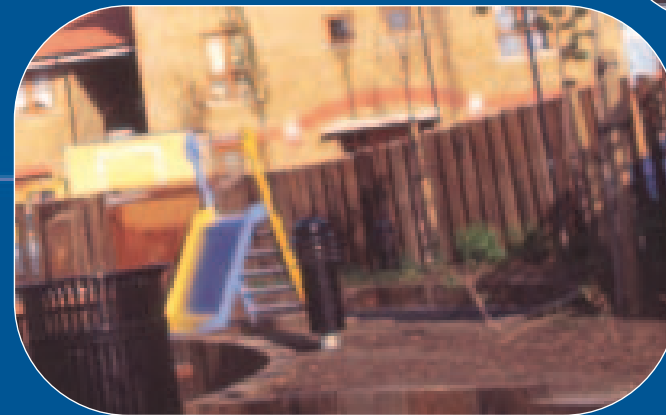


**Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan  
2006-07**



*Every Lambeth Child and Young Person Matters*

## What is Different about this Plan?

The Children and Young People's Plan has been designed to be different from other plans that we are used to. This plan is different because it:

- is specifically about children and young people and their families;
- is designed, owned and delivered by partners delivering children and young people's services;
- is focused on the services provided, not the organisations who provide them;
- is the result of wide-ranging consultation that included children and young people;
- has been designed to reflect the experiences of children and young people in Lambeth;
- will be read by, amongst others, the people of Lambeth, including children and young people;
- is forward-facing, and is concerned with what will happen in Lambeth rather than what we have already done;
- will support partnership and collaborative working to achieve positive outcomes for children and young people;
- is based on an analysis of partnership activity and assessment.

## Who will Deliver the Plan?

The Plan will be delivered by all those delivering services to children and young people in Lambeth, represented by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership which was set up in February 2004. The membership of the board is wide-ranging and includes:

**The Council** - responsible for providing services for children and young people in Lambeth, amongst a range of other local authority services;

**Lambeth Primary Care Trust** - the local organisation responsible for improving the health of Lambeth residents, providing community and primary care services and commissioning hospital and other specialist services;

**South London & Maudsley National Health Service Trust** - responsible for providing specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service for children and young people up to age 18 and their families in Lambeth. It also provides the Lambeth adult mental health, learning disability and substance misuse services.

**Headteachers' Council** - the body which represents the views of headteachers and teachers in the borough;

**Local Police** - responsible for the safety of the community;

**Voluntary and Community sector** - representatives of a wide range of local groups providing services for the people of Lambeth.



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

**Lambeth children and young people should have a voice in the delivery of services. Those providing services should listen to that voice.**

Lambeth's first Children and Young People's Plan is an important strategic document which will bring about change and improve the lives of children and young people in the borough.

It has been developed using contributions from children, young people, their families and their carers as well as many stakeholders who are involved with and supporting children and young people.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board is made up of key representatives from the Council, Health, Social Care, Police and the voluntary sector and is responsible for the effective delivery of services to meet the strategic priorities of this Plan. This Partnership is the theme group of the Local Strategic Partnership and has a number of links to other partnerships supporting children, young people and their families within the borough.

Our vision for every child and young person in Lambeth is that ' We will enable children and young people to feel valued, happy, healthy and safe and to achieve their full potential.'

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership is 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 in order to achieve our vision. Our first plan is for the year 2006-07, and is intentionally limited to one year. This will allow us to ensure that future plans, prepared on a three-yearly basis, are consistent with planning cycles of the partners.

We want to ensure that we work together in a manner that gives our children and young people what they need. This plan is therefore about children and young people and their families and it sets out the outcomes we expect for our children and young people in Lambeth.

The plan is our public commitment to working in partnership across a number of agencies to support Lambeth children and young people and their families.

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

**Councillor Roger Giess**  
*Chair of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership*



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## Section I

# Introduction

## Background

As part of the government's Every Child Matters "change for children" agenda, all Local Authorities have a statutory duty to produce a Children and Young People's Plan by April 2006. In Lambeth, the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership have undertaken responsibility for this. This plan is the first strategic inter-agency plan for children and young people and sets out the partnership priorities for them.

The Plan is strategic in nature and focuses on a number of key priorities agreed across the partnership. There is a vast range of plans that impact on service delivery to children, young people and their families. The Plan will replace over 19 of these plans and act as the overarching document that has links to other key strategies. Appendix A shows all the plans replaced or subsumed by the Children and Young People's Plan.

The production of a single Children and Young People's Plan is a key milestone for the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership and is important for the following reasons:

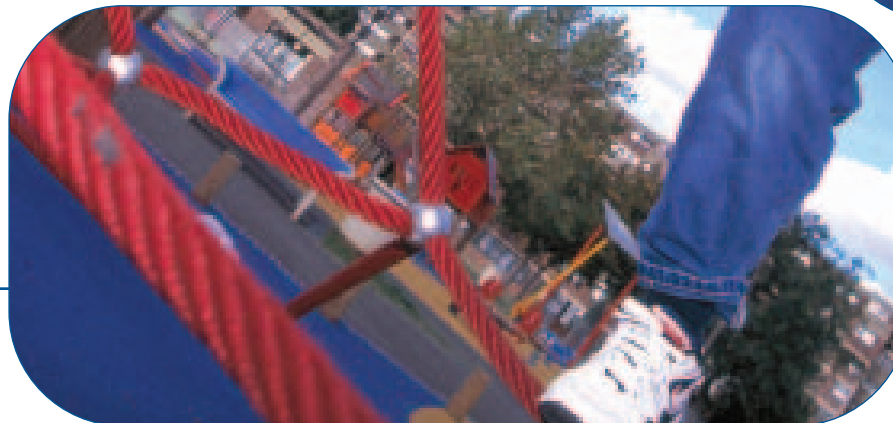
- It brings together in one document a shared vision for all Lambeth children and young people;
- It places children and young people and their families at the heart of policy development and service planning;
- It sets a number of strategic priorities that have been identified by the Partnership and identifies where collaboration and partnership working will add value;
- It demonstrates the collaboration and partnership working that is evident across the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership;
- It ensures that all change initiatives are "joined up" and are supporting the improvement of outcomes for children and young people;
- It identifies gaps in service provision and seeks to remedy them by the realignment of services within best value principles to meet local needs efficiently and effectively.

## Partnership Working

While the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership provides strategic direction, there are prominent examples of effective frontline partnerships in Lambeth, such as the Community Safety Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Board. There are also examples of focused work in Lambeth on issues of concern. This plan has been designed to address issues which do not already have this degree of focus. Examples of current partnership working that are supported by the voluntary and community sector, include:

- Brightstart, the Lambeth Childcare Strategy addressing the needs of the under fives and their families;
- The Teenage Pregnancy & Parenthood strategy working to improve the sexual health of young people in Lambeth, through better prevention, improved access and improved health and social care support for young parents.
- The Youth Justice Plan raising the performance and profile of the Youth Offending Team to support and supervise young people involved, or at risk of being involved, in crime;
- Connexions providing a universal service to all children and young people and a targeted service to those who are vulnerable;

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service working with a range of partners to support children and young people with emotional and mental health problems;
- Safer Schools' Partnership working collaboratively with the police and schools to improve community safety for children and young people.



# Vision and Principles

“ We will enable children and young people to feel valued, happy, healthy and safe and to achieve their full potential. ”

## Lambeth's Vision

The Lambeth vision for children and young people has been in development and the subject of wide consultation for the past year with:

- children and young people including looked after children, members of school councils, the Lambeth Youth Council;
- parents and carers including those involved in the Sure Start Local Programmes;
- the wider communities through age related focus groups;
- voluntary and community groups.

The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, in response to this, agreed the following vision in relation to all children and young people in Lambeth:

***"We will enable children and young people to feel valued, happy, healthy and safe and to achieve their full potential."***

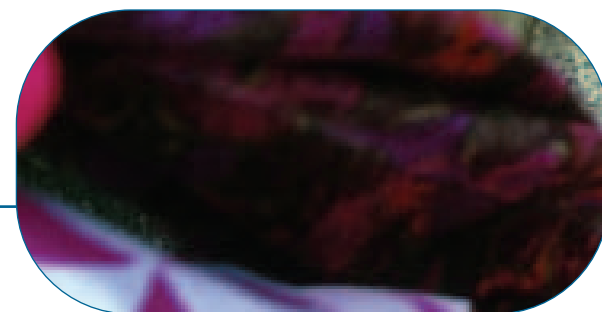
We will achieve our vision by:

- Ensuring we have effective and integrated services
- Promoting partnership working
- Encouraging the full involvement of users by focusing on their needs

## Principles

The vision demonstrates a commitment to collaboration and partnership working and demonstrates that all Lambeth children and young people matter. It is underpinned by the principles agreed by all relevant agencies and outlined below:

- We will listen to children and young people and ensure their views will influence our policy development and service planning;
- We will involve families, carers and the wider community in developing and planning services;
- We will ensure our services are accessible by delivering, where possible, services in universal settings;
- We will collaborate and work in partnership to ensure service delivery is coordinated and adds value to existing service provision;
- 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 and carers;



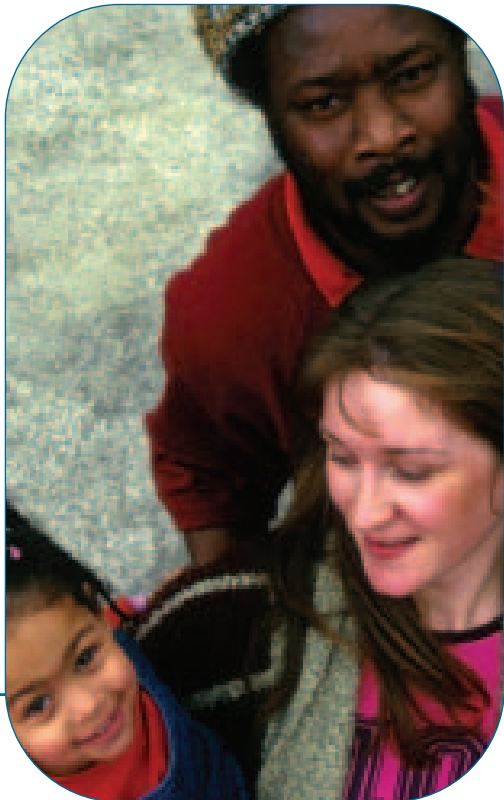
- We will eliminate duplication and inefficiency;
- We will ensure that decisions regarding the delivery of services are based on an analysis of local need.

Our vision is the central theme that runs through the Children and Young People’s Plan and other related plans. One such plan is the Community Strategy which is supported by the vision and principles.

**Aim**

A fundamental aim of the Children and Young People’s Plan to join together the aspirations and themes of these different strategies, as they affect children and young people, into a single, coherent set of priorities.

The diagram below illustrates the inter-relationship of this Plan and other plans within the Partnership. Appendix B provides further detail of the relationship of this Plan with other existing plans.



# The Lambeth context

## Service Integration

From 1 October 2005, Lambeth's education and children's social care services were integrated to form the Children and Young People's Service bringing together all services that support children and young people from birth to age 19. The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership is a way of further maximising resources across a range of agencies and partners. Appendix C gives further details of the background and legal context of recent changes in Children and Young People's Services.

## 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 how complex a task it is to deliver effective and equitable services. It 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.

## 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
- We are a port authority and therefore have a significant refugee population
- 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.
- 10% of Lambeth households are single parent households with dependant children (eighth highest in England and Wales).

## And what about children and young people in Lambeth?

- Lambeth has significant numbers of children in circumstances with particular needs.
- 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.
- Almost 14% of 16-18 year olds are not in education, employment or training (almost double that of some of our neighbours).
- 40% of our pupils speak, or understand, a language other than English.
- We have a significant and growing child population, which is very diverse and fluid.
- 25% of pupils move school each year.
- Over 600 children are looked after by the council.
- There are 180 unaccompanied asylum seeking children in the borough.
- Over 225 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).

- We have one of the highest rate of teenage pregnancies, HIV and sexually transmitted infections in the country.
- At least 17000 Lambeth children are living in poverty and 1 in 4 live in lone parent households.
- Over half of our secondary school age children are at school outside the borough.
- 58% of children and young people in Lambeth, aged 0-18 years are from black and minority ethnic communities.
- There are 75 schools in Lambeth: 5 nursery; 59 primary and 11 secondary. None of our schools are in special measures.

There are many challenges in Lambeth to overcome to allow children and young people to achieve the vision we have for them. We know we are making progress towards realising that vision and improving outcomes for children and young people because:

**They have better health including:**

- Improved access to healthy meals and water in schools;
- Better immunisation coverage;
- Reducing rates of teenage conceptions and sexually transmitted diseases;
- Increasing provision of advice and support services for young people on substance misuse.

**They are living in safer environments as a result of:**

- Falling crime rates;
- Effective child protection;
- Relatively low levels of road crashes;
- Effective child protection procedures.

**They are achieving at school, since:**

- More are doing well in key stage assessments;
- There are high levels of attendance.

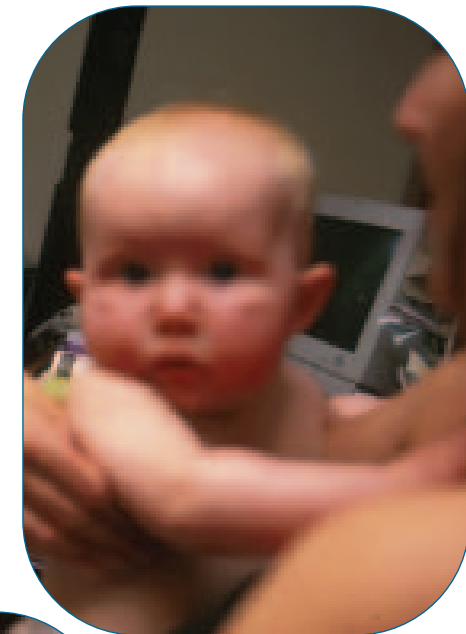
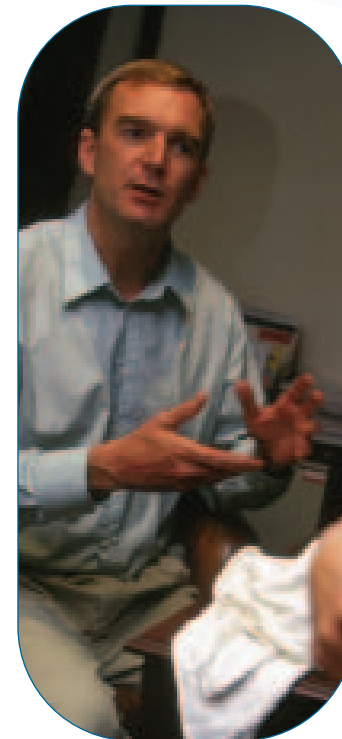
**They are contributing to society through:**

- Participating in policy making;
- Reviewing provision of services;
- Peer mentoring with our active youth council;
- Full involvement in local culture and environmental issues.

**They are more prosperous because:**

- Numbers not in education, employment or training have been reduced;
- Families are receiving additional support through Sure Start Services and the development of Children's Centres.

But there is still much to do. Our analysis of need and consultation with the community has enabled us to prioritise our resources so they are focused on those with the greatest need and on the development of preventative services.



## What you told us

### Enjoy and Achieve

- “new schools rather than supermarkets”
- “There should be more free and accessible youth provision, sports and leisure provision across the borough.”
- “Don’t just teach children, enable them to be confident learners and develop life skills outside the main curriculum.”
- “School clubs should be open to the whole community.”
- “more high standard educated schools”
- “Enjoy life...exercise...make friends...sing, play, dance.”

### Make a Positive Contribution

- “Children should be trained on their rights and in consultation skills.”
- “Involve young people in designing facilities.”
- “We should have more access to decision-makers and they should actively involve young people.”
- “Help young people make informed choices.”

### Be Healthy

- “Keep fit. Keep well”
- “Make Lambeth a better place will be great where there is health shops and people going to gym to get fit. Make healthy dinners in school and make more activities at the park.”
- “if you eat well you will have smooth skin. You will get ill if you eat junk”
- “everyone should be happy”

### Economic Well-being

- “We need a better understanding of what works and what doesn’t.”
- “There should be wider knowledge of services.”
- “Childcare provision needs to be more widely available and affordable, including before 8am and after 4pm.”
- “There is some duplication of services and it’s not always clear what services there are or who they’re for.”

## Service Delivery

**“There should be more targeted, local support for parents and young people, particularly in black and minority ethnic groups, parents with disabilities and teenage parents.”**

**“Partnership working should be better.”**

**“There should be wider knowledge of services.”**

**“We need a better understanding of what works.”**

## Staying Safe

**“There needs to be more focus on supporting young people when they are leaving care.”**

**“Support families because this will have a big impact on children’s lives.”**

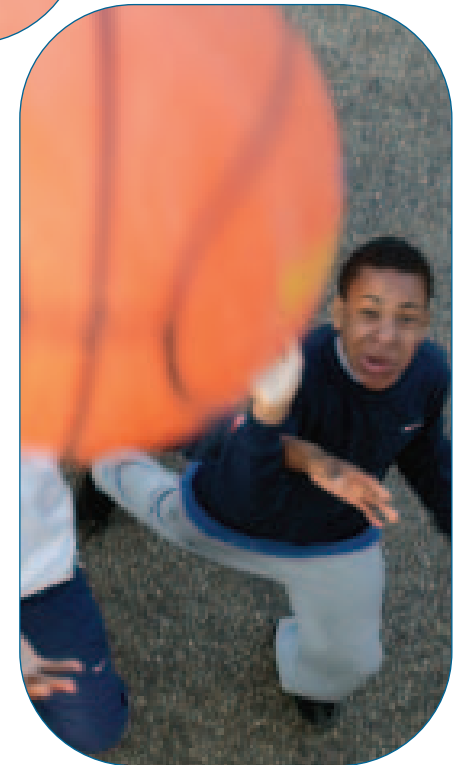
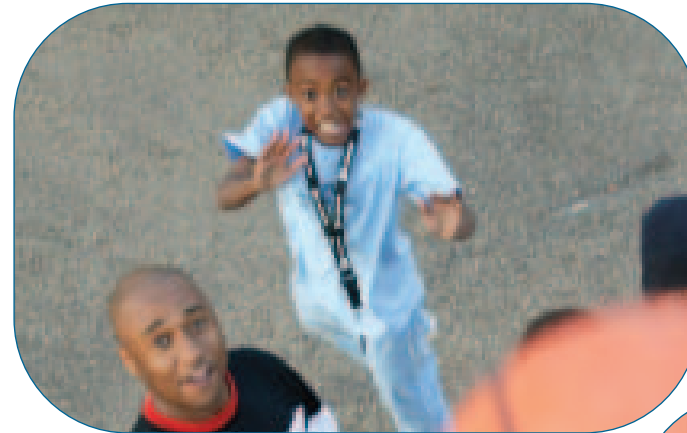
**“Safeguarding and sharing information should be embedded into practice.”**

**“Looked after children need better access to education.”**

**“the police will try keep the place safe!”**

**“no shopkeepers selling drugs to children, no gangs beating up other little children, more police around our streets, more cameras around the streets, no stealing, no guns. no knives”**

Over 50% of young people in the borough say that drug dealers and users in the area make them feel unsafe.



For more details of consultation and comments on the Plan, see Appendix D.

## Section 2

# How We Identified Our Priorities

### Lambeth Priorities for 2006-07

- Significantly improve young people's mental and sexual health
- Support parents to safeguard children and young people
- Prevent young people from drifting into crime
- Improve the transition arrangements for vulnerable children and young people, in particular, looked after children and children with disabilities
- Increase access to quality local school places and good quality childcare places
- Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups and achieve floor targets (these show what our priorities should be at a local level)
- Increase opportunities for all young people to participate in out of school activities
- Increase opportunities for children, young people and their families to contribute to decisions about services they receive as a community
- Increase the number of young people in employment, education and training

The rationale for selecting these priorities is shown at Appendix E.

Appendix F shows the targets we aim to achieve for each of the priorities.

### 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 from feedback from children, young people and families and from our own needs analysis that has identified areas where the outcomes for children, young people and their families need to improve. Priorities have been agreed using the following criteria:

- There is clear evidence of a need;
- It supports an improvement in outcomes for children and young people;
- It promotes early intervention and preventative working;
- It is an area for development that requires the added value of multi-agency working;
- It supports service improvement and delivery.

### Expectations in Relation to the Priorities

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

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

### Agreeing the Priorities

The Lambeth priorities have been agreed as a result of a thorough needs assessment involving many partners and stakeholders including:

- The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership including the Assembly and Programme Forum;
- The Voluntary and Community Group Forum;
- Children, young people and their carers;
- The Local Safeguarding Board;
- Primary Care Trust Management Boards;
- The Local Strategic Partnership;
- The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.



## Service Improvement Priorities

In order to realise our vision, it is important that we ensure those working with and supporting children, young people and their families have the relevant tools and expertise to support the changes to service delivery required to address prioritised needs. The Partnership has agreed the following priorities for service improvement:

- **Prepare for a Common Assessment Framework supported by lead professionals and information sharing systems across agencies.** The common assessment framework is a nationally standardised approach developed for use by all practitioners for conducting an assessment of the needs of the child or young person and deciding how these needs should be met.

- **Recruitment and Retention – workforce strategy, development and reform.** This is essential for ensuring that we have the right staff for the right task who are properly trained to work in new ways to meet the needs of every child or young person.
- **Develop joint commissioning arrangements across the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership.** This priority concerns the pooling of resources across agencies that are then distributed through joint arrangement – commissioning and planning – to address prioritised areas of need. This approach will also ensure services are delivered with attention to quality and value for money.

These priorities will be subject of separate, detailed reports.

## Monitoring the Priorities

Performance monitoring of the Plan will focus on outcomes for children and young people and will be monitored at two levels. The first level will be through the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board. Quarterly reports will be submitted, using a Red, Amber, Green status assessment of progress, for the Board to consider and discuss options for improving performance. The second level of performance monitoring will be the processes currently used in the partner agencies which will link directly to the first level of assessment by providing performance information and context. The overall aim is to develop integrated performance management processes across agencies, which the Partnership is progressing.



# Meeting Needs and Improving Outcomes

Lambeth's Children and Young Peoples Plan focuses on the needs of children and young people and sets out priorities that need to be addressed to enable our young people to benefit from improved outcomes.

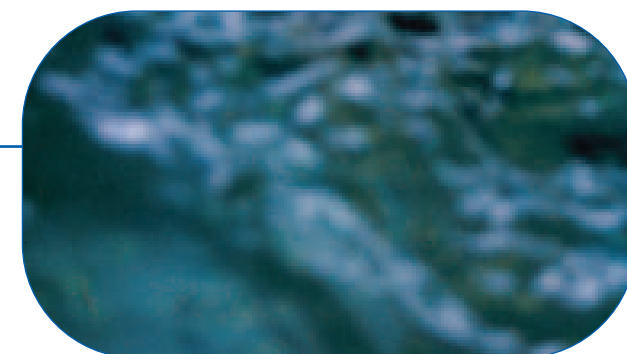
For each outcome, consideration has been given to the action required to address the needs identified in the context of:

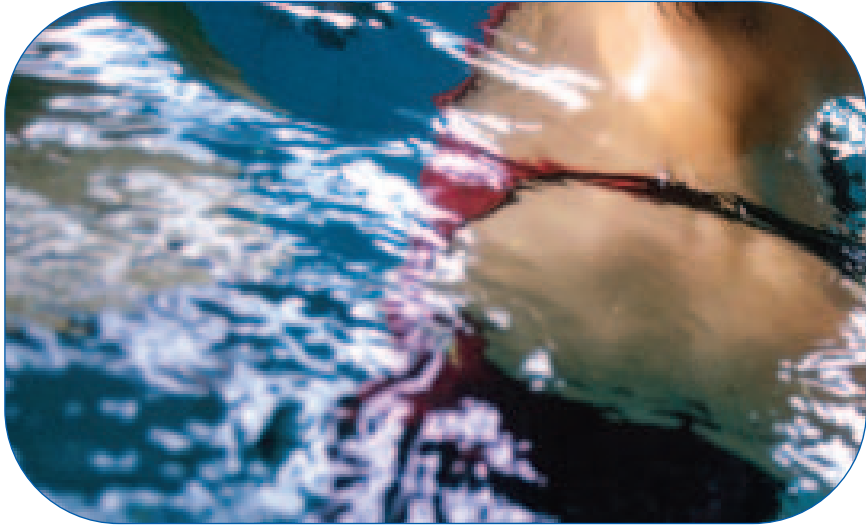
- **universal** services where most children and young people receive services and support;
- **targeted** services that are delivered to particular groups of children; and
- **specialist** services for those who require specialist support to address their needs.

The partnership and all those who have contributed to the development of this plan were also keen to ensure the plan reflected the different approaches required to support different age groups – **under 8s**, those between **8 and 14** and those aged **14 and above**.

The action plan that accompanies this document reflects this approach.

There is a scenario to illustrate aspects of each outcome based on local experiences (these are not directly attributable to any one child or young person). We have then outlined examples of current work around the priorities and work which will be undertaken over the next twelve months.





# Be Healthy

## Lambeth's Priority:

To significantly improve children and young people's mental and sexual health

## Why this is a priority

Our own needs analysis and performance data identified that nationally Lambeth is amongst the top five authorities with a high level of under 18 conception rates.

In relation to mental health we are concerned that many vulnerable young people are not receiving the specialist support they require both at a universal level, where 40% of appointments are not kept, and within our specialist services, where young people have not always received the assessments they require.

## What we are going to do to meet needs and improve outcomes

### IMPROVING MENTAL HEALTH

**Universal** – Children Centres (under 8s), schools and other providers will be supported through the provision of advice, behaviour support plans and behaviour workshops to address behaviour at an early stage and to identify early stages of mental ill health. Child and Adolescent Mental Health practitioners are working with other professionals in Sure Start, Behaviour Education Support Teams, in schools and in general practices delivering early intervention and prevention programmes. The Adolescent Mental Health Strategy and users' views will shape the development of early intervention work. We will use the Children's Centres and extended schools programmes to improve access to mental health support.



**Targeted** – In Lambeth we are working towards delivering cross-agency integrated services targeted at children and young people who have specific difficulties. This means that specialist staff in child health, child and adolescent services and children and young people’s services all work together to improve children’s mental and emotional well-being. We are developing an interagency team to work at home and at school with autistic children with mental health problems.

**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. We are introducing new evidence-based treatments for children and young people with specialist mental health needs to improve their quality of life and are working to improve the transition from children’s to adult services.

## **IMPROVING SEXUAL HEALTH**

**Universal** – A comprehensive multi-agency teenage pregnancy and parenthood strategy is in place. Better prevention is an important part of this strategy. This includes supporting schools and other services to develop and implement best practice programmes of sex and relationships education. This is to include all schools: primary, secondary, special schools and Pupil Referral Units.

Ensuring that appropriate staff groups are equipped with the knowledge, attitudes and skills to work with young people around their sexual health in a culturally appropriate way is being addressed through mandatory workforce training and policy development. A multi-agency condom distribution scheme, which includes ensuring access to condoms through a variety of settings, is also to be developed.

A sexual health strategy is being produced which will include better access to contraception and sexually transmitted infections testing and treatment for young people. The strategy includes proposals to pilot a health drop-in providing better information, advice and signposting in a Lambeth school and to develop services in a range of settings including primary care (General Practices and community pharmacies) and community services, so that young people do not have to attend a hospital clinic to get the help they need.

**Targeted** – Some children and young people are at greater risk of teenage pregnancy and parenthood. Developing local evidence and data on the level of need within these groups is needed within Lambeth and will be a priority. This information will then be used to further develop interventions targeted at these groups, for example, looked after children, young offenders and some minority ethnic groups. Lambeth has high levels of HIV infection and this can also affect children and young people both through living with the virus themselves or having a member of their family who is HIV positive. Families can become isolated and find it difficult to get support because of the stigma that HIV attracts. Improved multi-agency working will help to reduce inequalities in access to support for children and young people affected by HIV.

**Specialist** – 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 (e.g. support for young parents experiencing domestic abuse).

## **A local experience showing early intervention to achieve mental wellbeing:**

A care worker became concerned about 13 year old Isobel's behaviour as she was becoming increasingly isolated and aggressive towards other young people who approached her. Isobel was placed in a children's home 4 months ago, when her mum was admitted to hospital for drug rehabilitation.

Fortunately, the care worker spoke to Isobel's dedicated social worker who called a case conference involving other service providers. Her school gave evidence of similar behaviour.

Isobel had assumed that being placed in care meant that she would remain there. She also believed that her own behaviour would replicate her mother's. It also transpired that other pupils were bullying her as a result of rumours about her mum's situation.

She was included in discussions to plan for her and her mum to be jointly supported when mum's rehabilitation was complete. Mum was made aware of the full range of support and treatment available to her through adult services and the specialist services available for the children of substance misusers. The case conference addressed addiction, health, legal, safety, bullying and education issues. Individual and joint sessions with a mental health worker were arranged for Isobel and her mum.

Isobel and her mum receive targeted support together, and for their separate, individual needs. Isobel is living at home and socialising better with her peers at school and has a peer mentor.

## **What is already happening**

### **MENTAL HEALTH**

Partnership working with the Youth Offending Team has been strengthened. Child and adolescent mental health nurses (supported by a consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist) work within the Youth Offending Team to ensure that young offenders thought to have acute mental health difficulties are formally assessed within five working days.

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service for young people in Lambeth works with the Lambeth Early Onset Team from the South London and Maudsley Trust to ensure that young people can easily transfer into alternative services if needed.

A Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service team is based in the Children and Young People's Service to work with looked after children. Joint development work between this team and education psychology has improved support and access to services for learners and teachers. Services are available for child victims of abuse.

Young people diagnosed as having HIV/Aids receive targeted support from a specialist service. This encourages young people to maintain their physical health and mental well being through a range of sports and healthy living programmes, self-development, life skills and anger management workshops.

### **SEXUAL HEALTH**

All secondary schools in Lambeth have plans for developing and implementing best practice sex and relationships education. Agencies are working together in supporting schools to implement this best practice. Peer educators from the Youth Council are delivering work in schools around sex and relationships education as well as inputting into training for a variety of staff groups. The Youth and Play Service has had in post for the last eight months a young men's sexual health youth worker supported by a small staff team. The work of the team has encompassed training Youth and Play staff and instigating the beginning of special events with young people around sexual health in a variety of locations. Lambeth Reproductive and Sexual Health Service is working with young people in a local college on HIV and sexually transmitted infection prevention.

The Family Planning Association is working with parents/carers to deliver the Speakeasy programme. This programme supports parents/carers to gain the knowledge and confidence they need to talk positively with their children about sex and relationships.

There is work ongoing with young people in out of school settings through a variety of agencies, including community and voluntary organisations. Some of this is universal activity and some is more targeted, for example, work through the Playa's Klub with young men.

Improving young people's access to services in primary care is being addressed through the development and implementation of young people friendly standards. A model for developing school health drop-ins has also been developed to increase options available to young people for accessing sexual health information, advice and services. Free emergency hormonal contraception is available in 12 pharmacies in Lambeth and a government-funded pilot of free chlamydia screening has started in local branches of Boots the Chemist.

Specialist contraception and sexual health services are available through the Brook Young People's Advisory Service located in Brixton. The Caldecot Centre at King's College Hospital and the Bridge Clinic at Guy's Hospital provide weekly sessions for young people. The Lydia Clinic at St Thomas's Hospital runs a weekly session for young African-Caribbean men at Brixton Brook.

Work is ongoing through the Sure Start Plus programme at providing holistic support to young parents, to include support, advice and signposting to housing, childcare, social care, health issues, education, employment and training.



# Stay safe

## Lambeth's Priorities:

- Support parents to safeguard children and young people
- Prevent young people drifting into crime
- Improve the transition arrangements for vulnerable children and young people, including those looked after and those with disabilities

## Why these are priorities

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 so that families can be kept together".

Lambeth supports over 200 young offenders, one of the highest numbers of young people in this vulnerable group compared to other inner city areas.

Our transition arrangements for vulnerable groups are improving for those leaving care and those with disabilities. But we want to continue to improve outcomes for these young people by ensuring that the transition from children's services to adult services is seamless, through sharing of information and integrated service delivery.

The challenges we face are made more complex by the fact that many of our looked after children and those with disabilities live, or are educated, outside of the borough.

## What we are going to do to meet needs and improve outcomes

### SUPPORTING PARENTS TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

**Universal** – Through Lambeth's Childcare Strategy, 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.

**Targeted** – The Safer Schools Partnership will be 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.

A strategic review of family support services will be undertaken to ensure an increased range of effective services.

**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. A joint programme between social care and schools will be developed to ensure consistent understanding and use of appropriate criteria for making referrals of children and young people.

## PREVENT YOUNG PEOPLE DRIFTING INTO CRIME

**Universal** – A young persons' data group has been formed and will be further developed to increase intelligence in relation to preventative activities.

**Targeted** – Joint planning and commissioning of drugs services will be further developed for children and young people, including jointly agreed priorities, targets and actions. There will be a new initiative to jointly commission a voluntary sector consortium. This will deliver activities to prevent youth offending in gun crime and target those most in need. A thorough review of the entire Youth Offending Team will be completed to ensure resources are effectively deployed across the borough and focused on prevention.

**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 the 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.

## IMPROVE THE TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, INCLUDING THOSE LOOKED AFTER AND THOSE WITH DISABILITIES

**Universal** – A review of pathway planning for care leavers is to be undertaken to ensure all transitional issues are fully addressed.

**Targeted** – All Children's Centre and early years settings will have an admissions and transition policy, which focuses on assessing the learning, social and emotional needs of children and meets those needs in a way that supports future achievement. Further development of transition planning between social care and education for disabled young people will take place.

**Specialist** - Service reviews will be undertaken for all children with learning and physical disabilities and children with emotional and behavioural and mental health problems. We will participate in the Department of Health 'In Control' project on transitions for disabled young people.



## **A local experience demonstrating partnership working to safeguard a young person:**

Joel, aged 9, had not been in trouble with the police or come to the attention of social services. However, his teacher noticed he was unhappy and solitary. Outside school his parents were concerned that he was becoming involved with a teenage gang with a local reputation for carrying and/or using weapons. Joel's relationship with his stepfather had been poor for the past year. Joel appeared fearful of him and told his teacher that his father shouted at him and threatened him with a belt when he misbehaved. Joel's teachers spoke to his parents and then discussed his issues with other professionals.

Joel now has a social worker who has worked with him and his father to improve their relationship and maintain regular contact with the school. Joel is now involved in several local youth activities and, in addition, he is receiving medical support for an obesity problem not previously recognised. Joel is developing strong friendships in and out of school and has stayed out of trouble.

## **What is already happening**

Psychological support is provided to children from violent families.

Advice and support is given to schools to help them to manage their responsibilities in relation to the disability discrimination legislation.

To help children make the emotional adjustment to life in a new family we provide training schemes to foster parents.

10,000 'Staying Safe' information leaflets were created and distributed to young people in the borough giving advice, information and useful contacts in response to the terrorist attacks of July 2005. A mini "Live Magazine" focussing on Safety, Faith and the Community was developed providing young people with detailed information about terrorism and keeping safe and distributed during Peace week. This communication was informed by results from focus groups held with young people across the borough.

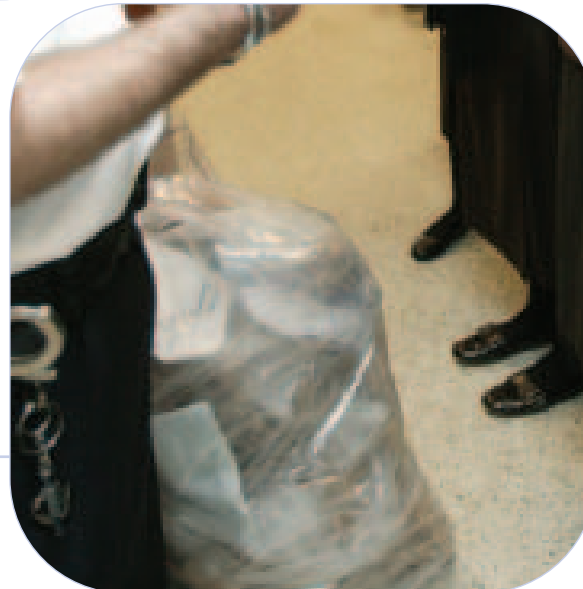
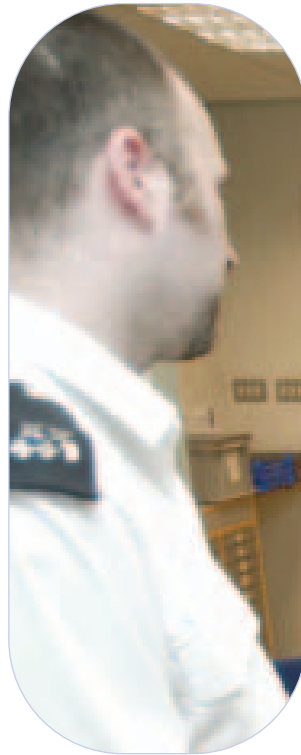


Lambeth Positive Activities for Young People provides developmental and diversionary activities for 8-19 year olds, particularly those most at risk of social exclusion and committing crime. It specifically offers:

- key worker support to young people in risky situations and gives them the help they need to be safe;
- activities that meet high quality standards of health and safety and child protection;
- support for young people being bullied, through key worker support and community cohesion projects that work to fight prejudice and homophobia;
- key worker support that values and respects young people, and help to find lives where they are secure, safe and loved.

The Youth Inclusion Support Panel has been established to prevent young people from drifting into crime by sharing information across agencies about young people at risk. Those referred will receive targeted support and access to diversionary activities. The panel is also developing partnership approaches to prevent young people from drifting into crime.

A young persons' data subgroup has been formed to increase intelligence in relation to preventative activities.



# Enjoy and Achieve

## Lambeth's Priorities:

- Increase access to quality local school places
- Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups
- Increase opportunities for all children and young people to participate in out of school activities

## Why this need has been prioritised

Lambeth has demonstrated a steady and impressive rise in educational achievement in recent years with the number of pupils achieving five A\*-C GCSEs or more rising from 32% in 2000 to 52% in 2005 (exceeding the Public Service Agreement target of 48%). But we are also aware that the secondary school estate is in need of renovation if we are to continue to make further improvements in standards and respond to the extended schools agenda.

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. In 2004-5, 20.6% of them achieved five GCSE grades A\*-C.

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.

In a number of schools facing challenging circumstances, pupils achieve less than the national target at age 11 years.

## What we are going to do to meet needs and improve outcomes

### INCREASE ACCESS TO QUALITY SCHOOL PLACES

**Universal** – Lambeth will be implementing a new, locally coordinated, admissions scheme for all its primary schools. All parents, whether or not they are Lambeth residents, and who apply for a reception school place in the borough will have to apply through the Schools Admissions Team. Parents will be provided with the facility to apply to schools on-line by September 2006. This will 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. There are also links to information on schools in the neighbouring authorities.

**Targeted** – All secondary schools will be designed to enable extended schools to be delivered. The three current full service schools are to be supported to become "flagship" extended schools offering a comprehensive range of extended services.

**Specialist** – Under the Building Schools for the Future programme we plan to increase the total 11-16 years provision over the next 10 years from 8,000 to 11,000 pupil places. The increase in 6th form provision for the same period is expected to more than double.

## NARROW THE ACHIEVEMENT GAPS FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS

**Universal** – A new Education Achievement Plan will be developed which will focus on the priorities for quality education and achievement for children and young people from birth to 19 years.

**Targeted** – Through Lambeth's Childcare Strategy we will help improve educational achievement in the early years in Lambeth by establishing a coherent system of support and challenge which will assist all early years educators to raise standards.

Neighbourhood Renewal and London Challenge funding will be used to provide targeted support to schools which are not achieving floor targets. A community engagement project is being developed to enable parents of under-achieving groups to participate in education.

**Specialist** – A specialist Education Achievement Team will work towards improving the attainment of looked after pupils by improving information sharing and school tracking systems, developing a training programme for key professionals and establishing good communication between key agencies.

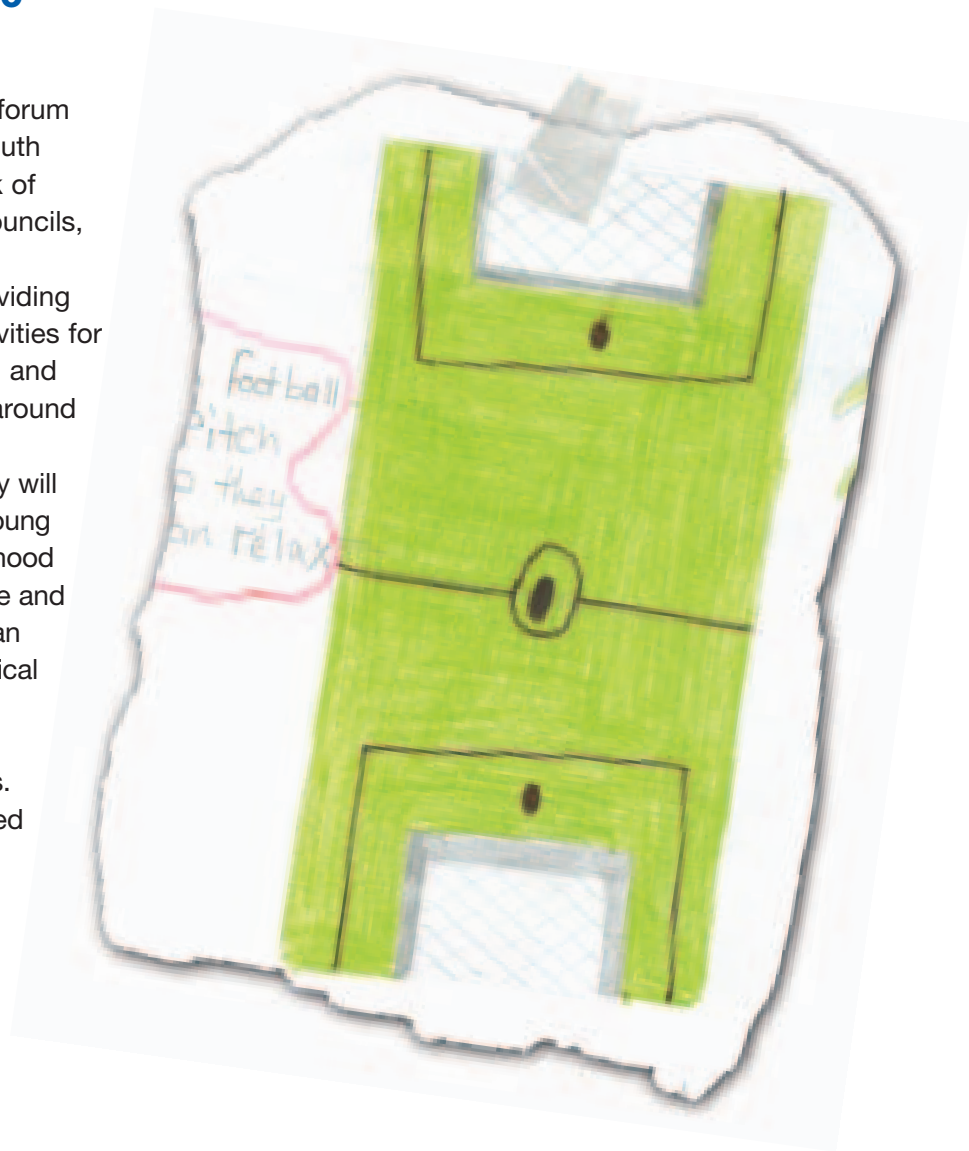
## INCREASE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

**Universal** – A permanent consultative forum for children aged 5-13, based on the Youth Council model and building on the work of Lambeth Children's Fund and school councils, will be developed.

We are working towards all schools providing extended services by 2010 offering activities for children and their families between 8am and 6pm. These services will be organised around our five town centres.

**Targeted** – An Integrated Youth Strategy will be developed, which will enable every young person to make the transition from childhood to adulthood in a safe, secure, supportive and positive environment, and ensure they can access a range of opportunities for physical and emotional development and health. Services developed as a result of this strategy will be delivered across partners.

**Specialist** – Separate partnership based Play and Sports strategies will be developed for the benefit of all children and young people in the borough to enable them to access effective and safe facilities outside of school.



## **A local experience requiring joint working to narrow achievement gaps:**

Amber has always been a lively and interested pupil at school but her teacher grew concerned several months ago. Amber, now 12 years old, was arriving at school tired, appeared distracted and her performance was falling behind her peers. Her attendance was deteriorating.

The school had little relationship with the mother because of the mother's own bad experiences of school. However, the teacher spoke to Amber, then arranged a meeting with other services involved with Amber and her family.

Amber has two siblings at home, aged 1 and 3 and her mum is pregnant. Mum's partner only stays with them intermittently. The mother has a good relationship with her health visitor and it was through the health visitor that she was persuaded to attend the second of the meetings about Amber.

Services were there for Amber and her family but no one service provider knew the whole story. At the second of the meetings connections were made. Amber's mother realized that everyone really wanted the best for her and all her children and she started to work positively with the school. Amber's mother now has greater support, including involvement in a local Sure Start Children's Centre. This will also ensure the younger siblings are monitored effectively, ready to achieve in line with Lambeth's childcare strategy. Amber is now improving in performance and her attendance at school and her health needs have been addressed.

## **What is already happening**

### **INCREASED ACCESS TO QUALITY SCHOOL PLACES**

Data is used to evaluate the quality of learning, teaching, leadership, management, and trends and patterns are identified and used to effect positive change. These changes could include adaptations to existing practices and the development of specific projects based on research and best practice.

Many Lambeth schools have gained national recognition for excellence. By the end of the 2004-2005 academic year all secondary schools in Lambeth had received 'specialist schools' status, with a number of schools currently applying for a second specialism.

We are committed to planning for sufficient primary and secondary school places and, with the Building Schools for the Future and Academies programmes, are planning places using pupil numbers and estimates. A new secondary school is planned to open in 2007 in temporary accommodation with a transfer to the new site in 2009.

Lambeth's School Admissions Team successfully managed the Pan-London coordinated scheme for children starting secondary school in September 2005. All national and local deadlines were met and all children received an offer of a school place by 3 September 2005.

### **NARROWING THE ACHIEVEMENT GAPS FOR SPECIFIC GROUPS**

The Local Authority's Education Advisory Service continues to work with schools providing an effective intervention programme. No mainstream schools have been adversely judged by Ofsted since October 2002 which has ensured that 2005/2006 development targets were achieved early.

Work has continued with schools to identify and overcome barriers that hinder the educational attainment of particular groups of pupils in the borough. Considerable success in closing these gaps has been achieved recently.

Analysis of results at the Foundation Stage will be used to improve the attainment of targeted groups of children

The Ethnic Minority Achievement Team continues its work to raise the achievement of pupils with English as an additional language and from minority ethnic groups. The African Caribbean Achievement pilot project was well received in the pilot schools, with a successful inspection on African Caribbean achievement for one pilot school.

All secondary schools currently have in place a Race Equality Action Plan, with specific support targeted to address issues arising from these action plans.

Home School Liaison Officers support schools in multi-agency liaison to provide services for refugees, asylum seekers and gypsy/Roma pupils.

Leading edge research supports continuing improvement in outcomes for young people and this year research has begun into the achievement of African heritage pupils, which is consistently high in Lambeth. This follows previous projects with African-Caribbean and Portuguese pupils and pupils with high mobility.

Work by the Waaberi Cultural Association enables Somali families to ensure their children are kept aware of their cultural heritage and language, and provides support for learning English. Research shows this approach enables children to learn English more quickly.





A number of specific programmes exist to support schools and their pupils:

- The Intensifying Support Programme, targeted at schools in the most challenging circumstances and focusing on building capacity, has continued to provide support for underperforming schools;
- Schools participating in the Primary Leadership Programme have seen a 2% increase in mathematics attainment;
- Schools in the English as an Additional Language pilot saw a 2% increase in English attainment;
- The Lambeth Young Refugee Development Project offers provision through after school programmes at two locations. A refugee forum has been developed and further support is offered via summer programmes and other one off events. The project has also become involved in finding places for and supporting young refugees into school.
- A range of professional development programmes are provided for all aspects of the school workforce.

### **INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE IN OUT OF SCHOOL ACTIVITIES**

Lambeth Children's Fund have piloted a range of methods of involving children in the design and evaluation of community based 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;
- funds a wide range of recreational and educational activities for young people.

Three schools are currently operating as 'full service' schools (community 'hubs' including health care, social care, out-of-hours learning, sports clubs, breakfast clubs, etc). We are working with children's centres, primary and secondary schools to develop twelve extended service providers by September 2006.



# Make a Positive Contribution

## Lambeth's Priority:

- Increase opportunities for children, young people and their families to contribute to decisions about services they receive as a community

## Why this need has been prioritised

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. All young people involved in a consultation process last summer said that they didn't know enough about their rights. Parents and carers consulted through Sure Start services frequently spoke of the need for more choice and flexibility in services. We would be unlikely to achieve this without the active involvement of children, young people, their families and carers.

## WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO TO MEET NEEDS AND IMPROVE OUTCOMES

**Universal** – Children, young people and their carers will be involved as part of patient and public involvement strategies, ensuring that the views of children of different ages are effectively heard.

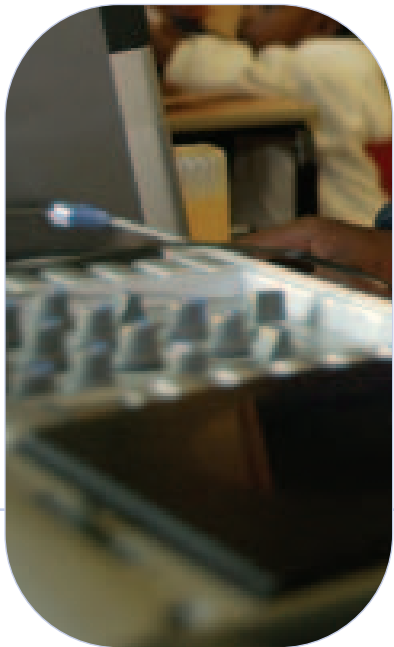
Child centred services, that fully involve parents and carers and increase access to services, will be developed and delivered.

**Targeted** – A Restorative Justice Programme will be further extended in schools.

The work of the Youth Council will be extended through the establishment five town centre based youth forums to advise on youth provision and out of school activities.

Through Lambeth's Childcare Strategy we will consult and involve parents, carers and young children in decision making, and set up Town Centre Boards and Brightstart Partnerships based around Children's Centres involving parents and providers of early years services.

**Specialist** - Development of a Common Assessment Framework for referrals of children and young people will ensure that they are involved in decisions about themselves as it is a requirement of the framework that they are fully involved, along with their parents or carers.



## **A local experience involving a young person in decisions about their services:**

Jake is 15 and lives with his mum and two younger sisters. He attends a special school where his performance is improving and he is expressing an interest in learning mechanics. He is discussing this together with his mum and teachers.

This was not the case some months back. Jake had been excluded from school and his sisters, also in special schools, were copying his poor attendance record. Each member of the family had health problems which were being treated and mum has learning difficulties.

Services were being provided for the family, but until mum sought help from a voluntary group, no one realised the family was not coping. The family now meet together with a support worker where health, behaviour and school are all discussed and take Jake's feelings and views into account. Mum talks to the school about her son's performance and receives help at home. Jake receives support from a Young Carers' Project.

Numerous services were being provided for Jake's family but without each party having knowledge of the whole story. Progress is now being made as the organisations involved are working together on the issues affecting each member of the family as well as the family as a unit.

## **What is already happening**

Evidence from our own needs analysis shows that parental participation is an integral part of service delivery.

Consultation activities are influencing decisions, as demonstrated by this Plan.

Sure Start Parents' Forums take place on a monthly basis – offering parents the chance to find out what events and services are available locally. A wide variety of activities take place – sexual health and contraceptive advice, breast feeding support, information about new training opportunities, weaning guidance and support, workshops on early literacy activities, keep fit, stress management.

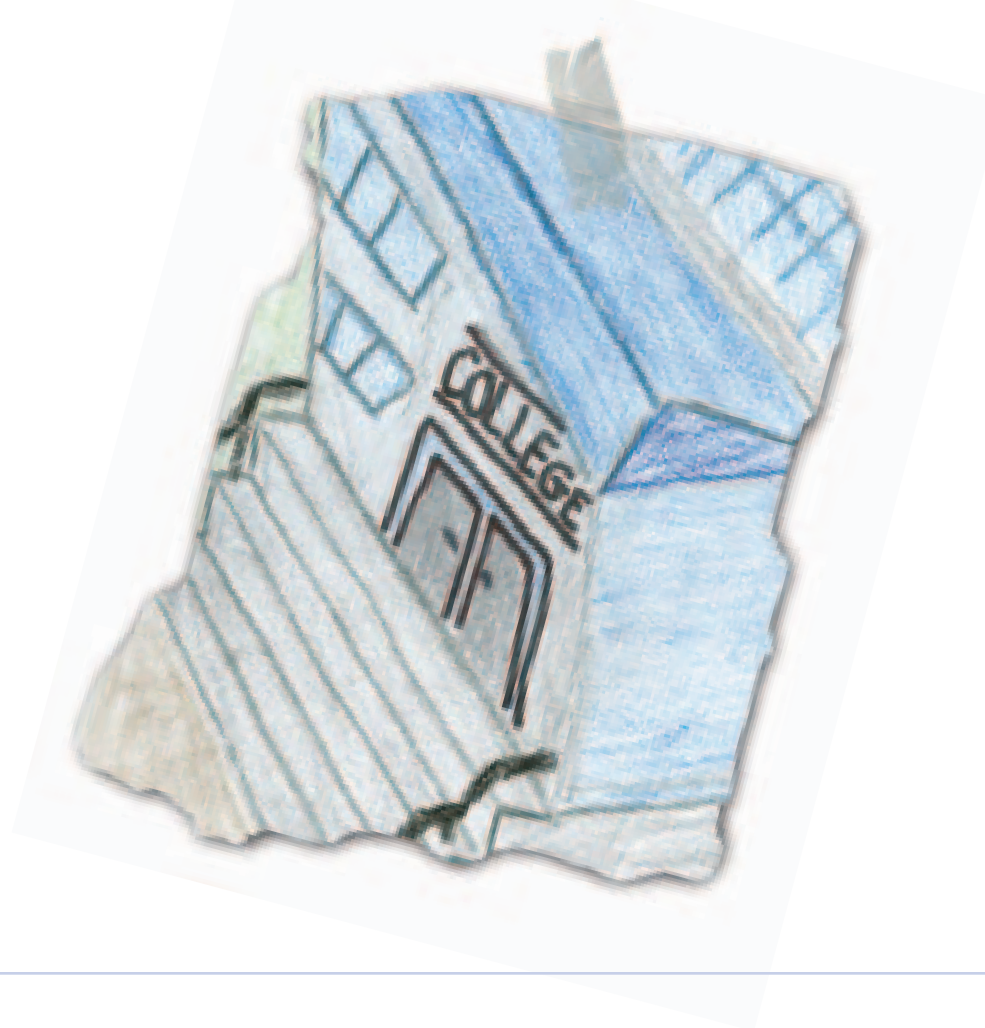
Lambeth Youth Council is an active group of young people aged 13 to 21 years who highlight issues of concern to young people and enable young people to influence policies that affect them. Successful activities include the design of lesson plans from a young person's perspective to reduce teenage pregnancy rates, the development of training materials for police officers using stop and search powers, peer inspections and the establishment of town centre youth forums.

Parents' committees support the work of local service delivery – planning parents' activities and events, and advising on local issues affecting families with young children.

The Young Citizens Project has led, for example, to the introduction in one school of a 'Philosophy for Children' course. Lambeth Positive Activities for Young People supports young people's involvement in this scheme by:

- funding Lambeth Youth Council to train and support their members as peer mediators;
- empowering young people to monitor and evaluate all aspects of the scheme by funding the Lambeth Peer Inspection Team which enables young people to be involved in inspecting services;
- funding the development of local youth forums to ensure young people develop a voice in their locality and across the Borough;
- providing a range of constructive and developmental diversionary activities to support positive behaviour;
- developing the Lambeth Project to combat homophobic bullying in schools.

An educational programme is delivered by the Youth and Play Service, the Life Events Access Project and Lambeth Youth Council involving local young people and deals with issues such as conflict resolution and concern about terrorism.



# Achieve Economic Well-being

## Lambeth Priority:

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

## Why this need has been prioritised

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:

- 13.3% of our young people aged 16-18 are not in employment, education or training (this is a substantial recent reduction but we aim to reduce this figure to 12.1% in 2006-07);
- 65% of young offenders supervised by the youth offending team are in employment, full-time education or training or (we aim to increase this to 90% for 2006-07);
- 46.3% of 19 year old care leavers are in employment , full-time education, training or (we aim to increase this to 92% for 2006-07);
- 58.4% of looked after young people aged 16 years are engaged in employment, education or training (we aim to increase this to 65% for 2005-06);
- Around a third of young mothers are in education, employment and training (against a challenging target of 60% by 2010).

## WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO TO MEET NEEDS AND IMPROVE OUTCOMES

**Universal** – We will identify and agree core provision of services at all Children’s Centres in collaboration with schools, other providers and partners such as the Primary Care Trust and Jobcentre Plus.

We will ensure each secondary school and targeted training providers have a named Personal Advisor. Our post-16 transport policy to ensure we meet the needs of our diverse community and to encourage participation in employment, full time education and training will be reviewed.

**Targeted** – We will improve monitoring of 16 and 17 year olds’ access to, and support in, education. We will ensure that targeted provision is in place with increased Personal Advisor support for young people not in employment, education or training for over 20 weeks.

Former care leavers who graduate from university will be encouraged to become mentors to care leavers and their advisors. We will track the improving outcomes for care leavers aged 19-21 years in education, training and employment. Connexions Personal Advisors will be provided for targeted groups.

**Specialist** - A Care Leavers’ Coordinator post will be established to maintain and enhance good practice, achievement and delivery of quality services to care leavers.

An employability project to focus on young mothers will be implemented.

## Aliakbar's Story:

I went into care when my mum died four years ago because I was in trouble with drugs and had problems at home. I'm nineteen now and I live in a flat that my social worker sorted out for me. I have a Personal Advisor as well, called John, who works within the local Alcohol Counselling and Prevention Service. They've both helped me, giving me advice and encouraging me to take courses which I'm doing now. I thought because I'd done drugs in the past, I wouldn't have a chance. But they had meetings with people and took me with them and talked about what I could do and what jobs I might get. I don't have much confidence, but I haven't been in trouble for a while and they ask me what I think before they make decisions. I decided what courses to take with advice from the people in John's service and I look after my flat myself. I've got a girlfriend now and she sometimes comes to my meetings with me.

## What is already happening

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.

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. This service is currently contracted out to St Christopher's Fellowship and managed by the Aimhi Project. All care leavers will retain their Personal Advisor until the age of 21 and if in higher education up to the age of 24.

Currently 75% of all Lambeth care leavers age 16-17 years are constructively engaged in education, training or further education. There are currently 28 former care leavers age 19 and over at University.

Lambeth Positive Activities for Young People:

- funds a wide range of training courses for groups and individual young people;
- funds alternative education for young people excluded from school;
- supports young people to access college courses and fund work placement schemes for young people.

Local performance measures have been established to ensure that supply of childcare matches demand in Lambeth and that economically disadvantaged families and families with disabled children feel that they have been able to access provision appropriate to their needs.



## Have your Say

This is the first partnership Children and Young People's Plan for Lambeth. For this reason, we hope you will provide feedback to us on the insert provided so that we can improve on this Plan and meet local needs even better.

We intend, through this Plan, to further develop integrated partnership working in Lambeth to deliver the services needed by children and young people, in the way best provided for their needs and result in meeting our local priorities.

The Plan will ensure:

***"We will enable children and young people to feel valued, happy, healthy and safe and to achieve their full potential."***

**We will achieve our vision by:**

- **Ensuring effective and integrated services**
- **Promoting partnership working**
- **Encouraging the full involvement of users by focusing on their needs**

As well as meeting the needs of vulnerable children and young people, the Plan has given full consideration to equality of opportunity for all our children and young people, as well as to the broad diversity of the borough.

# The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership

**Kevin Barton**

Chief Executive, Primary Care Trust

**Judy Best**

Chair, Voluntary & Community Forum

**Anthony Bottrall**

Executive Member, Education

**Judith Bowden**

Head of Child & Adolescent  
Mental Health Services

**David Boyle**

Headteachers' Council/Head teacher,  
Dunraven Secondary School

**Martin Bridger**

Lambeth Borough Commander,  
Metropolitan Police Service

**Steve Crow**

Learning and Skills Council

**Marie Devall**

Education & Skills Team Leader,  
Central & South Division,  
Government Office for London

**Phyllis Dunipace**

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

**Geraldine Evans**

Liberal Democrat Councillor

**Roger Giess**

Executive Member, Social Services

**Ian Jackson**

Local Strategic Partnership Manager

**Sally Prentice**

Labour Councillor

**Jane Ramsey**

Chair, Primary Care Trust

**Mike Richardson**

Lambeth Governors' Forum/  
Loughborough School Governor

**Andrew Webster**

Executive Director Adult Services,  
London Borough of Lambeth

**Anita Wright**

Headteachers' Council/Headteacher,  
Woodmansterne Primary School



## Appendices

Appendix A  
Linked and Subsumed Plans

Appendix B  
Relationship to other Plans

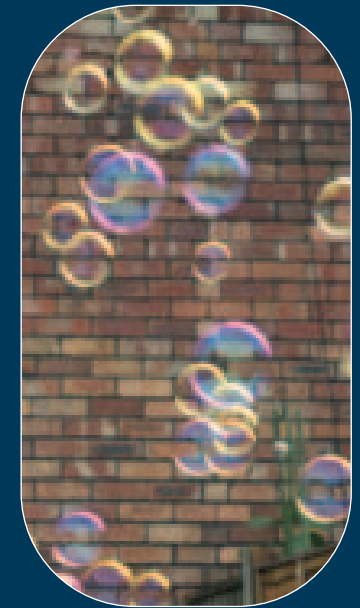
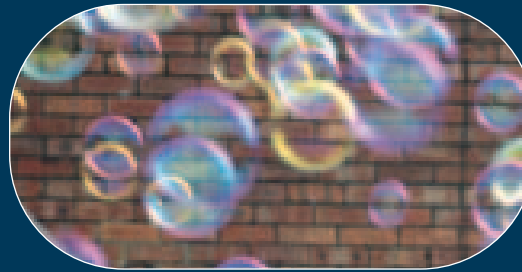
Appendix C  
Legal Context

Appendix D  
Consultation

Appendix E  
Priorities for Lambeth 2006-07

Appendix F  
Performance Schedule

Appendix G  
Children and Young People's Strategic  
Partnership - Governance arrangements



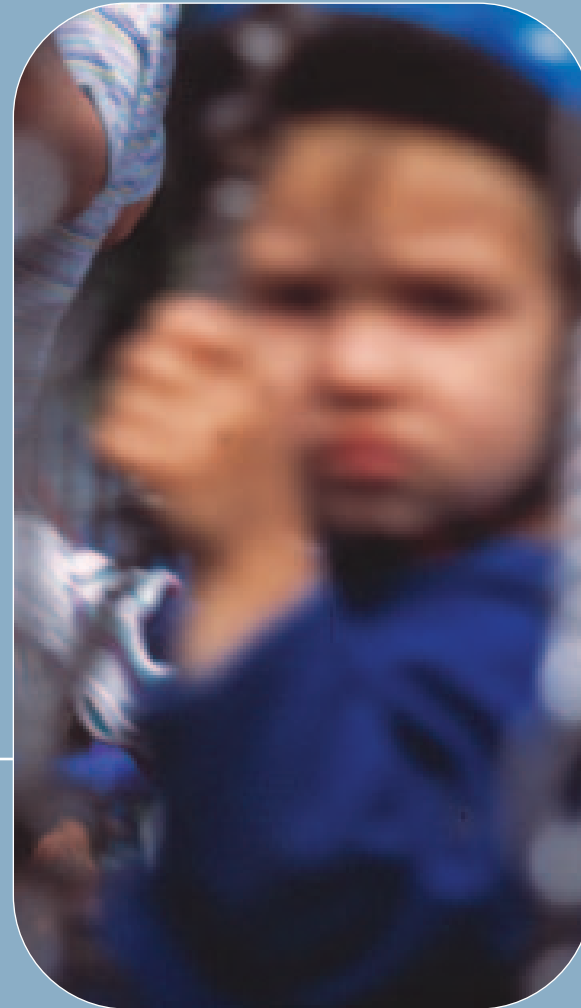
Plans linking to the CYPP	Statutory plans replaced <sup>1</sup>	Non-statutory plans replaced
<p>Community Strategy</p> <p>Best Value Performance Plan</p> <p>LA operational plans on education, social services, asset management, and other functions as set out in Section 1.</p> <p>PCT Local Delivery Plan</p> <p>Local police authority's 3 Year Strategy Plan and local policing plan</p> <p>Youth Justice Plan</p> <p>Probation Area Annual Plan</p> <p>Community Safety Strategy</p> <p>Young People's Substance Misuse Plan</p> <p>LSC Plans</p> <p>CAMHS</p> <p>Healthy Schools Programme Plan</p> <p>Play Strategy</p> <p>Sports Strategy</p> <p>Connexions Partnership Plans</p> <p>Local Development Frameworks</p> <p>Planning documents on matters listed in Section 1.</p>	<p>Behaviour Support Plan</p> <p>Children's Services Plan</p> <p>Class Sizes Plan</p> <p>Early Years Development and Childcare Plan</p> <p>Education Development Plan</p> <p>Local Authority Adoption Services Plan</p> <p>School Organisation Plan</p>	<p>Area Child Protection Committee Business Plan</p> <p>Asset Management Plan</p> <p>Behaviour Improvement Plan</p> <p>Excellence Cluster Plan</p> <p>Excellence in Cities Plan</p> <p>ICT Development Plan</p> <p>Primary Strategy Plan (formerly literacy and numeracy plans)</p> <p>Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and Parenthood Strategy (to be subsumed by the CYPP from April 2006)</p> <p>Underperforming Schools Plan</p> <p>Youth Service Plan</p> <p>Local Preventative Strategy</p> <p>Children's Centre Implementation Plan</p>



<sup>1</sup> The repeal of statutory planning requirements came into force on 1 March 2005

**The following 19 statutory and non-statutory plans have been subsumed by the Children and Young People's Plans. Where they have not been directly incorporated within this plan, local arrangements have been made to ensure their relevant activities are being managed.**

<b>Plans Prior to Children and Young People's Plan</b>	<b>New Arrangements</b>
Behaviour Support Plan	Central plan not required - to be needs-specific
Children's Services Plan	Implementation plans to be produced at local level which will outline specific actions
Class Sizes Plan	School-specific - overall guidance to be produced by Local Authority
Early Years Development and Childcare Plan	Is now: "Brightstart" - Lambeth's Childcare Strategy, annual report will be produced to evaluate progress
Education Development Plan	To be replaced by Education Achievement Plan
Local Authority Adoption Services Plan	All issues dealt with through extensive local/national literature
School Organisation Plan	All issues to be dealt with locally, e.g. pupil places
Area Child Protection Committee Business Plan	To be replaced by action or improvement plan for Safeguarding Board
Asset Management Plan	To be retained
Behaviour Improvement Plan	Now features in Education Achievement Plan
Excellence Cluster Plan	Not required
Excellence in Cities Plan	Not required
ICT Development Plan	Now managed through the Lambeth Connected Learning Project, a public/private partnership, aiming to use ICT more effectively to raise standards of learning
Primary Strategy Plan (formerly literacy and numeracy plans)	Now a national strategy supported by local implementation plans and features in Education Achievement Plan
Teenage Pregnancy and Parenthood Strategy (to be subsumed by the CYPP from April 2006)	To be realised via an operational delivery plan
Under performing Schools Plan	Features in Education Achievement Plan
Youth Service Plan	Fully covered by Youth Justice Plan, Community Strategy and Integrated Youth Strategy
Local Preventative Strategy	Not required
Children's Centre Implementation Plan	Included in "Brightstart" Childcare Strategy



### **Background**

Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on the local authority to make arrangements to promote co-operation among relevant partners to improve the well being of children relating to the Every Child Matters five outcomes.

Relevant partners are defined as:

- The Police Authority and the Chief Police Officer
- A local Probation Board;
- A Youth Offending Team;
- A Strategic Health Authority and Primary Care Trust;
- Connexions;
- The Learning and Skills Council for England.

In Lambeth, the setting up of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership in February 2004 has been the driving force for promoting and continuing this co-operation.

Section 13 of the Act requires that each children's services authority must establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board with specific representation. This has been achieved in Lambeth, building on the work and membership of the Area Child Protection Committee.

### **Director of Children's Services**

Section 18 of the Children Act 2004 requires that a children's services authority appoint a Director of Children's Services. The London Borough of Lambeth did this on 1 October 2005 at the same time as integrating those departments responsible for education and the social care of children and young people. The Director has a wide-ranging responsibility for services relating to children and young people.

### **Lead Member for Children's Services**

The children's service's authority must designate one of its members as their "lead member for children's services" to carry out functions conferred on or exercisable by the authority under the Act. This duty was met by the London Borough of Lambeth at the same time as the integration mentioned above.

### **Children and Young People's Plan**

Section 17 of the Children's Act 2004 allowed for the Secretary of State to require the children's services authority to prepare and publish a plan setting out the authority's strategy for discharging its functions in relation to children and relevant young people.

This was enacted via The Children and Young People's Plan (England) Regulations 2005 which require that the authority, in relation to children and young people to:

- prepare and publish a plan, as above;
- set out improvements the authority intends to make during the plan period in relation to the five Every Child Matters outcomes;
- include a statement of the authority's vision;
- include a needs assessment;
- include an outline of planned key actions;
- include how the authority's budget will contribute to the planned improvements;
- state the plan's relationship to the authority's performance management and review of services;
- set out the arrangements for partners to work together during the plan period;
- ensure the content of the plan is consistent with partners' plans;
- publish its first plan on, or before 1 April 2006;
- consult widely, including with children, relevant young people, their families, carers, schools, voluntary and community services and relevant partners.

This plan is the London Borough of Lambeth's response to the above requirements.

### **Guidance**

Central Government has produced non-statutory guidance regarding the Children and Young People's Plan. The key issues include the following:

- the Plan is to make links to a range of plans owned by the authority and other partners;
- the Plan subsumes 19 current plans, i.e. requirements to produce them have been removed (shown at Appendix A);
- there will only be a single, strategic, over-arching plan for all services affecting children and young people;
- although the responsibility is given to the local authority, the intention is that the local authority is the co-ordinating body;
- the Plan should be flexible to reflect local needs;
- the Plan must be outcome focused;
- there must be wide consultation and discussion in its development;
- the Plan will summarise the actions to be taken to meet the vision and improve outcomes;
- it is a strategic plan, not a detailed operational plan;
- there must be comprehensive publication of the Plan.

The Children and Young People's Plan is to include:

- improvements in outcomes which the authority intends to make during the Plan period;
- a local vision for children and young people;
- an assessment of needs in relation to the outcomes;
- priorities and key actions to achieve the outcomes;
- a statement of how resources will be deployed to achieve the outcomes;
- an explanation of how the Plan relates to arrangements for performance management and review of services;
- the arrangements for co-operation under the duty to co-operate with other partners;
- an explanation of how the CYPP is consistent with the strategic plans of local partners.

All partners involved in the Lambeth Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership have a proven and effective history of consultation in the design and delivery of their services. This has been used in the development of our Children and Young People's Plan. Particular emphasis has been given to consulting with children and young people themselves so that we know what they want and need from us and how it should be delivered.

Consultation focused on the full range of outcomes addressed by Every Child Matters. Children, young people, their parents and carers, and those that work with them, were asked for their views on services provided in Lambeth and on our vision and what they think our local priorities should be.

Many of you reading this plan have informed this consultation. You have told us that disabled children and young people feel well supported but there is also a need for all professionals to fully understand the needs of specific groups. The young people amongst you are satisfied with the breadth of youth support services but want a stronger focus on care leavers. There was also support for the standard and range of childcare provision in the borough but a desire for this to be extended to longer hours and through the summer and for facilities to be improved for the under fours.

When asked about safety, young people were more concerned about local crime than more general security threats. They expressed concerns about gangs, drugs and gun crime.

A common theme was a desire for all young people in Lambeth to be heard and properly involved in decisions made about them.

### **How and where we consulted on this plan**

The following gives a flavour of the groups, methods and opportunities we accessed to gain as wide an understanding as possible of the needs of children and young people in Lambeth:

- The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership;
- The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Assembly (includes hospitals, volunteer organisations, mental health service providers, Connexions, contracted providers);
- The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Programme Forum (includes chairs of partnership groups, e.g. crime and disorder, and heads of service);
- The Voluntary and Community Group Forum;
- NHS stakeholders (through NHS Commissioning Group for Children and Young People);
- Childcare, play and leisure provision for disabled children;
- Advice, guidance and support services for teenagers;
- Partners working with education, employment and training issues for 16-18 year olds;
- Early years childcare needs audit;
- Early years/Sure Start activities;
- Healthy eating activities;
- Antenatal services;
- 10-17 year olds regarding youth offending and youth crime issues;
- Staff, parents, children and young people regarding children in need in Lambeth
- School councils;
- Lambeth Youth Council;
- 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training;
- Pupils from the gay and lesbian community (national survey);
- Looked after children in Lambeth;
- Former looked after children;
- Police summer projects with young people;
- School meals tasting events;
- Young people-specific residents' survey;
- Parents' forums, including parents from specific communities, e.g. Somali mothers;
- Lambeth Libraries' Black History Event;
- Connexions;
- Positive Activities for Young People;
- School Headteachers and Governors;
- Children and Young People's Plan art competition – involving schools, children in hospital, youth centres and projects, local art clubs, libraries, Sure Starts, One O'clock Clubs, etc;
- Community Safety Audit.

Every Child Matters National Outcome	Local Priority	Business Case for Selection	Strategic Links
<b>Be healthy</b>			
Enjoying good physical and mental health and living a healthy lifestyle	Significantly improve young people's mental and sexual health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Performance Assessment</li> <li>• Primary Care Trust, priority 1 &amp; 2</li> <li>• Area of unmet need identified in needs assessment</li> <li>• Access issues</li> <li>• Children's Services Audit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child health strategy</li> <li>• Health promotion strategy</li> <li>• Teenage pregnancy and parenthood strategy</li> <li>• National Service Framework, standards 4 &amp; 9</li> </ul>
<b>Stay safe</b>			
Being protected from harm and neglect and growing up able to look after themselves	Support parenting to safeguard children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory duty to safeguard children &amp; young people</li> <li>• Primary Care Trust, priority 4</li> <li>• Annual Performance Assessment</li> <li>• Inspection recommendation re Child Protection Register</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare Strategy, "Brightstart"</li> <li>• National Service Framework, standards 2, 5 &amp; 8</li> </ul>
	Prevent young people from drifting into crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Offending Team Improvement Plan</li> <li>• Annual Performance Assessment</li> <li>• Commission for Social Care Inspection</li> <li>• Children's Information Service audit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Safety Strategy</li> <li>• Youth Justice Plan</li> <li>• Integrated Youth Strategy</li> </ul>
	Improve the transition arrangements for vulnerable children and young people, in particular, looked after children and children with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs assessment</li> <li>• Primary Care Trust, priority 5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Standard Framework, standards 1, 4, 6 &amp; 8</li> </ul>

Every Child Matters National Outcome	Local Priority	Business Case for Selection	Strategic Links
<b>Enjoy and achieve</b>			
Getting the most out of life and developing broad skills for adulthood	Increase access to quality local school places and good quality childcare places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office for Standards in Education recommendation</li> <li>• Children and Young People's Service priority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better Schools for the Future strategic business case</li> </ul>
	Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups and achieve floor targets (these show what priorities should be at a local level)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Office for Standards in Education recommendation</li> <li>• Children and Young People's Service Priority</li> <li>• Inspection report</li> </ul>	
	Increase opportunities for all young people to participate in out of school activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary Care Trust priority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Strategy</li> <li>• Integrated Youth Strategy</li> <li>• National Service Framework, standard 4</li> </ul>
<b>Make a positive contribution</b>			
To the community and to society and not engaging in anti-social or offending behaviour	Increase opportunities for children, young people and their families to contribute to decisions about services they receive as a community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children's Services audit</li> <li>• Every Child matters national agenda</li> <li>• Annual Performance Assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Strategy</li> <li>• National Service Framework, standard 4</li> <li>• Play Strategy</li> <li>• Youth Strategy</li> </ul>
<b>Achieve economic well-being</b>			
	Increase the number of young people in employment, education and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs assessment</li> <li>• Connexions audit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Strategy</li> <li>• Integrated Youth Strategy</li> </ul>

Priorities	Indicator	Current performance	Target/milestone 2006-07
<b>OUTCOME Be Healthy</b>			
Significantly improve young people's mental and sexual health	BVPI 197 Change in the number of conceptions to females aged 15-17 resident in the area, compared with the baseline year of 1998.	1998-2004 - 1.5% decrease (provisional figures)	To reduce the under 18 conception rate by 60% by 2010. (national target is 50%)
	Percentage of young people who are assessed as manifesting acute mental health difficulties referred by YOT to the CAMHS for a formal assessment commencing within five working days of the receipt of the referral	41% year to date performance for 2005-06	100%
	Health checks for children looked after (PAF CF/C19)	60% for 2004-05	Exceed target of 75%
	All schools to be working towards the National Healthy Schools Standard by 2009.	55% of schools are currently accredited with the National Healthy Schools Standard.	100% of schools to achieve standard by 2009.

**BVPI** Best Value Performance Indicator  
**PAF** Performance Assessment Framework

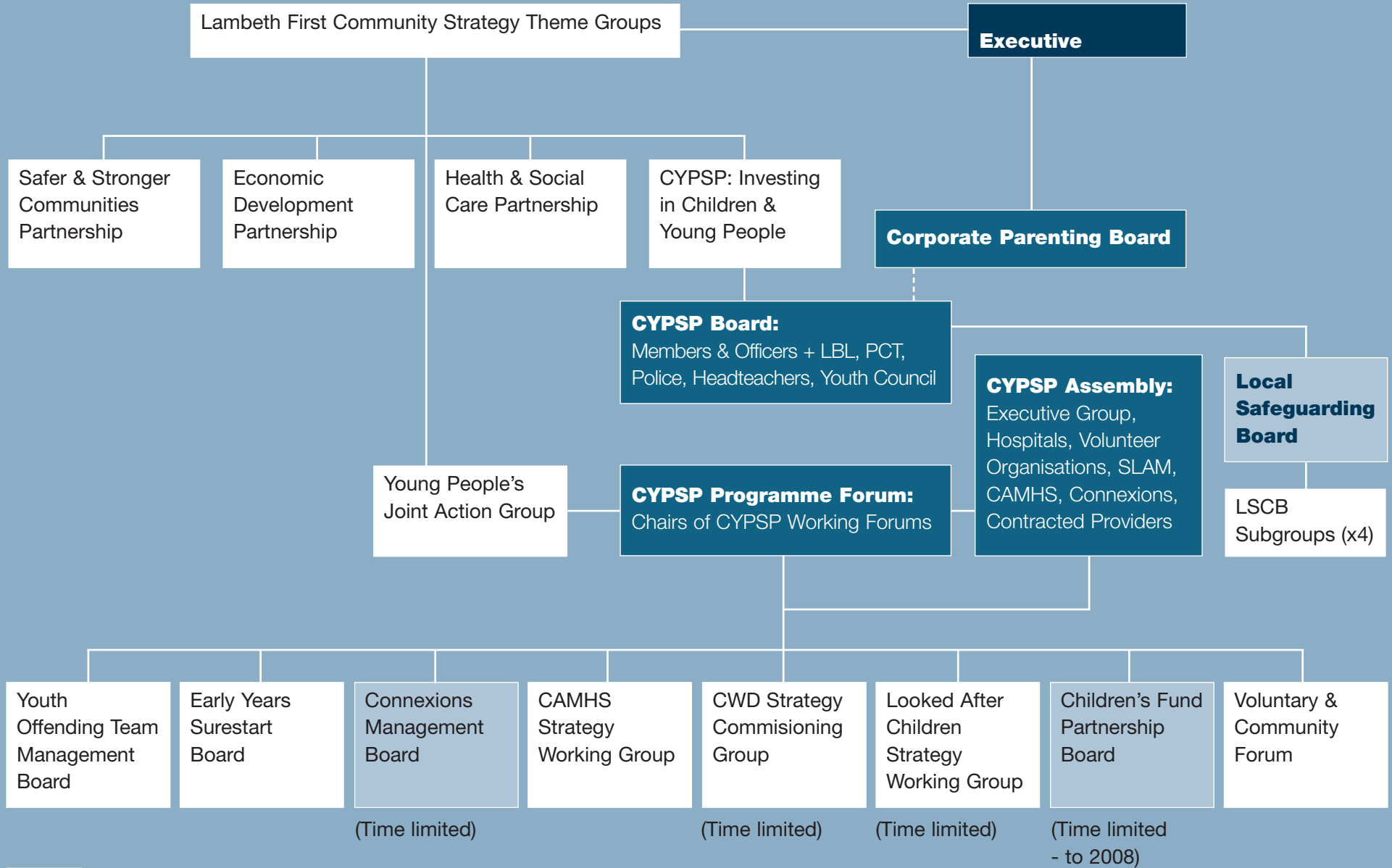
Priorities	Indicator	Current performance	Target/milestone 2006-07
<b>OUTCOME Stay Safe</b>			
Support parenting to safeguard children and young people	Of children looked after (excluding those placed with parents) and under the age of 10, the percentage who were in foster placements or placed for adoption (PAF CF/C22)	96.4	96.9
	Reviews of child protection cases. The % of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed. (PAF 20)	100	100
	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)	50.3%	50%
	Children and young people on the Child Protection Register per 10000 population aged under 18	39.5%	38.9%
Prevent young people drifting into crime	Number of new entrants to the youth justice system	94% year to date performance (2005-06) against the target of 24 new entrants per month	Reduce the number of new entrants by 5%
	Recidivism rates for young people	2002-03: pre-court 30% first tier 60.94% community penalties 73.21% custody 60%	Reduce re-offending by 15% (5% year on year) by 2007-08 based on 2002-03 cohort
	% of young people with final warnings supported by intervention and community based penalties who receive a parenting intervention.	2.5%	10%
	Final warnings, reprimands and convictions of looked after children (PAF CF/C18)	2.7% for 2004-05	2.5%

Priorities	Indicator	Current performance	Target/milestone 2006-07
<b>OUTCOME Stay Safe</b>			
Improve the transition arrangements for vulnerable children and young people, including those looked after and those with disabilities	Percentage of looked after children with a named social worker who is qualified as a social worker.	100%	100%
	Percentage of core assessments that were completed within 35 working days of their commencement. (PAF CF/64)	65.4% year to date performance for 2005-06	60%
	Percentage of children looked after on the last day of the reporting month who had three or more separate placements during the preceding year. (PAF CF/A1 / BVPI 49)	13.26% year to date performance for 2005-06.	13% for 2005-06
	Number of looked after children adopted during the year as a percentage of the number of children looked after at the end of the year (who had been looked after for 6 months or more). (PAF CF/C23 / BVPI 163)	75.24% year to date performance for 2005-06.	76% for 2005-06
	Percentage of children deregistered from the Child Protection Register during the year who had been on the register for two years or more. (PAF CF/A3)	14.3% year to date performance for 2005-06	12.9% for 2005-06
	Percentage of children on the Child Protection Register who have previously been registered (PAF A3)	15.1	12.9

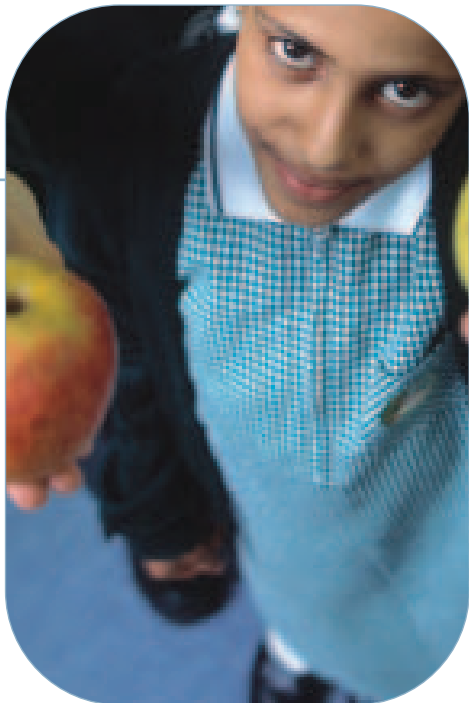
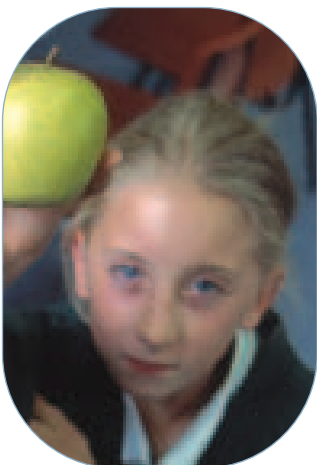
Priorities	Indicator	Current performance	Target/milestone 2006-07
<b>OUTCOME Enjoy and achieve</b>			
Increase access to quality local school places	Providing adequate provision for school roll projections for Lambeth Primary and Secondary	Primary 17 751 Secondary 7 823	2010 Projection Primary 20 614 Secondary 8 311  2014 Projection Primary 22 453 Secondary 8 803
	Percentage of primary schools with 25% or more of their places unfilled. (BV 34a)	6.8%	5%
	Percentage of secondary schools with 25% or more of their places unfilled (BV 34b)	0%	0%
Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups	Percentage of 15 year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalent (BV 38)	48%	53.2%
	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)	Outturn for 2004-05 English: 76% Mathematics: 68%	Targets English: 79% Mathematics: 78%
	Percentage of 14-year old pupils in schools maintained by the local education authority achieving Level 5 or above in the Key Stage 3 test in English and Mathematics (BV181)	Outturn for 2004-05 English: 71% Mathematics: 65% Science: 60% ICT: 53%	Targets English: 74% Mathematics: 71% Science: 69% ICT: 70%
	Percentage of young people leaving care aged 16 or over with 1 or more GCSEs at grade A*-C or a GNVQ	91.7% outturn for 2004-05	90%

Priorities	Indicator	Current performance	Target/milestone 2006-07
<b>OUTCOME Enjoy and achieve</b>			
Narrow the achievement gaps for specific groups	Educational qualifications of children looked after (5 or more GCSE A*-C) (BVPI 50)	20.6% for 2004-05	45%
	Percentage of half days missed due to total absence in secondary schools maintained by the local education authority (BV 45)	7.5%	6%
	Percentage of half days missed due to total absence in primary schools maintained by the local education authority (BV 46)	6.2%	6%
	Percentage of children looked after continuously for at least 12 months of compulsory school age who missed at least 25 days of schooling for any reason during the previous school year (PAF CF/C24)	11.6% for 2004-05	10%
	The percentage of permanently excluded pupils provided with alternative tuition of: 20 hours or more (BV 159d)	55%	100%
Increase opportunities for all young people to participate in out of school activities	Percentage of young people aged 13-19 reached by publicly funded youth service	13.5%	To be determined
	Ratio of FTE youth workers to young people aged 13-19	1 to 553	To be determined

Priorities	Indicator	Current performance	Target/milestone 2006-07
<b>OUTCOME Make a positive contribution</b>			
Increase opportunities for children, young people and their families to contribute to decisions about services they receive as a community	The number of children and young people who communicated their views specifically for their latest statutory review as a percentage of the number of children and young people who were looked after during the year for more than four weeks PAF CF/C 63.	81	85
	Number of pupils permanently excluded during the year from all schools maintained by the local education authority per 1,000 pupils at all maintained schools. (BV 44)	1.17 per 1000 pupils at maintained schools	1.75
	Number of Children's Centres opened in the borough. A minimum core offer of services to be established at each centre.	Wave 1 – 14 Children's Centres operating in 2006	A further 10 Children's Centres operating by 2008.
	Mainstreaming of SureStart services to be completed with specific services identified as part of the core offer	N/A	31.03.2007
	Overall satisfaction of Children in Need (PAF CF/D65)	33.6% for 2004-05	40% for 2005-06
	Choices about care for Children in Need (PAF CF/D66)	22.7% for 2004-05	30% for 2005-06
<b>OUTCOME Achieve Economic well being</b>			
Increase the number of young people in employment, education and training	Number and percentage of young people who are in employment, education or training	11.6% year to date for 2005-06	14.2% for 2006-07
	% of young offenders who are supervised by the YOT either in full-time education, training or employment	65%	90%
	Percentage of young people looked after on 1 April in their 17th year (aged 16) who were engaged in education, training or employment at the age 19. (PAF CF/A4)	58.4% for 2004-05	65% for 2005-06



= Statutory group



**Illustration competition winners**

**Shani, Age 8, Henry Cavendish Primary School**

**Rachel Greaves, Age 7, Wyvil Primary School**

**Lenia Martinez, Age 7, Wyvil Primary School**

**Hannah Bewley, Age 8, Reay Primary School**

**Delilah Warner, age 11**

**Oliver, Age 9, Elm Wood Primary School**

**Shannon Astley, age 10, Elm Wood Primary School**

**Zoe Cummins, Reay Primary School**

**Alwin Sese, age 18,**

**Shaval Heaven, age 16**

**Manu Legal, age 15**

**Alicia Adelaja, age 14**

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