possible, then delivers a support package to meet their identified needs. The youth inclusion support panel has worked with approximately 250 young people at risk of offending. This varies from intensive support packages to low-level interventions.

Healthy Start Teams – Lambeth Primary Care Trust has remodelled its service to provide a Healthy Start Service that includes Health Visitors and a team of

practitioners who support families, babies and mothers-to-be to ensure that children have the best start in life. The Healthy Start Teams provide a service for children up to the age of five years and their families. The service consists of:

- A universal and personalised service for all children and their families
- Targeted interventions for specific children and families, dependent on assessed need, including vulnerable children and
- Referral when appropriate to specialised or secondary services.

The teams are an integral part of the Primary Health Care Team working with GPs, Practice Nurses and Midwives particularly in the antenatal and immediate post natal period.

Healthy Schools Standards – the health inequality study carried out by the Primary Care Trust indicates that certain population groups are prone to long term conditions such as obesity, diabetes and kidney disease. The Healthy Schools programme is promoting healthy eating and healthy lifestyles as part of a preventative strategy to reduce the population group who are at risk of chronic conditions. Over 49% of Lambeth schools have achieved the Healthy School Standard.

Increasing the number of young people in **education, employment and training** is a priority for the partnership. Local statistics show that young people are at risk if they are not in education, employment or training. The

partnership is working collaboratively to ensure increased numbers of children and young people remain in education. The numbers of NEETs continues to reduce and staying on rates are improving. Last year over 80% of young people Leaving Care went on to further education.

3.4. Seek to engage children, young people and their families, particularly those from new and emerging communities. What have we achieved?

Lambeth has successfully engaged and consulted with a number of young people during the past year.

Lambeth Youth Council – Lambeth Youth Council has 35 members (young people) supported by five staff. Lambeth Youth Council have carried out a number of activities with children and young people, focusing on those from hard to reach communities.

Peer Education – young people provide training sessions across the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership to their peers and youth service providers on issues such as: Drug and alcohol misuse, sexual health, domestic violence, relationships and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transsexual issues.

Peer Inspection – young people assess services to establish how accessible and appropriate they are for children and young people and making recommendations for change.

Every Child Matters – Lambeth Youth Council’s youth consultation group has carried out research with primary and secondary school children on three of the Every Child Matters outcomes for children: Be Healthy, Stay Safe and Enjoy & Achieve. This research focuses on what is important for children and young people in the borough and how we can use this information to plan service delivery.

Lambeth’s Integrated Youth Strategy – demonstrates how the integration of youth services in Lambeth around young people’s needs will improve outcomes for children and young people. It aims to engage more young people in positive activities and empower them to shape the services they receive. Lambeth’s Youth Opportunities Fund has enabled young people to work with the Local Authority to apply for small grants to develop, manage and deliver their own ideas for youth activities.

‘Our Lives in Lambeth’ – Lambeth Early Years and Sure Start Service has put listening to the views of young children at the heart of its ‘Brightstart’ Childcare Strategy. A consultation project with children under six years old was completed to find out what things in their environment they like and don’t like. Over 200 children participated in this project.

Lambeth Residents Survey – As part of the consultation for the Children and Young Peoples Plan, Lambeth’s Resident’s Survey was adapted to include questions specifically aimed at children and young people. Results

from the survey have fed into identifying the priorities for the CYPP2. Following on from the Residents Survey there are a number of planned focus groups with children and young people.

Children's Fund – Lambeth's Children's Fund commissioned Children's Society to conduct a piece of research with children and young people and their views on information sharing. The results from this research will be used to inform information sharing processes and protocols across the partnership.

Engaging Parents & Carers – Engaging parents, carers and families is a key focus across the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership. We currently have a number of network groups for parents and carers; including the Parent's Forum (facilitated by Lambeth's Parent Advocate) to bring together Chairs of various Parent's Support Groups across Lambeth.

Lambeth's Corporate Parenting team facilitate consultation groups with looked after children aged 5 to 24 years to help inform and improve service delivery for all children in care. Examples of projects young people have been involved in are: the G2K Magazine produced twice a year by young people in care for young people in care; Young people looked after have been involved in tendering panels to choose semi-independent provision for care leavers. The Corporate Parenting Team are also undertaking a targeted consultation with looked after children with disabilities to obtain their

views about being looked after to help develop consistent and meaningful consultation processes for them.

Establish Voice of Young Lambeth Consultation Group

– The recent review of the Children and Young People's Partnership Governance Structures has seen the establishment of the 'Voice of Young Lambeth' consultation group. The aim of this group will be to co-ordinate consultation across the The Children and Young People's Partnership and hold 3 key meetings/conferences per year. Voice of Young Lambeth will include representatives from: Lambeth Youth Council, Youth Opportunities Fund, Lambeth School's Council's, Youth Offending Service, Looked After Children Consultation Group and Positive Activities for Young People. This will enable the Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership to effectively co-ordinate consultation activity and help to reduce duplication.

Developing Joint Commissioning Arrangements – In order to achieve Children's Trust arrangements the Children and Young People Strategic partnership will need to have Joint (Strategic) Commissioning arrangements in place. Lambeth's Strategic Commissioning arrangements will include the involvement of children, young people and their parents/carers in commissioning activities and services for children and young people.

Conclusion – Lambeth is successful at listening to the voices of children and young people. It has a range of mechanisms for seeking the views of children and young

people between the ages of 2-25. In 2006 over 2500 children and young people participated in consultation events. The establishment of the voice of Young Lambeth will provide a consultative forum that feeds into the partnership.

4. Principles

The Vision confirms a commitment to collaborative and partnership working and demonstrates that all Lambeth children and young people matter. It is underpinned by principles agreed by the partnership which is outlined below:

- We will listen to children and young people and ensure their views influence our policy development and service planning
- We will involve families, carers and the wider community in developing and planning services
- We will ensure services are accessible by delivering services, where possible in universal settings and within the local community
- We will collaborate and work in partnership to coordinate and integrate service delivery where it will add value to existing service provision
- We will ensure service provision is designed to improve outcomes for children and young people
- We will ensure service provision acknowledges the diversity of the borough and is delivered accordingly
- We will ensure information is clear and accessible to children and young people and their families
- We will eliminate duplication and promote efficiency
- We will ensure that services are designed and commissioned based on an analysis of local need.



5. Lambeth People and Places

The London Borough of Lambeth is a diverse and vibrant place where children and young people live, play, go to school, work or travel through. Our knowledge of the Borough allows us to understand the challenges of ensuring equal access to effective services. Lambeth has world famous landmarks such as the South Bank, the London Eye and the Oval Cricket Ground and areas of extreme wealth as well as many areas that are amongst the poorest in Britain. Over a quarter of a million people live in the Borough, over 34% of whom are from black and minority ethnic communities, and over 150 different languages are spoken.



6. The Lambeth Context

Some facts and figures about Lambeth:

- 266,170 people live in Lambeth
- Lambeth has the highest resident population of Inner London, and is still expanding
- 71% of residents describe themselves as being in good health
- The borough ranks as the 15th most deprived nationally
- Our unemployment rate is 8%, compared with 5% nationally
- We are one of the most diverse inner-city boroughs
- There are 118,440 households in the borough
- There are 13 children centres in the borough and 11 more will open by March 2008
- There are 84 schools in Lambeth: 5 nursery schools; 60 primary and 11 secondary (with a further 1 secondary school to be opened by September 2007), 5 special schools and 3 pupil referral units
- There are 417 childminders and 101 private, voluntary and independent childcare providers in Lambeth
- 40 of our schools will be delivering the extended services standard and we expect all of our schools to meet the standard by 2010
- We enjoy 64 parks and open spaces

- Approximately 2,450 households in Lambeth are in temporary accommodation; 68% of those consist of families with children or pregnant women. However Lambeth met the requirement for no children to be in Bed and Breakfast ahead of time
- 10% of Lambeth households are single parent households with dependant children (eighth highest in England and Wales).

9.1. And what about children and young people in Lambeth?

- Lambeth has a resident population of over 67,000 0-19 year olds
- 74% of our school children and young people are from black and minority ethnic communities.
- One in four Lambeth pupils have some form of Special Educational Need
- 38% of pupils receive free school meals
- 10.1% of 16-18 year olds are not in education, employment or training
- Lambeth has a mobile population and over 25% of pupils move in a year
- We have high but reducing levels of teenage pregnancies, HIV and sexually transmitted infections
- At least 17,000 Lambeth children are living in poverty and one in four live in lone parent households
- Over half of our secondary school aged children

- attend school outside of the borough
- 58% of children and young people in Lambeth, aged 0-18 years are from black and minority ethnic communities
 - There is currently a disproportionate number of young black boys entering the criminal justice system in Lambeth for the first time
 - Over 200 of our children are on the child protection register
 - Lambeth has one of the highest teenage populations of the Inner London Boroughs (15,835 13-19 year olds)
 - There are 180 unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the borough
 - Over 500 children are Looked After by the Council.

There are many challenges in Lambeth which are being addressed to allow young people to achieve the vision we have for them. We know we are making progress towards realising our vision for children and young people and improving outcomes for them through monitoring progress made against achieving our priorities.

The evaluation of last years plan shows that Lambeth children are safer; 100% allocation of social workers, they are healthier; 50% of our schools have achieved healthy schools standards, 37% of our schools have travel plans in place and there has been an increase in the take-up of school meals. We know Lambeth children are enjoying and

achieving as our results have improved and we have recorded our highest rate of achievements for 5 years. These are increasing numbers of young people participating in the arts, and we know our children and young people are making a positive contribution as over 1300 participated in recent Youth consultation projects, over 200 young people are active members of the Youth Council, over 200 primary aged pupils participated in a consultation event and 10 young people recently volunteered to receive training as youth consultants. We know many will go on to experience economic well being which is evidenced by a marked increase of children and young people who are in full time education, employment or training in 2006 85% of Looked After children stayed on for further education.

Life in Lambeth is challenging but outcomes are improving for many of our children and young people.

What Children and Young People told us

Achieve Economic Wellbeing

“Don't have enough funding”
“We want to be supported go onto university”
“Lack of work experience / training”
“Youths not being able to get a job at a young age”

Stay Safe

“Gangs and gun violence are a big dilemma and ever increasing”
“Not enough help for single parents”
“People being bullied because of looks”
“Domestic violence is a problem”
“Not enough police officers patrolling the streets it should be them patrolling the streets not gangs”
“Police stop and search policy is unfair”

Be Healthy

“Eat healthy and exercise”
“Stop binge drinking”
“Tackle teenage pregnancy”
“Enjoy school foods”
“Keep fit, keep well”

Enjoy & Achieve

“Worrying about getting into secondary school. “
“When new kids come to school they find it hard to make new friends”
“We like friendly people”
“I like to see happy faces”
“Need more leisure opportunities”
“Lack of FREE sports opportunities for young people”

Make a Positive Contribution

“The council doesn't take seriously the problems their tenants face”
“Children should be trained on their rights and in consultation skills”
“Help young people make informed choices”
“Listen to what young people say and feedback to them on how their views have been used”

Section 2

Lambeth priorities for 2007-10

1. Significantly improve young people's mental, physical and sexual health
2. Reduce the prevalence of substance misuse amongst children and young people
3. Improve support to families who have identified additional needs and where there is a responsibility to safeguard children and young people
4. Prevent young people from drifting into crime, in particular young black and minority ethnic boys
5. Improve transition arrangements for vulnerable young people, in particular Looked After children and Children with Disabilities
6. Increase access to quality local school places and good quality childcare places
7. Raise attainment levels for all pupils and achieve floor targets (these set our performance targets at a local level) to enable pupils to achieve their full potential
8. Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups
9. Increase opportunities for all young people to participate in out-of-school activities
10. Increase opportunities for children, young people and their families' voices and views to be heard,

enabling them to make a positive contribution to their community

11. Increase the number of young people in education employment and training, developing skills for adulthood

Appendix E shows our current performance, progress since the CYPP1 and targets for 2007 – 10.

Choosing the Priorities

All organisations providing services for children and young people have priorities which guide their actions and use of resources.

The priorities in this Plan have been identified as they are areas that need to be addressed to enable the children and young people in Lambeth to achieve the vision we have for them.

They build on the priorities of our previous Plan and reflect the priorities of partner agencies - they are joint priorities shared across the partnership. They have been developed using feedback and comments from children, young people, and professionals working with them.

The priorities are linked to the Borough's Corporate Plan which contains a number of activities specifically related to children and young people.

- a. The implementation of the Building School for the Future programme (linked to priorities 6, 7 and 9)
- b. The implementation of the Team around the Child (linked to priorities 2, 3, 4)
- c. The rebuilding of the Livity School for Children with disabilities (linked to priorities 3, 5)
- d. Primary school place planning (linked to priorities 6,7,8)
- e. Integration of services for children and young people with Special Educational Need/Children With Disabilities (Linked to priorities 3, 5, 6, 7, 8)

Our own needs analysis has identified areas where the outcomes for children, young people and their families need to improve. We have carried out continued consultation with these groups to ensure that these priorities are still relevant and have amended them as appropriate. We have also used our evaluation of our first children and young peoples plan to inform our priorities for the next three years.

The priorities in this plan reflect:

- A clear evidence of a need
- Areas where action will bring about an improvement in outcomes for children and young people
- A commitment to early intervention and preventative working
- The added value of multi-agency working
- A link to the outcomes and indicators from the Children and Young People’s Block of the Local Area Agreement (2007-10)

- An ongoing commitment to raising standards and safeguarding children and young people

Expectations in Relation to the Priorities

The Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership’s support for the priorities will ensure that:

- Targeted resources across agencies and services support each priority
- Service and delivery Plans reflect these joint priorities
- Activities that address priorities areas are monitored across the partnership
- Partnership performance management systems reflect the priorities

Service Improvement Priorities

In order to realise our vision, it is important that those working with and supporting children and young people and their families have the relevant tools and expertise to support the changes to service delivery required to address prioritised needs.

To make sure that this is the case the partnership has agreed the following priorities in relation to service improvement: -

The development of strategic joint commissioning arrangements across the partnership to enable value for money. By 2010 there will be embedded arrangements in place for the use of pooled and in some cases integrated budgets to jointly commission

services based on an integrated process for analysing local need that address our priorities.

This approach will also ensure services are delivered with attention to quality and value for money.

The integration of service delivery and processes to improve outcomes for children and young people.

By 2010 our children's trust arrangements will be established and the use of the Team around the Child approach will have embedded the use of the Common Assessment Framework to support partner commitment to the early identification of need supported by national and local information sharing systems across agencies.

The implementation of our workforce strategy.

By 2010 the partnership will have a skilled children's workforce that meets national standards. It is expected by then that members of the children's workforce will have a ***national vocational qualification at level three***, achieved either through training, accreditation of prior learning; work based learning or academic study. It is a priority of the partnership to ensure that the workforce is skilled in being able to work in new ways to meet the needs of our children and young people

The use of a monitoring and performance framework that enables the partnership to monitor the impact of its arrangements on the outcomes for children and young people. By 2010 there will be a single performance framework across the partnership that reflects the indicators and targets of both this plan and the Local Area Agreement where it impacts on children and young people. A robust performance

management framework will enable the Board to monitor progress towards achieving the vision.

The ongoing improvement of safeguarding arrangements to improve outcomes for children and young people. This priority aims to build on the current good work of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board to ensure that children and young people in the Borough are safe and can enjoy a life free from harm.

The work of the supporting operational groups will continue to reinforce that safeguarding of children and young people is the responsibility of everyone.

Be Healthy: Lambeth's Priorities

H1 - To significantly improve children and young people's mental, physical and sexual **health**.

H2 - To reduce the prevalence of substance misuse amongst children and young **people**

Local Area Agreement Priority:

LAA/H – The development and **implementation** of an extended healthy schools model

Why are these are our health priorities?

Our evaluation of last year's Plan and our needs analysis has highlighted ongoing concerns about mental health.

Mental Health and emotional well being –

In relation to mental health there is concern at the high level of prevalence of mental health concerns amongst young people. During consultation activities with young people, over 30% of them expressed their concerns about bullying or being treated badly because of race and or disability. These are factors that impact on the

emotional and mental wellbeing of young people.

In the past, concerns have been raised that many vulnerable young people were not receiving the specialist support they required both at a universal level, where over 40% of appointments are not kept, and within our specialist services, where young people have not always received the assessments they require on time.

The prevalence of mental health difficulties in Lambeth means that many of our children and young people are being brought up in a home where an adult member of the family has a mental health difficulty. Each year approximately 4500 adults receive treatment for mental health issues. Whilst this is on a par with Inner London averages, research has shown that the indicators that provide a warning about the mental health of communities are all present in Lambeth: overcrowded households, poverty; domestic violence. As a consequence of this the Partnership has identified mental health as a priority.

The Health Needs Assessment for children and young people in Lambeth carried out by the Primary Care Trust identified emotional and mental health as a concern for all age and client groups in Lambeth. Emotional health and mental health interventions were identified as a high level of need for Lambeth, in order to improve wellbeing and promote positive mental health for both children and families, especially those in difficult or vulnerable situations and/or groups.

H1 - Physical health – public health data and consultation with young people have identified the following as concerns. The **infant mortality rate** in Lambeth is 6.8 per 1000 compared with a London rate of 5.4 per 1000. This is a cause of concern, as infant mortality rates are often used as an indicator of community health. Levels of **immunisation**, though improving, are 66.3% for aged 2 years and 85.2% for 12 months or under. This is against a national target of 90%. **Obesity** amongst children is raised as a priority both by children and young people and as a result of the analysis of public health data. Of those consulted, over 38% of 8-11 year olds and 41% of over 11s identified obesity and junk food as a priority. Public health data shows that there has been an increase in obesity levels of 3.8% since 2004. Obesity in children is linked to socio-economic disadvantage. In addition, children and young people are further at risk if they live in a household where there are obese adults. In Lambeth 16-19% of the population are estimated to be obese. The school nurses services is collecting pupils height and weight data to monitor obesity in children and young people.

H1- Sexual Health – Our own needs analysis and performance data have identified that though reducing, Lambeth continues to have high rates of teenage conceptions, HIV and sexually transmitted infections compared to national averages. The latest figures (provisional for 2005), indicate an under-18 conception rate of 79.7 per 1000 girls aged 15-17.

Lambeth's Teenage Pregnancy & Parenthood Partnership (TPPP) oversees the work of the Teenage Pregnancy Programme and is responsible for meeting our local target to reduce the under-18 conception rate by 60% by 2010 (the national target is reduced by 50% reduction over the same period). When consulted, 55% of over-11s identified teenage pregnancy and sexual health as a 'big problem' in Lambeth

H2- Substance Misuse – Substance misuse is a major concern for children, young people and their families in Lambeth. Lambeth is committed to the development of universal, targeted and specialist services to prevent harm caused by drugs and to ensure that all children and young people are able to reach their potential.

Recreational drug use amongst adolescents is wide spread, with almost half of young people aged 16-24 reporting that they have used drugs. For most young people this represents a relatively harmless period of experimentation, but a significant minority of young people can go on to develop problematic use. Some groups of young people are especially vulnerable to developing drug problems particularly the young homeless, care leavers, truants, children excluded from school, young offenders and Looked After children. Local data supports this with over 95% of those young people engaged with the Youth Offending Service reported as using illicit drugs. Young people have themselves identified substance misuse as a priority and included binge drinking as a misused substance. 58% identified drugs, smoking and drugs as their top priority.

LAA/H-Healthy Schools - Lambeth Local Authority is working in partnership with Lambeth Primary Care Trust (PCT) to manage a local Healthy Schools programme. Each programme has a Local Co-coordinator and a team from education and health, supporting its management and delivery. A Healthy School is one that has met the criteria in the four core themes below:

- 1 Personal, social and health education including sex and relationship education and drug education
- 2 Healthy eating
- 3 Physical activity
- 4 Emotional health and well-being (including bullying)

These criteria relate not only to the taught curriculum but also to the emotional, physical and learning environment that the school provides. 50% (40) of Lambeth schools have already achieved Healthy Schools Status (December 2006). By December 2009 Lambeth aims to have 100% of its schools achieving Healthy Schools status.

Lambeth's Local Area Agreement stretch target aims to increase the number of schools with Healthy Schools accreditation in Lambeth, which are also accredited for 'Healthy Schools Extended Objectives' for at three least lifestyle strands including Sex and Relationships Education. This stretch target integrates the Local Area Agreement with a priority within the Plan.

The Healthy School programme is an important preventative measure for Lambeth. The Borough's adult population has high levels of diabetes,

hypertension, kidney disease and adult obesity. Many of the chronic conditions can be prevented by improving diet, exercise and living style. The Healthy Schools programme is a way in which the Partnership can use preventative education, improved school meals and access to physical activity to foster a healthy living lifestyle in children and young people

Better health outcomes for Children and Young People

Mental health

Universal - Children Centres (under 5's), Schools and other providers are currently supported to identify early stages of mental ill health. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) has been developing its strategy to base practitioners in universal services, such as schools and Children Centres. It has been proven that direct access to CAMHS at an early stage can help to prevent more serious emotional problems.

CAMHS has begun to deliver wellbeing awareness training in schools to teachers and parents, increasing the sensitivity of staff in schools to cultural issues and raising awareness and raising understanding of what support is available for children and young people. Many services and resources for children and young people with mental or emotional health issues are provided by the Voluntary and Community Sector. On going work with voluntary and community groups will

ensure that they are involved in the commissioning of services.

Targeted - In response to the partnership vision for the services to be delivered in a preventative manner the CAMHS service has placed number of practitioners in the behaviour improvement programme (4) and in a schools as a pilot (3). These initiatives have meant for a small number (185), they have received a swift response to their needs. As a consequence the CAMHS service is establishing an early intervention team to support the implementation of the team around the child. Three members of the team began work in March 2007.

Specialist – Lambeth has well developed specialist services for children and young people with serious mental health problems, those who are at risk because of their emotional vulnerability and family situation, and those who have a disability and/or mental health problems. There are a number of mental health services for specific groups including children and young people with attention deficit disorder, anxiety, depression, psychosis and disability. The specialist teams treat the majority of children and young people in the community, but some may be admitted to hospital.

The CAMHS specialist provision to Lambeth's Youth Offending Service continues to improve and is assessed as performing above the national average, Child and adolescent mental health nurses supported by a consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist work

within the Youth Offending Service to ensure that young offenders thought to have acute mental health difficulties are formally assessed within five working days. Performance has improved significantly from 41% to 100% in 2006/07.

Whilst this Plan focuses on the needs of children and young people, the increasing prevalence of mental ill health amongst the adult population is directly impacting on the safeguarding of children and young people. This can be seen in the increased numbers of Child Protection conferences that are a result of the mental health of parent/carers

H1 - Physical health

Universal – The school nursing service regularly contributes to Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) Programmes within schools and Children Centres and contribute to discussions about lifestyle choices and protection from communicable diseases. School nurses also collect height and weight data to monitor obesity in children and young people.

In relation to immunisation there is a comprehensive immunisation programme against the common diseases of childhood. Following Department of Health guidance, the Primary Care Trust has introduced a universal BCG vaccination programme for all 0-1 year olds to reduce incidences of tuberculosis. Selected at risk groups, up to the age of 18 years are also offered immunisations as part of this programme.

The Birthday Card Scheme has been introduced

through GP practices, when invitations are sent to their registered population on their first birthday to encourage uptake of the Measles, Mumps & Rubella vaccinations.

Targeted – A dental health needs assessment has been completed which provides clear priorities for children and young people around dental health. There has been targeted health promotion in the neediest schools. Dental health promotion training of Health Visitors to support schools with high levels of tooth decay has taken place.

The Health Education Link Service links local care practitioners with their local schools to offer health education sessions in schools. This includes drug education in an integrated and holistic way from nursery to year 11, covering pharmaceuticals, smoking, tobacco, illegal drugs and alcohol.

Neighbourhood Renewal Funding has been used to fund projects to reduce inequalities in infant mortality in Lambeth, these include: The low birthweight project raising awareness and educating community groups about how nutrition, smoking and other causes of low birth weight can be tackled; Smoking cessation with pregnant women; Mapping the care pathway for maternity and child care to address way to improve it; a specialist Health Promotion Visitor has been employed to train and raise awareness of ways to reduce infant mortality with health professionals and others including community groups.

Specialist - Services are being developed to combat obesity which is a contributory factor to long-term chronic illnesses such as diabetes and chronic heart disease. General practitioners are implementing a national initiative to record the height and the weight of all adults to enable them to monitor the population as a preventative measure regarding obesity.

The Autism and Complex needs Intervention Team (ACIST) is a new multi-agency service that has been developed to help support families with children with autism and complex needs.

H1 Sexual Health

Universal – there has been a significant reduction in Lambeth's under-18 conception rate. Provisional data for 2005 shows an under 18 conception rate of 79.7 per 1000 (women aged 15-17), a reduction of about 6.6% between 2004 and 2005. The conception rate has reduced by 15% from the 1998 baseline.

Lambeth's Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Partnership is working to implement national guidance and evidence based practice. Better prevention is a key factor in tackling teenage pregnancy and improving sexual health for children and young people. A coordinated evidenced based approach has been developed to support Sex and Relationships Education programmes in and out of schools. This consists of: needs analysis; joint development of the Sex and Relationships Education programme; policy development curriculum support; whole school training; work with parents and carers; integrated programme

delivery supported by partner agencies and to ensure processes for evaluation and feedback.

The Lambeth and Southwark Chlamydia screening team have developed a programme of outreach, which has enabled us to dramatically increase our screening rates amongst the target age group of 15-24 year olds. In 2005/06 we carried out 3576 screens in Lambeth sites and in 2007/08 this number increased to 5153 screens.

The Youth Council has been funded by the partnership to work with young people in relation to sex and relationships through the peer education programme. In 2006-7 they worked with over 1300 young people about health issues. Peer educators from the Youth Council are delivering information and advice sessions in schools around sex and relationships education as well as inputting into training for a variety of staff groups. The Peer educators also provide input to health days across all Lambeth College sites alongside with representation from the Lambeth Reproductive and Sexual Health service.

Workforce training in Sex and Relationship Education is provided for professionals working with the most vulnerable young people in Lambeth. The availability of well publicised young people-centered contraceptive and sexual health advice services is also improving. This will be supported by a new sexual health centre in the South of the Borough providing a new young people friendly service.

Targeted – The Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Partnership also delivers targeted work with at risk groups of young people, for example, Looked After Children. There are targeted programmes in place that target high risk groups: The Playas Klub works with young black men; the Family Planning Association delivers sexual health sessions to ethnic minority women. Plans are in place to increase this provision in 2007 – 2008 and include the recruitment of a specialist nurse for children in special circumstances (such as Looked after Children).

We are currently developing a sexual health centre in the North of the borough, which will open in Spring / Summer 2007 and will target young people and gay men. A young people's outreach Nurse will be attached to this service.

Specialist - The experience of being a young parent in Lambeth is improving. Services are working more closely together and the level of support available for young people has increased. Lambeth has a solid and accessible system of support for young parents through mainstream organisations and through the Sure Start Plus programme.

The Sure Start Plus programme provides support to pregnant teenagers and young parents. This includes support, advice and signposting to housing, childcare, social care, health issues, education, employment and training. Lambeth also provides a support facility called Room @ the Top which aims to reintegrate school aged mothers back into education.

As well as working with mainstream organisations to increase their ability to work with and support young parents, there is also the need to further develop specialist services working with young parents. Lambeth has developed a solid and accessible system of support for young parents which is beginning to make an impact on the levels of teenage conceptions.

H2 Substance misuse

Universal - Education in relation to drugs and alcohol is addressed through partnership work with schools and specialist community and voluntary sector agencies. Lambeth's Drug Education Team works collaboratively to co-ordinate strategic and operational work to support and quality assure the delivery of substance misuse education both in and out of school settings.

Alongside Lambeth's Healthy Schools programme the Drug Education Team delivers excellent work with schools, as a result over 80% of secondary schools have an approved drug and alcohol policy and a joint working agreement with the On-It service to refer young people into specialist drug and alcohol support service on the schools premises. In addition, the Drug Education Team lead on the development of a holistic education and prevention programme focusing on risk-taking behaviour for school aged children and young people. The Drug Education Team has published guidance for young people on drug use entitled "Risky Business".

Targeted - A range of targeted substance misuse services exist in Lambeth to support vulnerable young people and where appropriate, refer them to specialist treatment services. Specialist substance misuse posts within the Youth Offending Service and Children and Families Social Care Team provide a link between mainstream and specialist services improving understanding and joint working around issues of drug and alcohol use. Targeted services also exist within the community and voluntary sector, these include a service set up to meet the needs from black and minority ethnic communities, a service set up to meet the needs of young Portuguese and service set up to meet the needs of lesbian, gay and bi-sexual young people. All services have treatment closely linked to or actually have a specialist treatment service component embedded within them.

Specialist - A range of specialist treatment services exist in Lambeth that have been set up to meet the diverse range of need presented by young people living in the borough. These services work together as a virtual integrated team, with practitioners meeting on a monthly basis to discuss practice and case management (within confidentiality boundaries). This has improved understanding between services and provides young people with a great range of support. Young peoples engagement with treatment services has continued to improve and with over 138 young people engaged with treatment services during 2006-07 (6.8% of the adult treatment population), compared to 2005-06 (2.6%). We are working well to achieve our

treatment target for young people for 2007-08 (7.1% of the adult treatment population).

Next Steps – further improvement in outcomes

Mental Health - We are integrating services targeted at children and young people who have specific difficulties.

CAMHS professionals will be part of the 'Team Around the Child' approach; practitioners will be members of the multi-agency team providing support and services for children with additional needs.

The views of 'The Adolescent Mental Health Strategy and Users' were considered in the development of preventative services. The Children Centre's and Extended Services programmes are being used to increase local access to mental health support and raise awareness regarding the factors that contribute to a sense of well-being and resilience in young people. Improving the information sharing between adult services and Children services will contribute to the improved identification and support for children and young people at risk of mental health.

Sexual Health – In order to reach our target to reduce teenage pregnancy by 60% by 2010 the Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Partnership will continue to implement national best practice guidance and action the following:

- Ensure that robust performance management procedures are in place

- Contribute to the development of a borough wide Parenting Strategy
- Continue with the mainstreaming of Sure Start Plus Programme
- Support the Youth Service to develop Sex and Relationships Education and condom distribution policies
- Extend provision of targeted programmes to address young people at high risk or those engaging in risk-taking behaviour
- Ensure information for parents and training is widely disseminated and publicised
- Work with partners to continue to address and evidence initiatives linked to the Teenage Pregnancy agenda e.g. alcohol, drugs, educational achievement, crime and gangs
- Develop a three year media and communications plan

Details are contained in the Teenage Parental and Partnership Strategy.

Substance Misuse – To tackle the effects of substance misuse amongst children and young people in Lambeth, we have identified the following key actions that will further improve outcomes for children and young people in Lambeth.

- Incorporate substance misuse within the Common Assessment Framework for Lambeth and link this to the Drug Use Screening Tool – this will help to identify any substance misuse needs early on and to provide targeted intervention.

- Raise drug and alcohol awareness with professionals that work with children and young people
- Continue to support the development of services set up to meet young people's needs in relation to problematic substance misuse
- Develop an under-18 prescribing protocol for implementation across the partnership
- Further development of family-based prevention and treatment interventions.

Other areas:

- There has been excellent improvement to the performance indicator relating to health checks for Looked after children the target for 2006 has been exceeded and a challenging target of 95% has been set for the coming three years.

How outcomes will be measured:

1. Change in the number of conceptions to females aged 15 – 17 resident in the area, compared with the baseline year of 1998 (BVPI 197)
2. Percentage of young people who are assessed as manifesting acute mental health difficulties referred by YOS to the CAMHS for a formal assessment commencing within five working days of the receipt of the referral
3. All schools to be working towards the National Healthy Schools Standard by 2009.
4. Increase the participation of young problem drug users (under-18) in treatment (measured as a % of the adult treatment population as recorded by the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System).

Conclusion

The partnership is supported by excellent public health data which contributes to the needs analysis for this area. The priorities and activities are designed strategically to make a sustainable impact on outcomes for children and young people.



Stay Safe: Lambeth's Priorities:

- S1 Improve support to **families** who have identified additional needs and where there is a responsibility to safeguard children and young people
- S2 Prevent young people from drifting into crime, in particular young BME boys
- S3 Improve transition arrangements for vulnerable young people, in particular looked after children and children with disabilities

Local Area Agreement Stretch Target:

- LAA/S Reduction in the disproportionate outcomes for young BME people in the Criminal Justice System

Why are these our priorities?

Staying safe is a fundamental outcome for children and young people. If they do not feel safe they cannot achieve the other outcomes. Many of our children and young people have reported anxieties and concerns in relation to gangs, guns and crime in general. The Safer Communities Partnership has developed a robust working relationship with community groups. The Partnership has sought the views of

young people, these priorities are their shared concerns:

S1 Improve support to families –

Our needs analysis and performance data identified that Lambeth has significantly more children that are Looked After and/or subject to child protection procedures than our comparable neighbours. Young people themselves have told us we "...should do more to support parents earlier so that families can be kept together". Support is specifically needed for parents/carers and families of other vulnerable groups of young people in Lambeth, including children with disabilities, special educational needs and young carers. We have prioritised this area of work as we want to support children and families to remain together in a safe environment

S2 Preventing young people from drifting into crime –

Lambeth has an improving Youth Offending Service and supports over 600 young people, which is a typical number for an inner-city team. 75% of all young people in the youth justice system in Lambeth are from a Black, minority ethnic group. This represents a major inequality, as the proportion of 10-17 year old BME children and young people in the youth justice system is considerably higher than the overall 10-17 year old Black, minority ethnic population. In Lambeth, Black young people are three times more likely (than white young people) to enter the criminal justice system. An added challenge is that many of our vulnerable children and young people who statistically are at risk of youth offending live outside the borough. Addressing this inequality is a priority.

S3 Improve transition arrangements – Our transition arrangements for vulnerable groups are improving for those Leaving Care and those with disabilities. However, we need to continue to improve outcomes for these young people and their families by ensuring that the transition from Children’s Services to adult services is seamless through sharing of information and integrated service delivery.

LAA/S Crime in Lambeth is 55% above the national average (England and Wales). Serious offending by young people in Lambeth is high when compared to the national average. (Nationally young people committed 1.6% of all robberies in Lambeth the figure was 8%) Youth crime in Lambeth is exceptional when compared to the rest of the country. The range of crimes committed by young people ranges from street robbery to serious assaults. The Borough, similar to other London boroughs has experienced a number of tragedies that have involved the use of guns or knives. This has heightened the fear of crime amongst young people themselves and residents. In the Council’s most recent residents’ survey, 54% of our citizens cited ‘crime’ as their number one concern. When consulted, 57% of 8 – 11 year old were concerned about ‘young people doing crime’ and 40% were concerned about gangs where they live. Young people over 11 were concerned about guns and knives (79%) and gangs (41%).

Within this context of high youth crime there is a disproportionate number of young Black and Minority Ethnic people entering the criminal justice system in Lambeth.

The Local Area Agreement is designed to tackle this issue and ensure that inequalities and social exclusion are addressed as part of our strategy.

Better safer outcomes for Children and Young people
S1 Improve support to families

Universal – Through Lambeth’s Childcare Strategy, Brightsart, and in conjunction with the Education Advisory Service, we will provide training and support to ensure that transitions at all stages of early years education are a positive experience for children and parents and do not have a negative impact on children’s attainment. Children’s Centres and Extended Services also work closely with schools and the voluntary and community sector to provide a high level of family and parental support as a key part of their ‘core offers’.

Through the Children’s Information Service, Lambeth is offering information for parents on childcare and related issues e.g. support with funding. The Young Lambeth Website is also being developed as an on-line children’s services directory (0-19 years).

Targeted – The Safer Schools Partnership has been extended. This partnership exists to reduce the prevalence of crime and victimisation amongst young people and to reduce the number of incidents and crimes in schools and their wider communities. Every secondary school in Lambeth has a dedicated Police Officer. The implementation of the Team Around the Child approach will help us to identify, through the Common Assessment Framework, children and families with additional needs and provide multi-agency support personalized around the needs of the child or family.

Specialist – There will be development of a multi-

disciplinary service including social care and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service to provide community-based support for families with adolescents to prevent family breakdown. Social Care Eligibility Criteria has been developed to ensure consistency when making referrals for specialist support to social care. In addition, specific support is being developed for Young Carers who are another vulnerable group of children and young people. The Young Carers Project provides support, respite and diversionary activities for these young people and work closely with Social Care to ensure the needs of the young person's family are being adequately met.

There are currently 95 families with children with disabilities that receive domiciliary care service to help them in their home, an additional 28 families have opted to receive their service in the form of a Direct Payment. This enables families to employ their own support staff, which can provide the flexibility that is often needed when caring for children with disabilities.

S2 Preventing young people from drifting into crime

Universal - A thorough review of the entire Youth Offending Service has been completed to ensure resources are effectively deployed across the borough and focused on prevention. Lambeth Youth Offending Service has recently moved from a level 1 Youth Offending Service to a level 3 Youth Offending Service making this team the fastest improving YOS in the country.

Targeted - The Youth Inclusion Support Panel identifies those families and children and young people that are at risk

of offending and provides targeted support packages, including parenting programmes, Positive Activities for Young People and various voluntary & community sector projects. The panel has also developed various partnership approaches to prevent young people from drifting into crime.

Specialist – The Lambeth Gang Intervention Programme is currently working with 100 young people. It is delivered by 7 voluntary sector agencies providing a range of interventions to young people who are at risk of involvement in gang culture. Membership of the review team for the Prolific and Priority Offenders for young people will be reassessed to ensure that their needs are addressed holistically.

S3 – Improve transition arrangements for vulnerable children and young people –

Universal - A review of pathway planning for Care Leavers has been undertaken to ensure all transitional issues are addressed.

The Local Authority is rebuilding its primary school for Children with disabilities to enable more children to attend local schools. The design of the school will enable and support multi-agency working and parental and family support.

Targeted - Children's Trust arrangements are being piloted with children with disabilities and special educational needs. This ensures that all services for children with disabilities and special educational needs are integrated and these groups of children and young people have one care pathway specifically designed around their identified needs.

Specialist – Lambeth participated in the Department of Health 'In control' project on transitions for disabled young people. The Corporate Parenting Team facilitate consultation groups

with looked after children to help inform and improve service delivery and transition arrangements.

Lambeth has a successful children with disabilities register. Registration on the 'I Count' register is voluntary and parents / carers are encouraged to register their children by professionals working with them. There are currently over 500 children on the register, enabling the partnership to plan effectively for children with disabilities. There is a Multi-Agency Children and Adults Partnership Board that focuses on the issues around young people with disabilities moving from Children's to Adults Services.

Next Steps further improvements in outcomes Improve support to families –

- In Lambeth we have a variety of targeted and specialist family support services to support families with additional needs. This family support is provided through a variety of different settings by both statutory and voluntary agencies. We aim to work in closer partnership to ensure that this family support is co-coordinated and addresses the needs of families in Lambeth.
- Family and parenting support is a core offer of both our Children's Centres and Extended Services Programmes, Phase 1 of the Children's Centre programme 'oversaw' the designation of 13 Children's Centres, Phase 2 of Children's Centre programme will see the designation of a further 11 Children's Centres by March 2008. By 2010 all Lambeth schools will be supported to provide the Extended Services full offer.

The Team Around the Child arrangements will incorporate a family support service for families of children with additional needs and bring together the family support aspects of the Children's Centres and Extended Services Programme.

Preventing young people from drifting into crime –

- A stretch target within Lambeth's Local Area Agreement is committed to redressing disproportionate outcomes for young people entering the criminal justice system. Lambeth's approach to achieving this stretch target is to consider key risk factors that lead to children and young people becoming involved in offending behaviour and to respond with 'protective' initiatives:
 1. Family support & parenting provision
 2. Youth crime prevention & diversionary activities
 3. Reparation schemes
 4. Education programme working with schools
 5. Health programmes

Through this approach it is hoped that the Partnership will address a number of key risk factors that lead to offending and social exclusion. Joint planning and commissioning of drugs services will be further developed for children and young people, including jointly agreed priorities, targets and actions.

Improve transition arrangements for vulnerable children and young people –

The Children with Disabilities and Special Educational Needs Strategy Group, under the strategic direction of the Partnership will focus on a key number of key areas:

1. Developing multi-agency transition arrangements for in order to ensure children and young people receive appropriate support throughout childhood and into adulthood
2. Establishing an agreement to jointly plan and commission services for children with disabilities and special educational needs so they are co-coordinated, more cost effective and matched to identified need
3. Developing an integrated approach to the assessment and care of children and young people.

Other areas for improvement:

- The Local authority has had a positive recent fostering and adoption inspection which has highlighted improvement in the support available for children and young people and their carers. However, there is still some difficulty in recruiting sufficient local foster parents.

Key Indicators / How outcomes will be measured:

1. Percentage of children who have been looked after continuously for at least 4 years, who were currently in a foster placement where they have spent at least 2 years (PAF CF/D35)
2. Number of new entrants to the youth justice system
3. Recidivism rates for young people
4. Recruitment of foster carers

Enjoy and Achieve: Lambeth's Priorities:

- E1 Increase access to quality local school places and good quality childcare places
- E2 Raise attainment levels *for all pupils* and achieve floor targets (these set our performance targets at a local level) to enable pupils to achieve their *full potential*
- E3 Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups
- E4 Increase opportunities for all young people to participate in and out of school activities

Why are these our priorities?

Raising school standards is a key priority for the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership in Lambeth. We recognise the affect school standards has across all of the Every Child Matters outcomes for children and young people and aim to ensure that improving school standards is central to our planning and delivery of services to children and young people.

E1 Increase access to good quality local school and childcare places –

Lambeth Building Schools for the Future (BSF) is part of a wider Government investment programme, which aims to rebuild or substantially refurbish every secondary school in England, to ensure that all secondary pupils learn in 21st-century facilities. It is a major transformation programme, which will contribute towards increasing access to quality schools in Lambeth. This is a key priority for Lambeth, as over 50% of our secondary school children currently attend schools outside of the borough. In accordance with The Education and Inspections Act 2006, Lambeth is dedicated to promoting diversity of school provision and increase parental choice in the planning and provision of school places. Lambeth has a school going population of 62,000. Lambeth's school population has shown significant growth over recent years – 9% since 1997 – and is expected to continue at an even greater rate over the coming years. Over the next few years, an increasing shortfall has been projected in primary school places in Lambeth.

Lambeth's Brightstart strategy is a coherent response to the Childcare Act 2006. We are committed to improving outcomes for children by ensuring that they have access to high quality childcare places that meet the needs of parents and carers.

We have completed a childcare sufficiency assessment which maps the supply of childcare places in the maintained, private voluntary and independent sectors. This is brought together with consultation results from a survey and focus groups to provide gap analysis of childcare provision in the borough.

This information will be used to secure sufficient and appropriate childcare to support working or training parents and to assist us in the roll-out of the Nursery Education Fund which provides free entitlement to 12.5 to 15 hours per week.

Lambeth is committed to improving the outcomes of young children by assessing childcare provision and secure sufficient and appropriate childcare to support working or training parents.

E2 Raise attainment levels for all pupils –

Lambeth has demonstrated a steady and impressive rise in educational achievement over recent years. The 2005-06 academic year proved to be another exciting and successful year for Lambeth with improved results at key stages 2, 3 and 4, these are now the highest recorded for Lambeth. We are working hard to ensure that all Lambeth schools achieve above national average ‘floor targets’ by 2008. It is important that every Lambeth school gives **all** our children and young people the very best chance of success. Lambeth’s Education Achievement Plan has been developed and focuses on the priorities for quality education and achievement for children and young people in Lambeth. The Education Achievement Plan sets local targets to improve educational achievement in Lambeth.

Even though educational outcomes for children and young people in Lambeth continue to improve, there is still much work to be done.

E3 Narrow the gaps for specific groups –

The resident population of 0-19 year olds in Lambeth is 67,000 with 79% of our school children and young people being from black and minority ethnic groups, the largest of which are black Caribbean and black African. The Portuguese population also continues to grow as does the Somali population. Our performance data shows there is a need to narrow the achievement gap for specific groups of pupils, such as Portuguese, black Caribbean and gypsy/Roma pupils. Looked after children also achieve less well than other pupils both nationally and in the borough.

E4 Increase participation in out of school activities -

The percentage of young people aged 13-19 years reached by publicly funded youth services is low, at 13.5%. We currently have 1 full-time equivalent youth worker for every 553 young people in that age group and need to improve this ratio. Consultation with children and young people has identified out of school and leisure time activities to be a key priority for children and young people in Lambeth. There is a demand in Lambeth for the enhancement and increase of play opportunities as well as “More youth clubs with better facilities and stay open until later times.”

Youth provision is a political priority and is seen as an essential service in relation to the partnership commitment to preventative working.

Improved Enjoy and achieve outcomes for children and young people

Increase access to good quality local school and childcare places –

Universal – Lambeth Children and Young People’s Service has overseen the implementation of a new locally co-ordinated admissions scheme for applying for primary and secondary school places. From September 2006 parents were provided with the facility to apply to schools on-line with our eAdmissions programme. This has helped to improve customer service by providing consistent and easy-to-use information on the London Borough of Lambeth website for parents and carers about our schools.

13 of Lambeth’s first phase Children Centres were designated in 2006, providing access to high quality childcare places. Early years settings including childminders are provided with support to improve the quality of the childcare they offer. The childcare sufficiency study which was recently completed will enable us to ensure that the need for places is met across the borough.

Targeted – Lambeth is the first local authority in London to start constructing new schools as part of its Building Schools for the Future programme. The programme is helping to address the issue of children with special educational needs having to travel out of the borough as part of the programme each school is developing a specialist provision for pupils with special educational needs.

Specialist - A project has been initiated to address the shortfall in primary school places through the expansion of existing primary schools, A number of primary schools have undergone feasibility studies to explore the potential for expansion. A Project Advisory Board, which includes Headteacher, Governor and Diocesan Board representation, has been established in order to advise on methodology, to ensure the project is on course and represent the views of key stakeholders.

Raise attainment levels for all pupils – Universal –

Achievement trends from 2001-2006 show an improvement at: Key Stage 2 level 4		
English	Mathematics	
10%	4%	
Key Stage 3 level 5 improvements shows an increase since 2001 of:		
English	Mathematics	Science
21%	25%	17%
Improvement at GCSE is up:		
A*-C	A*-G	
19%	4%	
Both locally set targets for Key Stage 3 mathematics and GCSE A*-C were exceeded		

Lambeth has worked with schools to promote good attendance, secondary school attendance remains above the national average, primary attendance which is improving remains slightly beneath the national average. Work continues to support

schools in reducing exclusions by the combined impact of the behaviour improvement programme, the role of the integration officer and inclusion policy and behaviour support and advice for parents. Schools set challenging targets and worked closely with pupils, parents and carers to ensure this issue was kept at a high profile. Attendance, particularly within primary schools, has been prioritised as a key area of development with schools. The Lambeth Attendance Initiative in 2006 helped to publicise the importance of this across the borough. Lambeth Early Years and Sure Start Services has worked with the Department for Education and Skills to set robust and challenging targets for the end of the Foundation Stage (an equalities target to narrow the achievement gap and an improvement target).

Targeted - In 2005, 12 of Lambeth's primary schools were performing below the national floor targets at Key Stage 2, where less than 65% of children had achieved level 4 across English, Mathematics and Science over a period of three years. The majority of these schools are situated in wards where children face multiple disadvantages, the majority forming part of the 30% most deprived areas in the country. 'Best for all our Children' is a programme designed to work with these schools to improve outcomes for children and young people and provide targeted support to schools to help them achieve floor targets.

Specialist - The Intensifying Support Programme – targeted at schools facing the most challenging circumstances – has continued to be successful and deliver positive results. The JUMP mathematics pilot programme has shown extremely good results and more extensive use of this programme is

planned during 2007-08 and is expected to impact on pupil performance in the 2008.

Lambeth's Pupil Placement Panel has developed a robust system of tracking and placing excluded pupils and children missing education in alternative education provision. A target of 100% for placement of excluded pupils has been set and is monitored quarterly. Early intervention and preventative work to support children who are at risk of exclusion has led to a reduction in permanent exclusions across both primary and secondary schools.

E3 Narrow the gaps for specific groups

Universal - Tackling the underperformance of specific groups of pupils and closing the achievement gap has remained a key issue for Lambeth. The CYPs Research and Statistics Unit have continued to carry out nationally acclaimed research, such as that into the achievement of African heritage pupils. This research shows that African heritage pupils' achievement in Lambeth schools is bucking national trends. It also confirms that Black African children in Lambeth schools are doing better than Indian and White British children at national level. While Portuguese achievement continues to be lower than that of other ethnic groups, much work has been carried out and successfully embedded over the past few years, which has resulted in Portuguese pupils having made the greatest gains – 8% at key stage 2 and 24% at GCSE – since 2000.

Targeted - The Ethnic Minority Achievement Team has continued to support schools to raise achievement of ethnic minority pupils who are particularly at risk of underachieving and to meet the needs of pupils for whom English is an additional language, including refugees and Travellers.

The Looked After Children Educational Achievement Team has successfully helped to support looked after children in the borough, ensuring that all Looked After Children have a school place, an up to date Personal Education Plan and receive any additional support they require and to facilitate regular training with designated teachers and headteachers to understand the needs of looked after children.

An annual awards ceremony is organized within Children and Young People's Service for Looked After Children aged 0 to 24 years to recognize and celebrate their achievements. In 2007 240 children were nominated and received awards at the event.

A Restorative Approaches Co-coordinator has been successfully working with schools to implement restorative approaches in schools aiming to tackle behaviour and attendance issues.

Specialist – The attendance of Looked After Children has continued to be monitored. Tracking and follow up work has been undertaken with pupils with less than 90% attendance and improvement plans have been put in place to support pupils.

Development of the **programme of reintegration and intervention** for young people known to the youth justice system has led to an improvement in meeting key targets, for all children and young people known to the Youth Offending Service having education provision.

The Corporate Parenting Team are working collaboratively with Lambeth Arts, Lambeth Music, Lambeth looked after children's mental health service to apply for Arts Council

Creative Services funding to improve placement stability for looked after children by using creative arts. This project evidences the effectiveness of partnerships and creative arts in improving outcomes for looked after children.

Increase participation in out of school activities

Universal – Lambeth's Integrated Youth Strategy has been developed to enable every young person to make the transition from childhood to adulthood in a safe supportive and positive environment and to ensure they can access a range of opportunities for physical and emotional development and health. We will continue to develop the Youth Opportunities fund as part of the delivery of the Integrated Youth Strategy. The 'Young Lambeth' website went live in April 2006, Young Lambeth contains all services for children and young people in the Borough; including out of school activities, play opportunities and youth groups.

Access to a broad range of activities, including the arts, has a direct impact on the attendance and self-esteem of children and young people. These aims are directly supported by the Local Area Agreement stretch target to increase participation in arts and cultural activities and by the Arts Education Forum who broker an arts entitlement curriculum in schools.

Children and young people's access to libraries in Lambeth is generally high, with libraries offering a variety of services for children and young people in Lambeth. Lambeth Children and Young People's Service and Lambeth Libraries are developing a joint action plan to increase the take up and usage of library services across the Borough with children and young people.

Targeted - Lambeth's Extended Services Programme has continued to roll out in Lambeth. The Extended Services team

is working closely with schools and local communities to develop a comprehensive range of extended services, including out-of-school activities. 26 schools have been identified and are being supported as Phase 1 schools and a further 13 schools are identified for inclusion in Phase 2. By 2010 all schools in Lambeth will offer a full range of extended services.

Lambeth Positive Activities for Young People:

- Works with young people to support them into school places
- Liaises with schools to ensure young people receive the support they need
- Funds alternative education for young people excluded from school and
- Funds a wide range of recreational activities for young people.

Specialist – Lambeth’s Play Strategy has been developed setting out a vision for children’s play across the borough over the next 10 years, covering children and young people 0 to 18 years. It sets out why play is important to children. The strategy has five strategic aims and eleven strategic priorities covering the quality, accessibility and sustainability of play provision, the involvement of children and parents in the planning and development of play, effective partnership and cross departmental coordination and maximising available resources.

Lambeth’s Children and Young People’s Sports Plan 2007-2012 is currently being developed and aims to ensure that Lambeth’s children and young people have an equal right to

good quality, accessible and affordable sports provision. The plan demonstrates how an integrated approach will bring together activity across Lambeth’s Children and Young People’s Service, Environment and Cultural Services and the Opening Doors Strategy to increase the number of children and young people involved in sporting activity and preparing Lambeth for the 2012 Olympic games.

Next steps further improvements in outcomes

Increase access to good quality local school and childcare places –

Lambeth’s Children Information Service is developing and extending its remit to meet the requirements of the Childcare Act (information Duty) as well as providing information on services for children 0-19 the Children Information Service will develop an outreach service which will operate in the children’s centres health centres and other venues.

The outreach service will engage with parents and carers who may not otherwise have access the childcare information and provide one-to-one advice and support for parents who need it. Lambeth has commissioned a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment to assess childcare needs ahead of the timescale set nationally. The findings of this assessment will be published shortly. This will then provide a clear view of the priorities for developing childcare which meets parents’ needs and meets the requirements of the Childcare Act.

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 places a duty on maintained schools to have regard to the CYPP when promoting well-being, community cohesion and high standards of educational achievement

A ten year strategy for Primary School Places in Lambeth is being developed alongside the Primary School Expansion Project, the principles of which promote diverse and successful provision, which meets the needs of pupils, parents and the community.

E2 Raise attainment levels for all pupils –

Raising attainment at the end of the Foundation Stage is a key priority of the Education Achievement Plan 2007/08. Increasing attainment at the Foundation Stage will help to improve outcomes for young children in Lambeth and raise schools standards in Lambeth.

Continuing to improve the quality of education for primary aged pupils by: improving reading at Key Stage 1; Improving Mathematics at Key Stage 2; continuing to support schools below, or in danger of falling below, the national floor targets; ensuring the provision of good quality school food in primary schools; to develop the role of School Improvement Partners and to improve attendance and reduce exclusions.

Continue to improve the quality of education for secondary aged pupils in Lambeth by: maximising the number of pupils achieving 5 GCSE grades A*-C including English and Mathematics; ensuring that all schools and departments perform above the Key Stage 3 national floor targets; support schools in achieving new Science courses; develop 14-19 provision including Diplomas and post-16 achievement.

E3 Narrow the gaps for specific groups –

Continue to help to improve outcomes for looked after children and young people through embedding the work of the Looked after Children Education Team, improving information sharing and school tracking systems; develop training programmes for key professionals and establishing good communication between key agencies.

Raise achievement of pupils with English as an Additional Language and from ethnic minorities.

Further analysis of data and pupil tracking information to raise standards by identifying under-performing groups and target setting.

E4 Increase participation in out of school activities –

Implement Lambeth's Holiday Activities Programme. The Holiday Activities Partnership's strategic aim is to contribute directly to all five Every Child Matters Outcomes, through the provision of quality holiday activities for children and young people in Lambeth.

The delivery of Lambeth's Integrated Youth Strategy will oversee the development of a number of services to increase opportunities for children and young people to participate in out of school activities.

Lambeth's Extended Services Programme will continue to work with schools and the local community to offer activities for children and their families between 8am and 6pm.

Key Indicators / How outcomes will be measured:

1. Providing adequate provision for school role projections for Lambeth Primary and Secondary Schools
2. Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving five or more GCSE's at grades A* -C or equivalent (BV 38)
3. Increase percentage of children achieving 78 points or more across the Foundation Stage Profile (with at least 6 points for Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication Language and Literacy)
4. Percentage of pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving Level 4 or above in the Key Stage 2 English and Mathematics (BV40 and 41)
5. Percentage of 14 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving Level 5 or above in the Key Stage 3 English and Mathematics (BV181)
6. Percentage of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with 1 or more GCSE's at grade A* -G or a GNVQ
7. Percentage of young people aged 13 – 19 reached by publicly funded youth service

Make a Positive Contribution: Lambeth's Priority:

- PC 1 Increase opportunities for *children, young people* and their families' voices and views to be heard, enabling them to make a positive contribution to their community

Local Area Agreement Priority:

- LAA/P increasing the participation of young people in arts across the Borough

Why are these our priorities?

The government's agenda for change concerning children and young people promotes the necessity to involve them, and their parents, in the decision making processes affecting their services. More importantly, local consultation tells us that this is what Lambeth children and young people want. Young people consulted through the residents survey, Lambeth Youth Council and our primary and secondary schools state that they do not know enough about their rights and how to make their voices heard. Parents and carers consulted through Sure Start services, the Partnerships Parent's Forum frequently mention the need for more choice and flexibility in services. Lambeth is a very diverse Borough and we would be unlikely to meet the needs and provide appropriate services for children, young people and their

families without the active involvement of children, young people, their families and carers.

LAA/P increasing the participation of children and young people in the arts This priority is intended to increase the number of children and young people participating in the arts in Lambeth. Currently we have approximately 13,861 children and young people participating in the arts across the borough in a year for a minimum of 3 hours. Working in partnership with Lambeth Arts and the Inclusion & Standards Department and Lambeth City Learning Centre, Lambeth Music Service and the South Bank Cultural Quarter Group we hope to increase the number of young people participating in the arts in Lambeth.

Research shows that children who are engaged in positive activities are less likely to engage in risk-taking behaviour.

Better outcomes for Children and young people

Universal – Children, young people and their families have been involved in the development of a number of Lambeth's Strategies to shape service delivery for children and young people including; the Integrated Youth Strategy; the Brightstart Strategy and the Play Strategy. Over 200 children under 6 years old participated in the 'Our lives in Lambeth' consultation that looked at what young children in Lambeth liked and disliked about living in Lambeth. The Partnership commissioned the Youth Council to undertake consultation on three of the national outcomes. 1,300 children and young people participated in the consultation exercise and their views have been used to inform this plan.

Targeted – Lambeth Youth Council have carried out a variety of activities with children and young people, focusing on those from hard to reach communities. Young people provide training sessions across the CYPSP to their peers and youth service providers on issues such as drug and alcohol misuse, sexual health and domestic violence. Young people assess services to establish how accessible and appropriate they are for children and young people and making recommendations for change. Lambeth Youth Consultation project funds a group of young people from Lambeth Youth Council to consult with young people across the borough on their priorities relating to Staying Safe, Being Healthy and Enjoying & Achieving. The youth consultation team consulted with over 400 primary and secondary school children.

Brightstart Partnerships based around Children's Centres involving parents and providers of early years services have been established to gain feedback from parents and young children on the services they are receiving. The partnerships Parent's Forum has also been established to bring together Chairs of various Parent Support Groups across Lambeth.

Specialist – Lambeth's Corporate Parenting Team run successful consultation groups with children and young people in care from age 5 to 24 years. This is an exciting opportunity for Looked After Children and young people to participate and be directly involved in the improvement of services for all Looked After Children by Lambeth Council. Successful consultation activities include the redesign of review consultation papers for looked after children; young people's response to Care Matters green paper; a newsletter

for children in care by children in care; regular meetings with the Chief Executive of Lambeth Council; involvement in the training of social workers and foster carers; the development of a new website for children in care and consultation on key policies for children in care, including the substance misuse policy and the children missing from care policy.

Children, young people and families have consistently told us that they are fed up with the number of professionals involved with their family. The roll out of the Common Assessment Framework and the Lead Professional will ensure that children and young people are involved in decisions about themselves and there is one lead professional in contact with the family. This Lead Professional will be the professional closest to the family, with the best relationship.

The Children's Fund commissioned research on how children and young people view information sharing between professionals this research will be used to inform our operation information processes and systems as we implement the Common Assessment Framework.

The Youth Opportunities Fund enabled young people to work with the local authority to apply for small grants to develop, manage and deliver their own ideas for youth activities.

Further improvements in outcomes:

- Co-ordinate consultation with children and young people across the partnership by establishing a 'Voice for Young Lambeth' forum linking the work of Lambeth Youth Council's, School Councils & Youth Opportunities Fund

- Development of a Youth Mayor in Lambeth – this will be lead by Lambeth Youth Council
- To ensure that feedback from consultation with children, young people and their families is provided in a timely and efficient manner.
- To engage children, young people and their families in developing and implementing strategic commissioning arrangements across the partnership.
- Develop a Hear by Right Strategy
- Develop more accredited training for young people

Key Indicators / How outcomes will be measured:

1. Overall satisfaction of Children in Need (PAF CF/D65)
2. Increasing the participation of young people in arts across the Borough

Achieve Economic Wellbeing: Lambeth's Priority

- AE1 Increase the number of **young people** in employment, education and training

Local Area Agreement Priority:

- LAA/AE Reducing the numbers of young people not in employment, education or training

Why are these our priorities?

We know, from assessing need in the Borough, and from an audit of local Connexions services that this in area requiring further improvement. We need to significantly improve our performance in this area because at present we have high levels of unemployment and we are aware that young people not in education employment and training often go on to become long-term unemployed. Unemployment leads to socio-economic disadvantage which affects the outcomes for children and young people in the borough.

The Partnership is determined to shift resources and practice to a preventative way of working.

- 10% of our young people aged 16-18 are not in employment, education or training; this is significant success but the stretch target will allow us to make a further impact;
- 68.2% of young offenders supervised by the youth offending team are in employment, fulltime education or training or;
- 46.3% of 19 year old care leavers are in employment , full-time education, training or);
- 58.4% of looked after young people aged 16 years are engaged in employment, education or training
- Around a third of young mothers are in education, employment and training.

For many young people in Lambeth gaining appropriate education, training or employment when they leave school is a key priority. Young people feel that there are not enough opportunities for them when they leave school.

Better outcomes for Children and Young people

Universal – The number of young people aged 16-18 not in education employment or training has fallen to 12.1% in 2006, compared to 14.2% in 2005. Although this is a significant improvement there is still a lot of work to be done. Lambeth has consistently met its targets achieving an average reduction of 4% per year.

Connexions provides a universal and targeted service with Personal Advisers placed in all the secondary mainstream schools, special schools, pupil referral units, the 5 town centres, 3 college sites, training provision and in a One Stop Shop in central Brixton.

The Connexions Service operate with a network of Personal Advisers that are placed in agencies working with the key target

groups of young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, Looked After Children, Teenage Pregnancy, Youth Offending and substance misuse. Connexions nevertheless retain responsibility for professional supervision to ensure consistency and effective performance monitoring.

Targeted - Two Connexions Personal Advisors are members of the Youth Offending Team and a Personal Advisor within a community and voluntary sector works exclusively with young parents. Back to Work Advisors working in Sure Start Local Programmes offer one to one support to parents in training opportunities, in work benefits, CV writing, job search and interview techniques.

Care leavers will undertake work experience in Lambeth Council and will have the opportunity to shadow the Chief Executive of Lambeth and other Senior Managers.

Specialist - Job Centre Plus organises job fairs with local family friendly employers and training providers. These events are planned to appeal to families with young children, and are supported by a crèche. One Sure Start Local Programme has established a basic childcare course for refugee and asylum seeking parents. This course will enable parents to go on to apply for accredited courses in childcare. As well as an allocated social worker, all Lambeth Care leavers at age 16 have a named Personal Advisor via the Leaving Care Team. The Looked After Children Consultation Group have undertaken two consultation events in 2007 consulting on 'Achieving Economic Wellbeing'. Group members identified a need to better prepare young people for semi-independent living. As a result of this consultation the Consultation Group have now applied for Youth Opportunity Funding to run their own

project running peer led workshops to teach care leavers life skills.

In Lambeth's secondary schools for children with complex needs, children leaving school all receive Person Centred Reviews and Plans. This is done in partnership with Adult Services, and where eligible families are offered the 'In Control' method of receiving services, which is based around individual budgets for families.

Further improvement in outcomes

- To build on current success in reducing the number of young people not in education, employment or training and number of young people 'Not Known'
- To accelerate our existing strategy for young people not in education, employment or training
- To further develop our engagement with the voluntary and community sector
- To develop our intelligence in understanding the key factors underpinning long-term young people not in education, employment or training
- To foster closer links with the 14-19 Forum and Enterprise developments

Key Indicators / how outcomes will be measured:

1. Number and percentage of young people who are not in Employment, education and training
2. Percentage of young offenders who are supervised by the Youth Offending Service either in full-time education, training or employment
3. The percentage of those young people who were looked

after on 1 April in their 17th year (aged 16), who were engaged in education, training or employment

Conclusions

Lambeth continues to improve outcomes for its children and young people:

The evaluation of last years Children and Young People's Plan shows that progress has been made in the following areas:

- The number of young people not in education, employment or training has reduced significantly.
- The percentage of young offenders in education employment and training has increased. We still need to continue to improve outcomes for young people in Lambeth to enable them to achieve their full potential into adulthood. Children and young people have told us that there needs to be more job opportunities and better access to careers advice.

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Revised Children and Young People's Partnership Management Arrangements

To enable the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership to achieve its vision for children and young people and to implement Children's Trust arrangements the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Children's Trust Board has reviewed its Governance arrangements. In addition to the statutory requirement to have Children's Trust arrangements in place by March 2008, the partnership has acquired additional responsibilities as legislation has been amended by central government:

- All agencies have a duty to co-operate to achieve the Every Child Matters agenda and the statutory duties set out in the Children Act 2004.
- As the theme group of the Local Strategic Partnership, the Children and Young Peoples Partnership is responsible for the Children and Young People's block of the Local Area Agreement and the effective use of the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund allocated to it.
- The Children and Young Peoples Partnership has the responsibility to ensure that it has a well qualified workforce with minimum skills and competencies in place by 2010.

To enable the Children and Young Peoples Partnership to achieve these statutory requirements and to enable the partnership to manage the additional responsibilities it has acquired since 2005 (the date of the last review of the governance structure), it was necessary to review and streamline the governance arrangements to ensure that they are fit for purpose. The main changes are outlined below:

- An executive group comprising of the chief officers of the statutory agencies has been established – Lambeth Children and Young People's Service, Lambeth Primary Care Trust & the Borough Commander of the Metropolitan Police;
- Four sub-groups have been established that reflect the requirements to establish Children Trust arrangements by 2008 – Integrating Service Delivery, Strategic Commissioning, Performance & Monitoring and Workforce Development;
- Two additional consultative groups have been established - Voice of Young Lambeth and a Parents Forum bringing together a range of mechanisms and processes for engaging with young people and parents and carers;
- The relationship between the Local Safeguarding Children's Board and the Children and Young People's Partnership Board has been made clearer by including the Local Safeguarding Children's Board as one of the sub-groups of the partnership arrangements.

The new Governance arrangements for the partnership can be found as Appendix F.

Developing and Delivering Lambeth's Local Area Agreement

Local Area Agreements are intended to simplify the number of funding streams from central government to local government. By focusing on a core set of outcomes, Local Area Agreements give local areas much greater freedom to spend on local priorities. Lambeth's Local Area Agreement is a three year agreement 2007- 2010, to be delivered by the Local Strategic Partnership and organised around four broad 'blocks':-

1. Children and Young People
2. Safer and Stronger communities
3. Healthier communities and older people
4. Economic development and enterprise

The Children and Young People's block has been steered and developed through the leadership of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership. The Children and Young People's block of the Local Area Agreement is closely aligned to the Children and Young People's Plan. The vision and priorities from the plan are the basis for the outcomes framework of the Children and Young People's block. A key driver for the development of the Local Area Agreement was the need to ensure that the Local Area Agreement added value and would focus attention on priorities for service delivery. The needs analysis for the Local Area Agreement, identified the over representation of particular groups of children and young people in the priority areas for action. These included teenage parenthood, entry into the youth justice system, those not in education, employment or training and those with low educational attainment levels.

The Local Area Agreement has been used as a way of addressing these issues by identifying cross cutting themes that add additional value to the partnership working within the Children and Young People's block.

LAA CYP Block Stretch Target

1. ***LAA/H – The development and implementation of an extended healthy schools model***
2. ***LAA/S Reduction in the disproportionate outcomes for young BME people in the Criminal Justice System***
3. ***LAA/P increasing the participation of young people in arts across the Borough***
4. ***LAA/AE Reducing the numbers of young people not in employment, education and training***

The Local Area Agreement has four 'stretch targets' within the Children and Young Peoples block. These stretch targets enable the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership to set local priorities for measurable stretch performance targets, in return for a reward grant. All of these stretch targets are cross-cutting targets with other Local Area Agreement blocks and fit in with the identified priorities in our Children and Young People's Plan:

- reducing the numbers of young black and minority entrants to the criminal justice system with the safer, stronger communities block
- reducing the numbers of young people not in employment, education or training with the economic development and enterprise block
- enhancing our work for healthy schools with the healthier communities and older people block
- increasing the participation of young people in sports and arts in the children and young peoples block

As the accountable body for the Children and Young People's block the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership has ensured that the targets of the Local Area Agreement have been included as part of an integrated performance management schedule at (See Appendix E)

