

# **Young Newport Consultation Document**

## **Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14**

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# Newport Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14

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## **All our children – all our business**

As Chair of Young Newport – Newport’s Children and Young People’s Partnership I am pleased to welcome you to our Children and Young People’s Plan, 2011 – 14. This is the defining statement of strategic planning intent that guides all services, organisations and individuals working with and for children and young people across Newport.

This new Plan builds on the successes of the first Children and Young People’s Plan and it shows a continuation of the fundamental principles:

- The Partnership doesn’t bring up children, parents do
- All children have the potential to succeed
- Children and young people need to enjoy life
- Services need to be shaped by and respond to the needs of children, young people and their families
- It is always better to prevent failure than tackle a crisis later
- We will work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families

As a Partnership, Young Newport recognises that overcoming child poverty and the barriers this puts in place is the overriding priority within this Plan. We also recognise that work with parents and families is essential if we are to better the life chances of our children and young people.

Over the next few years we are likely to see a reduction in the resources available to us and so this Plan also has to be realistic and focused on the most vulnerable.

In order to achieve the outcomes we want to see for our children and young people it is essential that we work together so that we can overcome the challenges ahead.

***Cllr David Atwell, Cabinet Member for Young People***

## **About Newport**

As Wales’s newest city, Newport forms the gateway between Wales and England and the economic motor for the South East Wales region. In spite of the tough economic climate facing the city and the UK as a whole, Newport continues to undergo some of the most far-reaching changes seen in the locality during the last 100 years and heralds the newest and perhaps most exciting chapter in the city’s history.

Those who know Newport well will recognise it as a multi-cultural community with its own unique atmosphere where traditional industries exist alongside new electronics and financial service sectors. For all its historic interest, Newport has more than its past to commend it. After losing some of its core industries, the City is successfully proving that it can re-establish and adapt itself as a centre of modern industry and commerce.

## **Young Newport – Newport’s Children and Young People’s Partnership**

This Plan has been developed by Young Newport - Newport Children and Young People’s Partnership, in collaboration with children, young people and their families,

as well as other stakeholders as part of the legislative requirements of the Children Act 2004.

Young Newport is a Partnership of all services, organisations and individuals concerned with the wellbeing of children, young people and their families. Newport City Council is the lead organisation within this partnership. Other statutory partners include Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Gwent Police and Careers Wales Gwent. Education providers, such as schools, Coleg Gwent and University of Wales Newport are also represented. The Third Sector is vital part of the partnership and those involved range from the large, national organisations to small, local organisations run by volunteers. In addition to all of these, local community sector partners including community associations are included as well as local parent support groups.

Of course, children, young people and their families play an essential and active part of Young Newport.

### **All Our Children**

The Children and Young People's Plan is a Plan to benefit all children and young people within Newport. However, in order to achieve the outcomes we have stated within this Plan, particular emphasis will be placed upon the most vulnerable and needy within our society. These include:

- Children and young people with disabilities and / or additional learning needs
- Children and young people in or leaving care
- Children and young people from ethnic minority backgrounds, including traveller, migrant and asylum seeking children
- Young Carers
- Children and young people living in poverty

To help us think about what we need to do, the Welsh Assembly Government has asked us to work towards seven Core Aims, which are based on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

In addition to these Core Aims, Young Newport is also responsible for ensuring that all young people aged 11 to 25 receive their '10 Entitlements' as set out in the Learning and Skills Act 2000 and that all services work together to implement the National Service Framework for Children and Maternity Services.

### **The Child Poverty Strategy and relationship to this Plan**

Organisations working within Newport are committed to working together to tackling the inequalities that some children, young people and families face because they are living in poverty. There is strong evidence that shows poverty can have adverse affects on outcomes for children and young people in later in life. Therefore, the single overriding priority within this Plan is to reduce the inequalities that exist between those children, young people and families living in poverty and those that do not and to ensure that all children and young people living in Newport reach their full potential regardless of their family's economic situation.

In Newport, neighbourhoods with some of the country's highest levels of social deprivation sit next to some of those with the greatest affluence.

The main challenges for Newport and those which contribute to disadvantage are across educational achievement and employment, crime and anti social behaviour, health inequalities, and child poverty. Economic regeneration alongside community regeneration are key factors that can transform local neighbourhoods and the lives of local people. Focus must be on narrowing the gap between the least and most affluent areas of the city by addressing areas of activity including employment, health, housing, education, community safety and the environment.

The Welsh Assembly Government has identified three strategic objectives within its Child Poverty Strategy:

- To reduce the number of families living in workless households
- To improve the skill level of parents and young people in low income families so that they can secure well paid employment
- To reduce the inequalities that exist in the health, education and economic outcomes for children living in poverty by improving the outcomes of the poorest

These in turn are supported by 13 Broad Aims that are linked throughout the Core Aims of this Plan.

The Young Newport is committed to the development of local support that helps with issues such as employment, education, health, housing, parenting, benefits, debt, skills and substance misuse. Our local delivery will be:

- Family Focused and will offer families help to improve their chances of escaping poverty
- Bespoke and tailored to individual family circumstances
- Integrated so that help from different organisations is effectively coordinated
- Pro-active and will seek out families where early intervention will be effective
- Intensive and adaptive to the changing needs and circumstances of the family
- Local and will reflect the needs and circumstances of the local community

The reduction of child poverty and its effects is the overriding priority of Young Newport and runs throughout this Plan. The detail will form a cross cutting theme within the supporting Annual Action Plans.

### **Community Strategy**

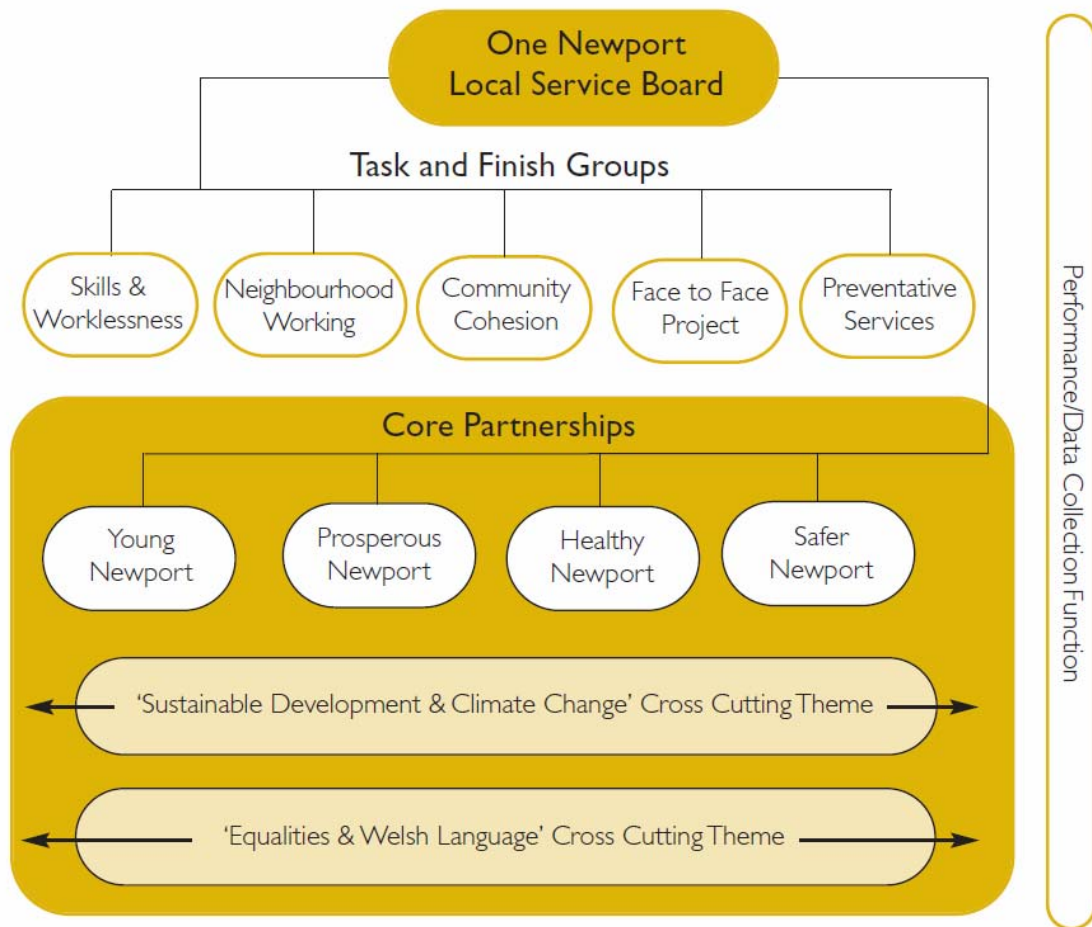
“Working together to create a proud and prosperous city with opportunities for all”

The Community Strategy – ‘Feeling good about Newport’ contains the One Newport - Local Service Board’s vision for improving Newport over the next 10 years. It has been revised during 2010 to take into account the changes seen in the City during the last five years and to ensure that the long term vision for the City remains on course and is achievable. The priorities in the Community Strategy are:

1. To have a prosperous and thriving City.
2. To have a better quality of life.
3. To have vibrant and safe communities.
4. To deliver better public services.

The Children and Young People’s Plan is one of three core plans being reviewed within the One Newport - Local Service Board’s (LSB) policy framework.

## Structure



## Community Needs Assessment

As part of the development of the Children and Young People's Plan, Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy and Community Safety Strategy each partnership is required to undertake a needs assessment and analysis to inform priority setting and decision making. In June 2010 One Newport – Local Service Board agreed to a new approach of producing a joint needs assessment for all core plans.

Undertaking only one needs assessment reduces the costs of research and duplication of information. This new approach is supporting any work towards a single integrated delivery plan and offers the potential to explore closer working relationships between partnerships. To develop the needs assessment we undertook both quantitative and qualitative work.

### Quantitative

A number of priority population indicators were identified for each Community Strategy outcome that could be used to establish the needs of the local population.

As part of this process key stakeholders were asked to take part in a workshop at a One Newport Event in September 2010. For the purpose of the event, the outcomes were grouped together into 8 themes: Business, Economy and Jobs; Health; Community Safety; Learning and Education; Vibrant City; Environment and Sustainability; Integration of Services; and Participation.

### Qualitative

Consultation and engagement took place over the summer with local people, businesses, visitors, workers, and the community. Various consultation activities were undertaken, including attendance at local events, the Eisteddfod, focus groups and community groups, as well as use of bulletins, newsletters and websites. Consultation and engagement results from the last six months have also been considered including the Community Strategy, Local Development Plan, Economic Development strategy, and 'Partnership and Communities Together' (PACT) priorities. There was also a specific consultation exercise undertaken with **HYPE (Helping Young People to Excel)** network members to gauge the views of the Third Sector.

### **Child Care Sufficiency Audit**

The Childcare Act 2006, requires all local authorities in Wales to secure, as far as is reasonably practicable, sufficient childcare to meet the requirements of parents in their area who require childcare in order to work or to undertake training or education to prepare for work. Section 26 of the Act requires Local Authorities to assess that childcare provision in order to provide 'sufficiency'.

The Childcare Act duties came into effect on 1 April 2008, and since then, Newport City Council has been required to provide to the Welsh Assembly Government, a Childcare Sufficiency Audit (commonly known as the CSA). The assessment is a measurement of the nature and extent of the need for, and supply of, childcare within the City. It assists Young Newport in identifying where there are gaps in the market and, in consultation with parents, communities and employers, plan how to support the market in order to address these gaps.

In Newport, the Family Information Service takes the lead on the production of the CSA, and some of the key results of the most recent assessment that took place in 2010 are:

- The development of 'Out of School' childcare places (including holiday care) is a priority.
- Parents/carers have told us that childcare needs to be more flexible to meet the needs of Parents working 'non-typical' hours (i.e. weekends, shifts, etc).
- The complexity of 'fees and charges' are reported as an issue for parents, and can be off putting and possibly misleading. Clearer information and advice needs to be provided.
- Due to the recent changes in legislation surrounding lone-parent benefits, the barriers to returning to work have changed. The most over-riding barrier parents tell us is the cost of childcare, and some state these charges outweigh the benefit of working.

### **Funding context**

Young Newport is aware of the unprecedented financial situation we will be delivering this Plan within. It is at this time that collaborative working, pooling of budgets and joint commissioning is most important if we are to achieve the outcomes we want for all our children and young people.

However, we must be realistic in our planning and our targets and live within our means. This will mean, more than ever, that we will have to focus our efforts and target our resources at the most needy in our society.

## **Core Aim 1 – A Flying Start in Life**

### **Our Vision**

We want to ensure that every child in Newport has the best start in life by providing high quality services that are accessible to all families and that will enable every child to reach their full potential

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*To support parenting for children*

*We recognise that 'parenting' education should begin before birth and should definitely target the early years in a child's life and various stages of transition. We will work to ensure that all parents living in Newport receive the information, advice and support they require to ensure that all our children and young people enjoy their childhood and will reach their full potential and become healthy, responsible citizens.*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To have a better quality of life - Children in Newport have the best start in life*

### **Current Situation**

The provision of high quality accessible childcare, early years education, support for parents and good information and support during a child's early development are essential to ensure that children have the best possible start to life in terms of their own physical, emotional, social and cognitive development and wellbeing. Newport currently has a good range of services for children aged 0-3 years such as high quality childcare provision, play and early years education as well as targeted health promotion and parenting support.

In recent years there has been significant investment in the Flying Start programme that supports children and families from deprived areas. Appropriate and sustainable childcare provision, advice and support is made available to all families through a variety of local programmes. There is a wide range of parenting courses offered Newport-wide.

The Health Access programme provides intensive health advice, promotion and support to families with young children via trained staff and support groups. However, there are still a number of areas for concern in Newport including dental health and obesity.

### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment**

- Improve literacy and numeracy in parents.
- Expand parenting provision.
- Address childhood obesity.
- Oral health- decay in early years.
- Flexible childcare provision that fits with parental working hours.

### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Ensure parenting provision across Newport takes a more holistic approach

Improve the health and well-being of children and their families



Ensure that childcare in Newport is tailored to the needs of children and their families

Improve the literacy and numeracy levels of parents so that they are better able to support their children during the early years

**What this will look like for children and their families?**

- Parents have the skills and confidence to parent effectively and set secure and consistent boundaries for their children.
- Children and their parents are healthy at birth and through the early years.
- Families adopt healthy lifestyles.
- Parents access high quality and affordable childcare that is flexible to meet the needs of their children and their families
- Parents confidently support their children to achieve their developmental milestones

**How will we measure if we have achieved this?**

- Reduction in the rate of low birth weight babies in Newport (and in particular Flying Start areas).
- Reduction in Infant Mortality Rates.
- Reduction in dental caries in the under 5s.
- Increased percentage uptake of scheduled childhood immunisations at 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Birthdays.
- Increase in the number of affordable childcare places available across Newport.
- Increase percentage of children that demonstrate an improvement in meeting their developmental milestones (relates to SOGs scores).
- Increased percentage of parents that have improved their basic skills (both literacy and numeracy) via various programmes/initiatives including Language and Play programme, as well as other community based support groups such as Sure Start.

**To achieve this we will:**

Provide parenting provision across Newport that takes a more holistic approach	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Improving the accessibility of information and advice for Parents / carers</li> <li>➤ Increasing the capacity of professionals to deliver a 'menu' of parenting programmes</li> <li>➤ Linking Parenting support to the ante natal (pre-conception) programme</li> <li>➤ Ensuring Parenting programmes are accessible to all types of families including Parents of teenagers, Ethnic minority families, parents of children with disabilities</li> </ul>
Improve the health and well-being of children and their families	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reducing the numbers of low birth weight babies in Newport</li> <li>➤ Implementing the Newport breastfeeding strategy &amp; provide advice and support for weaning practices</li> <li>➤ Developing and implementing an infant mental health strategy</li> <li>➤ Improving maternal mental &amp; emotional health</li> </ul>
Ensure that childcare in Newport will be tailored to the needs of children and their families (particularly those families living in Poverty)	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Responding to the findings &amp; recommendations of the CSA</li> <li>➤ Ensuring families living in Poverty have access to affordable childcare in their communities</li> <li>➤ Expanding the numbers of childcare places offered during 'non-typical' hours</li> </ul>

<p>Improve the literacy and numeracy levels of parents so that they are better able to support their children during the early years</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scoping current provision for Parents</li> <li>➤ Offering additional 'bespoke' support for Parents</li> <li>➤ Increasing the numbers of parents taking up offers of provision by working with schools, health professionals, community groups and the voluntary sector</li> </ul>
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**Who needs to be involved?**

Antenatal / Midwifery team, Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, Childcare / Early Years settings, Voluntary Organisations, Schools, Parents, Health Visiting Service, Flying Start and Sure Start, Family Information Service, Speech and Language service, Parenting Coordinator, Preventative Services, Foundation Phase Advisory Team.

**How will we pay for it?**

Core Midwifery and Health Visiting Budget, Flying Start grant, Foundation Phase Grant, core Education budget, core Childcare funding, Families First Grant, Basic Skills Funding

**Key local policies/strategies**

Newport Parenting Strategy  
 Newport Breast Feeding Strategy  
 Childcare Sufficiency Audit  
 Flying Start Implementation Plan

**National Policy/Strategy**

Welsh Assembly Government (2005) [National Service Framework Children, Young People and Maternity Services.](#)  
*Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010*  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2002), [Childcare Strategy for Wales: Childcare is for Children.](#)  
*Childcare Act 2006*  
 Welsh Assembly Government, [Child Poverty Strategy and Delivery Plan.](#)  
[UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative](#)  
 Unit for Health Services Research and International Health (2008), [Promoting, Protecting and Supporting Breast Feeding: An Action Plan for Europe.](#)  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2002), [Realising the Potential” Briefing Paper 4: “Delivering the Future in Wales”. A Framework for Realising the Potential of Midwives in Wales.](#)  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2001), [Investing in a Better Start: Promoting Breast Feeding in Wales.](#)  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2005), [Parenting Action Plan](#)

## **Core Aim 2 – A Range of Education and Learning Opportunities**

### **Our Vision**

All children and young people in Newport will have access to a full range of education, learning, training and employment opportunities. Acquiring essential basic skills and personal and social skills will prepare our young people for the world of work and leisure.

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*To reduce inequalities in educational attainment between children and young people*

*We recognise that we must improve basic and work-related skills and that by doing this we will improve outcomes for vulnerable children and their families. We will work together to reduce the gap in achievement of literacy and numeracy and ensure children achieve their full potential.*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To have a better quality of life – Children in Newport succeed in school or work*

### **Current Situation**

National and local performance indicators and Estyn inspection reports are evidence to the high standards of education in Newport's schools. Key Stage 1 and 2 National Curriculum assessments have been high for a number of years, with pupils consistently achieving some of the highest levels of attainment in Wales. Newport schools have made strong progress in Key Stage 3 in recent years and performance is now above the Welsh average. Newport schools have also made significant improvement in achieving outcomes for pupils at Key Stage 4. The number of pupils leaving compulsory education without a recognised qualification has decreased significantly to 0.2%, which is well below the National figure(0.9%). This represents just 5 pupils across the whole of the City (Newport currently ranks 4th in Wales for this indicator). These achievements are particularly significant when compared with levels of deprivation in the city. In 2009, 18.6% of pupils were entitled to free school meals, above the Wales average of 16.2% and 17th in Wales.

All Newport schools have received training in the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) Programme and are now implementing the programme using bilingual resource materials recently developed by the Assembly Government. SEAL professional learning communities have been established and the Education Service is continuing to support schools to implement the programme and raise awareness of emotional wellbeing.

Newport's statutory Welsh Education Scheme sets out our commitment to ensure that Welsh-medium education is available to all children of pre-school age and above whose parents wish them to receive their education through the medium of Welsh. This includes children with Additional Learning Needs and ensures that children and families are able to access additional education support services through the Welsh language where required. The scheme also sets out a commitment to improve the standard of Welsh language teaching and learning for all children in Newport's education settings. The Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14 mirrors this

commitment and as such all objectives in the plan apply equally to young people accessing education through the Welsh or English language.

There has been a significant emphasis on working with young people who are not in education, employment or training since the last plan with the implementation of the 'NEET' Strategy. The combined partnership working that has been focused on this issue has helped us improve the life chances of many young people. Some of the key successes have been the development of a Newport Work Based Learning Provider Network and Careers Wales Gwent hosting a 'Next Steps Event' for young people leaving full time education. We see an opportunity for this to develop into a 'clearing' system for 16 to 18 years olds over the next few years.

### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment**

- Narrow the gap in attainment levels for children eligible for free school meals.
- Reduce the numbers of young people not in education, employment or training
- Reduce exclusions and improved attendance.
- Flexible and tailored learning pathways.
- Unemployment and transitional support for school leavers from education to work
- Additional help and support is provided to pupils within educational institutions but more specialist youth counselling is needed outside these institutions.

### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Raise attainment levels of all pupils with an additional focus on improving attainment of young people disadvantaged by poverty.

Reduce the number of young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (Identified in UNA)

Improve the levels of support provided to young people with Additional Learning Needs.

Improve access to a range of learning pathways to ensure that young people can reach their full potential.

Improve the social, inclusion and emotional wellbeing of all learners.

### **What will success look like for children, young people and their families?**

- Children and young people in Newport achieve their full learning potential and are not disadvantaged by poverty.
- Children and young people engage in appropriate learning, training and employment.
- Children and young people's additional learning needs are met and barriers to their learning are removed.
- Children and young people feel safe and confident free from the effects of bullying.

### **How will we know we have achieved this?**

- Reduction in the number of young people (year 11 and year 13s) Not in Education, Training or Employment (Careers Wales-Destinations Data).

- Reduction in the percentage of children with a statement of educational need.
- Reduction in the number of permanent and fixed-term exclusions.
- Increased pupil attendance rates in both primary and secondary schools.
- Increase attainment levels across all key stages to include increasing the percentage of pupil's attainment across all key stages who are entitled to free school meals (Poverty Indicator).

**To achieve this we will**

Improve attainment levels of all learners with an additional focus on improving attainment of young people disadvantaged by poverty. (identified in UNA)	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Listening to learners and personalising their learning</li> <li>➤ Implementing systems that identify learner needs at an early age</li> <li>➤ Developing a holistic, multi agency approach to supporting families</li> <li>➤ Developing a rich learning environment in all establishments</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that all learners develop 'employability' skills</li> <li>➤ Introducing greater range of qualifications to engage learners</li> <li>➤ Offering an appropriate range of qualifications in all institutions</li> <li>➤ Developing resources so that all children can access opportunities such as music tuition and sports</li> <li>➤ Continuing to utilise mechanisms for sharing good practice</li> <li>➤ Developing mechanisms for identifying Newport-based role models</li> <li>➤ Ensuring learning environments are not detrimental to the attainment of children and young people</li> </ul>
Reduce the number of young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (Identified in UNA)	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Implementing and monitoring Newport's 'NEET' Strategy</li> <li>➤ Developing partnership-wide information sharing protocols and a Keeping in Touch Strategy</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there are mechanisms in place for children and young people to have their voices heard (linked CA5)</li> <li>➤ Continuing to develop focused 'pastoral' support services for young people</li> </ul>
Improve the social inclusion of all learners and improve levels of support provided to young people with Additional Learning Needs.	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Reviewing current ALN provision in Newport across all providers</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there are clear and effective early identification process in place and tailored learning opportunities</li> <li>➤ Ensuring provision is accessible</li> <li>➤ Working to reduce barriers to social inclusion, including transport to other providers and after school clubs</li> <li>➤ Continuing to improve transition for ALN learners into Secondary Schools</li> <li>➤ Providing alternative provision and access to non-traditional curriculum areas</li> <li>➤ Sharing information about young people with ALN at progression points</li> </ul>
Improve access to a range of learning pathways to ensure that young people can reach their full potential.	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Developing an overarching curriculum strategy 14-19</li> <li>➤ Working collaboratively so that there are clear learning pathways and ensuring that they include vocational pathways and methods of assessment</li> <li>➤ Developing links with employers and Higher Education</li> <li>➤ Improving Quality Assurance processes</li> </ul>
Improve the social and emotional wellbeing of all learners.	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Intervening earlier through parenting support (linked CA1)</li> <li>➤ Continuing to prioritise emotional wellbeing within schools</li> <li>➤ Listening to dis-engaged learners</li> <li>➤ Ensuring family learning opportunities are available in all schools (linked CA1)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Strengthening extra curricular opportunities that promote well being</li> <li>➤ Raising the aspiration of all learners</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that all learning providers promoting the well being of children and young people</li> <li>➤ Increasing support for vulnerable groups</li> <li>➤ Increasing the uptake of free school meals</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there is a clear strategy for tackling bullying across all learning providers</li> </ul>
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### **Who needs to be involved?**

Education, all Primary and Secondary Schools, Coleg Gwent, Social Services, Careers Wales Gwent, 14-19 LAN, Higher Education, Employers, Community Development, Jobcentre Plus, Youth Service, Work Based Learning Providers, LSB, Voluntary Sector, Sports Development including Positive Futures, Community 1<sup>st</sup> Partnerships, Parents/Carers, Flying Start, Community Leaders/Mentors, Officers and Politicians.

### **How will we pay for it?**

Core funding, DCELLS WBL Funding, Outcome Fund, Big Lottery Fund, ESF, Family Focused Funding

### **Key local policies/strategies**

Education Service Plan, NEET Strategy, KIT Strategy, 14-19 'Transforming Post 16 Learning Strategic Outline Case', Inclusion Strategy, Preventative Services Project Plan

### **National Policy/Strategy**

[Learning and Skills \(Wales\) Measure 2009](#)

[Education \(Wales\) Measure 2009](#)

*Children Act 2004*

Welsh Assembly Government (2004) [SEN Code of Practice for Wales.](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2006) [Education Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship.](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2004), [Learning Pathways 14-19 Guidance I](#) and [Learning Pathways 14-19 Guidance II](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2010), [Thinking Positively: Emotional health and well-being in schools and Early Years settings.](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2010), [Welsh-Medium Education Strategy](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [For Our Future - The 21st Century Higher Education Strategy and Plan for Wales](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2008), [School-based Counselling Services in Wales a National Strategy](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [Reducing the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training in Wales.](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [Quality and Effectiveness Framework for post-16 learning in Wales](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2008), [Reaching Higher](#)

Welsh Assembly Government (2008), [School Effectiveness Framework](#)

## **Core Aim 3 – The Best Possible Health**

### **Our Vision**

We want to ensure that every child & young person in Newport enjoys the best possible physical, mental, social & emotional health by providing good information and advice which will enable them to make healthy choices & have services which are easily accessible when they need them.

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*To reduce inequalities in health between children*

*The Children and Young People's Partnership recognises that it must ensure the provision of quality health services for all children and young people, with specific regard to those children and young people facing disadvantage. It also recognises that ensuring the health and wellbeing of children and young people is about more than the provision of core health services.*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To have a better quality of life - People in Newport are healthy and thriving*

### **Current Situation**

It is widely recognised that a family's circumstances impacts on the individual's ability to make healthy choices and has a crucial role in determining long term health and wellbeing. In recent years, the uptake of childhood immunisations (including MMR) in Newport has improved and we are now operating just above the Welsh average. However, uptake of the HPV vaccine at 16 years is very poor.

There is increasing concern about obesity among young people and the links to early onset of diabetes, although this appears no higher than in the rest of Wales. Young people tell us they want easier access to health care, both treatment and advice, in settings which are welcoming and accessible. They also tell us they would like better access to counselling services. There are concerning levels of sexually transmitted diseases in all sections of the population in Newport, but most significantly in young adults.

Lastly, a high percentage of young people admit to having tried drugs, a significant number smoke and 'binge' drinking is both a social and health issue for young people living in Newport.

### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment**

- More focus on health promotion for health issues such as obesity, sexual health, vaccination uptake etc.
- Mental health in young people.
- Substance misuse support including smoking and drinking.
- Families need to adopt healthier lifestyles.
- Support for children and families with drug and alcohol misuse problems.

### **Data Development Agenda**

Other indicators to be identified through the data development agenda will focus on mental/emotional health of children and young people, substance misuse as well as other general health/lifestyle outcomes.

**Our priorities for the next three years**

Improve the level of emotional and mental health support available to children, young people and their families.

Enhance sexual health and substance misuse advice and support available to ensure young people can make informed decisions.

Develop a co-ordinated approach to improving the quality of health care and promotion to improve the long term health and wellbeing of children and young people (and in particular vulnerable groups).

**What will success look like for children, young people and their families?**

- Children and young people adopt healthier lifestyles.
- The complex health needs of vulnerable groups are met.
- Children and young people are aware of the effects of alcohol and substance misuse to make informed life style choices.
- Children and young people make informed decisions about their sexual behaviours and form healthy, safe and secure relationships.

**How will we know we have achieved this?**

- Reduction in the number of teenage conceptions in the under 16s.
- Reduction in the incidence of sexual transmitted diseases in the under 25s (i.e. Chlamydia infection rates).
- HPV vaccine uptake rates at 16.

**To achieve this we will**

<p>Improve the level of emotional and mental health support available to children, young people and their families.</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Improving the pathways of support for mental and emotional health for all children and young people (linked to CA1)</li> <li>➤ Addressing mental health needs at the earliest opportunity (pre &amp; Post Natal – linked to CA1)</li> <li>➤ Delivering WAGS CAMHS strategy “Breaking Barriers, Meeting the Challenges”</li> <li>➤ Embedding and delivering the new Anti Bullying Strategy across all schools in Newport (linked to CA6)</li> </ul>
<p>Enhance sexual health and substance misuse advice and support available to ensure young people can make informed decisions.</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Delivering the all Wales Substance Misuse Strategy</li> <li>➤ Delivering the Sexual Health Strategy across Newport with particular regard to sexually transmitted infections and teen pregnancies</li> <li>➤ Raising awareness of Substance Misuse Education &amp; Sexual Relationships Education to all professionals working with Children &amp; Young People</li> </ul>
<p>Develop a co-ordinated approach to improving the quality of health promotion, advice and support.</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continuing to develop the Healthy Schools Programme</li> <li>➤ Developing an Early Years scheme to address healthy lifestyles at preschool age (linked CA1)</li> <li>➤ To improve multi-agency working to ensure all Children &amp; Young People settings have appropriate health links</li> </ul>



**Who needs to be involved?**

Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Antenatal / Midwifery team, Schools, Childcare / Early Years settings, Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, Voluntary Organisations, Parents, Health Visiting Service, Flying Start and Sure Start, Family Information Service, Youth Information Service, Public Health Wales, Speech and Language Service, Parenting Coordinator, Preventative Services, 5 for Life, Sexual Health Outreach services.

**How will we pay for it?**

Core Health Budget (ABHB), Families First Grant, Core Education Grant, WAG Better Schools funding, Joint Commissioning between Local Authority and ABHB core funding, WAG-Healthy Schools Funding and Flying Start grant.

**Key local policies/strategies**

Health Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy  
Mental Health Promotion and Wellbeing Strategy

**National Policy/Strategy**

Health Challenge Wales  
Healthy Schools Scheme  
MEND-Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do it!  
*Proposed Mental Health (Wales) Measure*  
Welsh Assembly Government (2005) [National Service Framework Children, Young People and Maternity Services.](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2010), [Breaking the Barriers: Meeting the Challenges: Better Support for Children and Young People with Emotional Well-being and Mental Health Needs -An Action Plan for Wales](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [Our Healthy Future](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [A framework for a school nursing service for Wales](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2008), [Appetite for Life](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2010), [Sexual Health and Wellbeing Action Plan For Wales, 2010-2015](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2006), [Food and Fitness-Promoting Healthy Eating and Physical Activity for Children and Young People in Wales.](#)

## **Core Aim 4 – Play, Sport, Leisure and Cultural Activities**

### **Our Vision**

We want to ensure that all children living in Newport are able to access a wide range of high quality and safe play, sporting, leisure and cultural activities which give them the opportunity to have fun as well as develop personal qualities and skills. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Articles 15 and 31) and the 10 Entitlements for young people both recognise that these activities have a fundamental role in the development of children and young people.

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*To reduce inequalities in participation in cultural, sporting and leisure activities between children and between parents of children (so far as necessary to ensure the well-being of their children)*

*We recognise that involvement in play, sport, leisure and cultural activities should not be determined by or denied to children or young people because they have less material wealth than their peers. We will work to reduce the inequalities caused by poverty so that every child and young person can benefit from involvement.*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To have a better quality of life - People in Newport are healthy and thriving*

*To have vibrant and safe communities - People in Newport are involved in community life and local decision making*

### **Current Situation**

We need to make it possible for children to be able to enjoy their childhood and have fun. However, play, sport, leisure and cultural activities also contribute to the wellbeing of children and young people in other ways and have a vital role to play in:

- preventing obesity and poor physical and mental health through raising physical activity levels
- preventing anti-social behaviour and crime through targeted diversionary activities
- improving community cohesion by encouraging positive involvement and volunteering
- enabling children and young people to gain key skills, including physical literacy

Currently, children and young people have the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities provided by voluntary, statutory and private sector partners.

Newport also benefits from excellent facilities that encourage and support young people to become successful, including Newport Centre, Newport International Sports Village and the new Active Living Centre. Newport is also home to Newport Gwent Dragons and Newport County FC.

When children, young people and their families were asked about the best things about Newport, six of the top ten answers were about sport, leisure, play and cultural activities. These also figured highly when people were asked what Newport needs, with five of the top ten answers.

When people were asked what they wanted Newport to be like in three years time the top answer was that they wanted more events and activities. More open spaces and heritage and culture were also prominent.

### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment**

- More play schemes and play provision that is accessible to children and young people across the Newport.
- Improvements to play facilities and green spaces.
- More activities/events/places for children, young people and families to enjoy social time.
- Access to more Youth clubs.
- The need for families to adopt healthier lifestyles.

### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Increase and widening involvement in play, sport, leisure and cultural activities

Ensure that there is sufficient opportunity for play and adequate space and facilities across the City

Promote volunteering with and for children and young people and support the development of sustainable clubs

Promote positive images of children and young people as active citizens and role models

### **What will success look like for children, young people and their families?**

- Children and young people adopt healthy lifestyles by engaging in a diverse range of sport, leisure and cultural activities
- Children and young people access age appropriate play that supports their social, emotional and cognitive development
- Children and young people have an understanding of their own identity and respect for others
- Children and young people access a range of volunteering opportunities to become active citizens in their communities
- Children and young people gain skills through involvement in cultural and sporting activities

### **How will we have achieved this?**

- Increase the percentage participation in sport and physical activities by both males and females. To include data of uptake of free swim visits.
- Increased percentage of young people participating in cultural events and activities.
- Increase participation rates in age appropriate play activities across the City.
- Increase percentage of children and young people participating in volunteering and active citizenship-based activities.

**To achieve this we will:**

<p>We will strengthen opportunities for children and young people to get involved in sport, leisure, play and cultural activities as well as diversionary activities to enhance their physical and emotional health</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ensuring a ‘geographical’ spread of activities and provision, including specialist activities for children and young people with special needs</li> <li>➤ Undertaking a Play Sufficiency Audit that includes the availability, geographical location, type and specification of play areas</li> <li>➤ Improving support for voluntary clubs and societies that provide sport, leisure, play or cultural activities</li> <li>➤ Developing more activities for older young people</li> <li>➤ Promoting positive images of children and young people participating in diverse activities</li> <li>➤ Delivering the Active Newport Strategy and Action Plan</li> <li>➤ Providing targeted activities for underrepresented groups</li> <li>➤ Providing and promoting family activities</li> <li>➤ Providing free or low cost cultural and sporting activities where price could be a barrier to engagement</li> <li>➤ Providing opportunities for children and young people to influence decisions and provide feedback (linked CA5)</li> </ul>
<p>We will develop and enhance play facilities to ensure there are sufficient opportunities for children to engage in play</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ensuring that there are diverse play and leisure activities in the City that accommodate all ages and abilities of children and young people</li> <li>➤ Using existing space and venues to develop activities for older young people</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that new and upgraded facilities incorporate best practice into their design</li> <li>➤ Promoting non-traditional play facilities and activities, such as the museum ‘Lets Discover’ series</li> <li>➤ Establishing a minimum entitlement of children’s play needs</li> <li>➤ Developing and adopting a policy for children and young people to be consulted on the development of play spaces and free play areas</li> <li>➤ Supporting the development of the Play Association in partnership with the Three Counties Play Project</li> <li>➤ Implementing the Play Strategy for Newport</li> </ul>
<p>We will support and champion volunteering with children and young people and their families through play, sport, leisure and culture and support volunteers and clubs</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Supporting parents so that they are able to become volunteers</li> <li>➤ Raising the awareness of volunteering and ensuring that volunteering opportunities exist within core provision</li> <li>➤ Creating better links between volunteering and employment opportunities through training and education programmes</li> <li>➤ Continuing to develop young people through UK Sports Leaders and Street Games volunteering packages</li> <li>➤ Encouraging young people who are already involved in activities to become champions and mentors for other children and young people</li> <li>➤ Supporting volunteers through a varied, flexible training package that enhances their skills</li> <li>➤ Working with Big Lottery Three Counties Community Play Project to engage local volunteers in the play setting</li> <li>➤ Supporting the engagement of the voluntary sector through HYPE</li> <li>➤ Ensuring the Local Play Network operates across the whole City</li> <li>➤ Delivering the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme</li> </ul>
<p>Children and young people will have the opportunity to develop, excel and be recognised</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Raising awareness and celebrate success</li> <li>➤ Providing opportunities for young people to participate and develop skills</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there is a range of facilities and support in place to help young people realise their potential</li> <li>➤ Ensuring children and young people are aware of the range of opportunities available to them</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Supporting clubs to reach accredited standards in order to identify and develop talented individuals</li> <li>➤ Developing opportunities for young people to meet those who have excelled</li> <li>➤ Developing ways in which sport, leisure and cultural activities and involvement can sit alongside existing curriculum as an alternative learning pathway</li> <li>➤ Ensuring better links between schools and provision within their communities</li> </ul>
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### **Who needs to be involved?**

Clubs and societies; Voluntary Sector; Information Providers; Sport Wales; Sport and Leisure Services; Schools; Sports Development; Youth Service; Library Services; Parents and Parent Forums; Environmental Services; Employers; Street Games; Careers Wales; Parks; Gwent Police; Riverfront Theatre; Arts Development; Children and Young People; Aneurin Bevan Health Board; Community Safety Partnership; Youth Offending Service; Health Professionals; Local Press

### **How will we pay for it?**

Core budgets, Family First Grant, Fees and charges for activities, IOG Funding for new developments, Sports Wales

### **Key local policies/strategies**

Newport Play Strategy  
Active Newport Strategy

### **National Policy/Strategy**

National Framework for Youth Volunteering.  
Millennium Volunteers Initiative  
Free Swimming Initiative.  
Dragon Sport.  
5x60 Secondary School Sport.  
Health Challenge Wales.  
Change 4 Life  
MEND-Mind, Exercise, Nutrition, Do it!  
*Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010*  
Welsh Assembly Government (2002), [Play Policy](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2006), [Play Policy Implementation Plan](#).  
Welsh Assembly Government (2005) [National Service Framework Children, Young People and Maternity Services](#).  
Welsh Assembly Government (2006) [Food and Fitness - Promoting Healthy Eating and Physical Activity for Children and Young People in Wales 5 Year Implementation Plan](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2009) [Creating an Active Wales](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2007), [National Youth Service Strategy for Wales](#)

## **Core Aim 5 – Listened to and Treated with Respect**

### **Our Vision**

Every child and young person has the right to be listened to and treated with respect. This is a right as set out in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 12. The Children and Young People's Partnership is committed to making sure that the voices of children and young people are heard. We will find ways to listen to the needs of all children and young people, not just those who find it easy to express themselves.

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*To help young people participate effectively and responsibly in their communities*

*Participation and enabling children and young people to influence decision making is central to the work of all organisations and services. We will work to ensure that children and young people have appropriate effective opportunities to have their voices listened to and have an influence on decisions that impact their lives.*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To have vibrant and safe communities - People in Newport are involved in community life and local decision making*

### **Current Situation**

The involvement and participation of children and young people in the service planning process is recognised as integral to the development of services that are both fit for the future and fit for service users. There is a high expectation placed upon all services and organisations to have mechanisms in place to ensure that children and young people are listened to and have an input into shaping services and provision designed for them. The development of the National Participation Standards enables services and organisations to measure the quality of participation opportunities available locally for children and young people.

In recent years in Newport there have been a number of positive developments from both the statutory sector and the voluntary sector in ensuring that children and young people can express their views, be listened to and influence changes in service delivery and provision. This has included the development, in partnership with young people, of the Participation Promise that all members of the NCYPP to sign up to and adopt as best practice. There is a wide range of Participation opportunities for children and young people including special interest forums, community youth forums, primary school councils, secondary school councils and the City Wide Newport Youth Council. However despite the progress there are still a number of areas that will require significant future development.

### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment**

- Common principles and guidelines that all key partners working with children and young people sign up to and work towards are needed.

- Establish a unified information sharing system that enables data collected and collated to be accessed, in order to prevent duplication during consultative processes.
- Support effective feedback mechanisms enabling organisations and services to provide tangible evidence to young people that their voices have been listened to.

### **Data Development Agenda**

There is the need to develop and monitor data on:

- Numbers/percentages of young people who have been involved in decision making processes.
- Percentage of partners signed the Participation Promise.

### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Develop mechanisms for children, young people and families to have their voices heard and influence decision making.

Enhance advocacy support available to children and young people and their families and in particular disadvantaged/vulnerable groups.

Promote opportunities for children and young people to become active citizens and positive representatives within their communities.

Raise awareness of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and ensure these rights are upheld.

### **What will success look like for children, young people and their families?**

- Children and young people influence service development and delivery through having their voices heard.
- Children and young people engage in decision-making opportunities (in line with the National Participation Standards).
- Children and young people are confident making service compliments and complaints.
- Children and young people are recognised as active citizens in their communities.
- Children and young people are aware of their rights (under UNCRC) and how to exercise them.

### **How will we measure if we have achieved this?**

- Establish a monitoring and evaluation mechanism of participation opportunities for children and young people and their families incorporating the National Participation Standards
- % of services completing the National Participation Standards Self assessment
- % of services meeting the 7 National Participation Standards
- Establish a unified accessible information sharing system to enable data to be collected collated and held centrally to prevent duplication of the consultative processes.

- Support an effective feedback process enabling organisations and service to provide tangible evidence to children, young people and their families that their voices have been listened to.

**To achieve this we will**

<p>We will further develop mechanisms for children, young people and their families to ensure they have the opportunity to have their voices heard and influence decision making</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Supporting a robust structure of appropriate opportunities to ensure that children young people and their families have their voices listened to</li> <li>➤ Supporting the involvement of children, young people and their families recognising that all children young people are different but all have the same right to have a say in all matters that impact their lives.</li> <li>➤ Providing training opportunities for stakeholders, children and young people to understand their role and responsibilities in decision making processes</li> <li>➤ Ensuring all stakeholders including children young people and their families have an understanding of the bigger picture of participation and being involved in decision making</li> <li>➤ Supporting partners to undertake the self assessment against the National Participation Standards and recognise the process as best practice in providing evidence of effective participation processes</li> <li>➤ Supporting the further development of existing participation opportunities strengthening the link to the Newport Youth Council</li> <li>➤ Providing alternative mechanisms for children and young people who would not normally choose to be involved in decision making through a formal school council or youth council</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that children, young people and their families have clear information on both local and national participation opportunities</li> <li>➤ Providing safe and secure opportunities to be involved in decision making through digital technology</li> <li>➤ Providing a regional advocacy service.</li> </ul>
<p>We will raise awareness off the United Nations Conventions on the rights of the child and ensure that these rights are upheld</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Embedding the UNCRC in all services, planning and policies that impact the lives of children and young people</li> <li>➤ Providing training opportunities for all stakeholders including children, young people and their families to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the UNCRC and the rights and responsibilities associated</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that all services adhere to the UNCRC and the National Participation Standards when working with children and young people</li> <li>➤ Providing and promoting effective compliments and complaints processes.</li> </ul>
<p>We will enhance advocacy support available to children, young people and their families and in particular disadvantaged/vulnerable groups</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Working together to develop more advocacy support to address identified gaps</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there is a co-ordinated approach to advocacy</li> <li>➤ Supporting existing services that promote standards for advocacy to ensure consistence and quality</li> <li>➤ Working towards providing a universal advocacy service across Newport</li> </ul>
<p>We will promote opportunities for children and young people to be positive active citizens and</p>	<p>By</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Working towards developing initiatives for young people to be involved in peer support projects (linked CA4)</li> <li>➤ Developing a clear understanding of the benefits of active citizenship and representation within communities (linked CA4)</li> <li>➤ Challenging the perception of children and young people in a positive</li> </ul>



representatives within their own communities		<p>way in communities (linked CA4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ensuring that children and young people are fully involved in the decisions at a community based level (linked CA4)</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that children and young people are listened to in an appropriate way and receive appropriate feedback</li> <li>➤ Actively encouraging communities to commit to the Child Friendly Communities UNICEF Kite-mark</li> </ul>
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### Who needs to be involved?

Participation is a priority and cross cutting theme therefore all partners will provide effective ethical opportunities for children and young people to influence decision making and be involved in the planning of service delivery

### How will we pay for it?

All partners will commit to the Participation Agenda and ensure that listening to children and young people will be embedded in everyday practice therefore it will involve minimal or no additional cost.

### Key local policies/strategies

Participation Strategy  
Participation Promise  
Newport Youth Council Governance

### National Policy/Strategy

*Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010*  
*Proposed Rights of Children and Young Persons (Wales) Measure*  
Funky Dragon  
Welsh Assembly Government, [United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#) (Adapted from UNICEF version).  
Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [Getting it right 2009 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2007), [Rights in Action: Implementing Children and Young People's Rights in Wales](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2005) [National Service Framework Children, Young People and Maternity Services.](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government, [Child Poverty Strategy and Delivery Plan.](#)  
[UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2003), [National Standards for the Provision of Children's Advocacy Services](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [A Guide to the Model for Delivering Advocacy Services for Children and Young People](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2007), [The National Standards for Children and Young People's Participation](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2007), [National Youth Service Strategy for Wales](#)  
Welsh Assembly Government (2007), [The Youth Work Curriculum Statement for Wales](#)

## **Core Aim 6 – Safe Homes and Communities**

### **Our Vision**

Our strategic intention is that all children and young people living in Newport will know that this is a safe city where they feel safe; where there are adults whom they can trust who want to make sure that they are protected from harm; a city where they are provided with a safe and secure place to live; a city that values them and works with them to build a community where people respect each other and a city where they will be given opportunities to play, learn and grow in a safe environment and where they will be expected to help keep that environment safe.

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*To ensure that all children grow up in decent housing*

*To ensure that all children grow up in safe and cohesive communities*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To have a better quality of life - People in Newport are healthy and thriving*

*To have a better quality of life - Children in Newport have the best start in life*

*To have vibrant and safe communities - People in Newport live in a safe and inclusive community*

#### ***Newport Safeguarding Children Board Vision***

*To establish Newport as a community where everybody, every family, every professional and every organisation in this and subsequent generations makes it their business to listen to every child and every young person and help them grow up safely and succeed in adult life.*

### **Current Situation**

We recognise that ensuring that children and young people live in safe homes and communities is about child protection, community safety, housing, the environment and road safety.

Some of the key points raised within the Community Needs Assessment were the impact of anti social behaviour, fear of crime and personal safety, vandalism and graffiti, substance misuse and the affordability of quality housing.

There has been a national focus upon safeguarding including the publication by CSSIW in October 2009 of 'Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Wales', the development of the Welsh National Safeguarding Forum and the Health, Wellbeing and the Local Government Committee Enquiry into the Local Safeguarding Boards. It has been concluded that multi-agency working is not strong enough, there is a lack of outcome focused plans and partner agencies do not sufficiently share the responsibility for safeguarding with Social Services.

A strategic approach to setting outcome focussed objectives is the preferred model for both the Newport Safeguarding Children Board and the Children and Young People's Partnership. The common approach will avoid duplication and allow a consistent approach to planning for Core Aim 6. This approach also fits within the wider context of the Local Service Board's Objective Three (To have safer and vibrant communities).

### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment-**

- Expansion of parenting provision.
- Anti-social behaviour.
- Crime rates and in particular acquisitive crime.
- Fear of crime and feeling safe at night.
- Vandalism and violence.
- Graffiti
- Visibility of Police.
- Drug and alcohol misuse.
- Affordability and quality of housing.

### **Data Development Agenda-**

Further data will be refined and developed in line with the NSCB's Business Plan and the Community Safety Partnership.

### **NSCB Business Plan- Five strategic objectives:**

- Protection
- Prevention
- Proactive working
- Ensuring children are safe
- Consultation and participation.

### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Improve our multi agency approach to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour whilst protecting children, young people and families from its effects.

Ensure vulnerable children, young people and families have access to appropriate housing and accommodation support to meet their needs.

Develop preventative services to safeguard vulnerable children and families (including development of the Team Around the Child approach).

Strengthen our multi-agency approach to protect children, young people and families so that they are safe from harm, abuse and exploitation in the home and community.

Promote opportunities for children, young people and carers to participate in the design and delivery of safeguarding services.

### **What will success look like for children, young people and their families?**

- Children and Young people are safeguarded and protected from abuse, victimisation, and exploitation.
- Children and young people are safe from crime and the effects of crime.
- Children and young people live in a decent home.
- Vulnerable children and young people participate in shaping safeguarding services delivery.
- Vulnerable children and young people are supported to remain safe and secure with their family.

### **How will we know we have achieved this?**

- Percentage of children who are not likely to suffer significant harm as a result of intervention and child protection plans are discontinued within 6 months.
- Percentage of children receiving child protection services reporting that they feel safer.
- Percentage reduction of children with child protection plans.
- Percentage of protection plans which have been successfully implemented.
- Percentage of parents who report that services have improved the parenting of their children.
- Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plans for second or subsequent time.
- Reduction in reoffending rates.
- Domestic abuse incidences.
- Reduction in families living in temporary accommodation/B&B accommodation and overcrowded conditions.

**To achieve this we will:**

We will improve our multi agency approach to tackling crime and anti-social behaviour whilst protecting children, young people and families from its effects	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Working in partnership to combat under age alcohol sales</li> <li>➤ Ensuring Youth Support Services are responsive to the needs of local communities</li> <li>➤ Ensuring the voices of communities are heard and that services are responsive to their needs</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there are information sharing protocols in place so that we can deploy the right agency to work with the right person at the right time</li> <li>➤ Publicising positive images of children and young people (linked to CA5)</li> <li>➤ Involving children and young people in the development of solutions</li> </ul>
We will ensure vulnerable children, young people and families have access to appropriate housing and accommodation support to meet their needs	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Developing a protocol between Social Services, Youth Offending Service and housing regarding accommodation</li> <li>➤ Identifying appropriate housing that will keep young people safe without putting others at risk</li> <li>➤ Ensuring the availability of supported housing for young people, particularly those leaving care and victims of domestic abuse</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there are good quality interventions and mediation to prevent young people from becoming homeless</li> <li>➤ Ensuring young people are able to be self sufficient when in supported accommodation</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there is adequate support in place for families to remain in accommodation</li> <li>➤ Ensure young people leaving secure accommodation receive appropriate housing support</li> <li>➤ Developing Corporate Parenting Strategy for Looked After Children and care leavers</li> </ul>
We will develop preventative services to safeguard vulnerable children and families (including development of the Team Around the Child)	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Further developing models of preventative, early intervention and the provision of bespoke, multi agency programmes</li> <li>➤ Implementing practical learning from the Integrated Family Support Service pioneer</li> </ul>

<p>We will strengthen our multi-agency approach to protect children, young people and families so that they are safe from harm, abuse and exploitation in the home and community</p>	<p>By</p>	<p>➤ Developing and embedding the Safeguarding Children Board Annual Business Plan</p>
<p>We will develop opportunities for children, young people and carers to participate in the design and delivery of safeguarding services</p>	<p>By</p>	<p>➤ Delivering against the Priorities set out in Core Aim 5 and Safeguarding Children Board Annual Business Plan</p>

**Who needs to be involved?**

Children and Family Services, NSCB Consultation and Participation Group, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Unit (Children and Families Services), children and young people, Third Sector Providers, Integrated Family Support Service, Youth Offending Service, Preventative Services Group, Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Youth and Community Service, Housing Providers, Early Intervention Team, Community Safety Wardens, Trading Standards, Police, Schools, Community Safety Partnership, Continuing Learning and Leisure, Drug and Alcohol Misuse Teams, Fusion, Kaleidoscope

**How will we pay for it?**

NSCB, IFSS, Core budgets, Prevention budgets

**Key local policies/strategies**

NSCB Business Plan  
 Community Safety Partnership Plan  
 Corporate Parenting Strategy

**National Policy/Strategy**

Welsh Assembly Government (2005) [National Service Framework Children, Young People and Maternity Services](#).  
 Welsh Assembly Government, [Child Poverty Strategy and Delivery Plan](#).  
 Welsh Assembly Government, [Safeguarding Children: Working Together Under the Children Act 2004](#)  
 All Wales Child Protection Procedures.  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2010), [The Right to be Safe](#)  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2004), [All Wales Youth Offending Strategy](#)

## **Core Aim 7 – Not Disadvantaged By Poverty**

### **Our Vision**

We want to ensure that no child or young person living in Newport will be disadvantaged by poverty, as stated in Article 27 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children have the right to a standard of living that meets their physical and mental needs

### **Overarching Strategic Priorities**

#### ***Child Poverty Strategy***

*We will want to ensure that every child and young person will have the opportunities and services that they need to fulfil their potential, regardless of their family circumstances or income. By ensuring that we intervene early on in a child's life it is less likely that they will be disadvantaged by poverty.*

*Wales Child Poverty Strategy has three strategic objectives*

- To reduce the number of families living in workless households*
- To improve the skill level of parents and young people in low income families so that they can secure well paid employment.*
- To reduce the inequalities that exist in the health, education and economic outcomes for children living in poverty, by improving the outcomes of the poorest.*

#### ***Broad Aims***

*To increase income for households including one or more children*

*To ensure that children are not materially deprived*

*To promote and facilitate paid employment for parents of children*

*To provide parents with the skills necessary for employment*

*To help young people take advantage of opportunities for employment.*

*We recognise that the only way to take children out of poverty is to take their families out of poverty. There are families living in Newport that are living on low incomes and we need to support and encourage families and young people to become self sufficient and to ensure that they acquire the skills they need to obtain and remain in employment.*

#### ***Community Strategy***

*To be a prosperous and thriving city - More people in Newport participate in the local economy.*

*To have a better quality of life - People in Newport are healthy and thriving.*

*To have a better quality of life - Children in Newport have the best start in life.*

*To have a better quality of life - Children and young people in Newport succeed in school or work.*

*To have a better quality of life - Adults in Newport are successful and realise their potential*

### **Current Situation**

Newport has a significant section of its working age population that are either unemployed or economically inactive. Economic deprivation and worklessness are still the major challenges facing local communities in Newport and fundamental change is needed to improve the prospects for local people.

A wide range of organisations and services across Newport support people and communities disadvantaged by poverty. This includes both financial support and support to access employment.

An Affordable Warmth Strategy has been developed that aims to identify fuel poor households in Newport. An action plan has been adopted and work is underway to develop new and existing programmes to tackle this problem. All Housing Associations are investing in improving their housing stock to make it more energy efficient to improve tenant's lives and reduce the cost of fuel.

Newport has twenty-seven supported housing providers funded under the Supporting People Programme, including housing associations, voluntary sector providers and private organisations and landlords that deliver housing-related support services to vulnerable people.

Many Housing Associations have their own Financial Inclusion Policy and have been tackling financial exclusion with their tenants for a number of years. Others have no formal policy but help tenants address financial exclusion through appropriate work practices.

Charter Housing Association is planning a mapping exercise to establish need and gaps in service provision in terms of Financial Inclusion. Newport City Homes hope to roll out financial capability workshops and are looking at working in partnership with Secondary Schools and Coleg Gwent to ensure access to early financial capability information.

Newport City Council, in partnership with housing associations, has developed the Newport City Living Scheme, offering affordable housing options for people wanting to purchase a new home in Newport.

The Financial Inclusion Strategy is currently in draft form this will have a major influence on our Child Poverty Strategy.

Through responses from the Community Needs Assessment we have identified a number of areas for improvement and subsequent actions focused on identified Welsh Assembly themes.

#### **Key points raised by the Unified Needs Assessment-**

- Improve literacy and numeracy in parents.
- Expand parenting provision.
- Narrow the Gap in attainment levels for children eligible for free school meals.
- Flexible child care provision that fits with parental working hours.
- Crèches that are in accessible venues.
- Access to free activities/events and leisure services.
- Access to public transport.

#### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Improve the skill set of parents and young people on low incomes to enhance their employability

Encourage and support vulnerable families and young people to become more financially self-sufficient

Reduce the inequalities that can act as barriers to families and young people accessing paid employment.

**What will success look like for children, young people and their families?**

- Children and young people don't live in workless households.
- Parents and children and young people are financially self-sufficient and free from poverty due to low income.
- Parents and children and young people reach their full potential by developing new skills to access employment /training opportunities to escape the cycle of poverty.

**How will we have achieved this?**

- Reduction in the number of families living in workless households (ONS data).
- Reduction in the number of families in receipt of out of work benefits (Job Centre Plus data).

There will also be other indicators to be developed as part the data development agenda relating to skills, employment and financial support and advice for families living in poverty.

**To achieve this we will**

We will improve the skill set of parents and young people on low incomes to enhance their employability.	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Delivering a wide range of learning opportunities such as functional, numeracy, literacy, soft skills ESOL, emotional literacy, and financial literacy that are targeted</li> <li>➤ Working with employers to promote opportunities that give practical experience of work</li> <li>➤ Providing mentoring /coaching support for parents and young people</li> <li>➤ Establishing better progression routes into employment “Getting People in Britain Working”</li> <li>➤ Implementing the Community Focused School Strategy.</li> </ul>
We will encourage and support vulnerable families and young people to become more financially capable	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Mapping what provision is available with regard to advice and support for families living in poverty</li> <li>➤ Ensuring families and young people are aware of the support available to them and that this is accessible</li> <li>➤ Improving signposting and information sharing amongst organisations and agencies</li> <li>➤ Developing a strong preventative programmes on debt and financial capability with families and young people</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that services and schools work with young people on financial inclusion, debt management, financial capability</li> <li>➤ Implementing the Financial Inclusion Strategy</li> </ul>
We will reduce the inequalities that can act as a barrier to families and young people accessing paid employment	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Ensuring that there is the availability of sustainable, affordable and accessible quality childcare for children and young people aged 0-14years (linked to CA1)</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that there is support available that assists workers on low incomes to access further training</li> <li>➤ Ensuring that businesses and organisations have a quality workforce development program and workers have access to training opportunities</li> <li>➤ Supporting families and young people where language is a barrier to obtaining work or training</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Providing support for parents re-entering the workforce</li> <li>➤ Providing the necessary support for families with children with caring responsibilities and or disabilities</li> <li>➤ Promoting and develop Local Social Enterprise projects</li> <li>➤ Providing support for vulnerable families and young people such as young carers, unaccompanied asylum seekers, Gypsy and Roma travellers to enable them to access available opportunities</li> <li>➤ Working with appropriate transport companies to ensure that there is co-ordinated approach to transport meets the needs of the businesses and their employees of Newport.</li> </ul>
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### **Who needs to be involved?**

Sure Start, Genesis, Job Centre Plus, Dept of Work and Pensions, Business Representative, Learning Providers, Community Development Careers Wales, Schools, Education Service, Communities First, Health, Parenting Officers, Flying Start, WEA, NCC., Wales Centre for Businesses, GAVO/WCVA, Social Services, Leisure, Youth Service, Play Service, PSG, Children, Young People and Carers, Newport City Homes, Coleg Gwent, University of Wales Newport, Construction Youth Trust. CAB, Credit Unions, Moneyline Cymru, Waste Savers, Police, Community Safety, Probation /YOS, Adult services, Specialist Support Services, Inland Revenue, FSA, FIS, Voluntary Childcare Orgs, religious groups, community groups

### **How will we pay for it?**

Key organisations that are core funded will require more co-ordinated approach especially when sourcing funding to meet the needs of the stakeholders. Communities 1<sup>st</sup> funding, work across Local Authorities i.e. Pan Gwent Encourage businesses to invest, Flying Start, CAB resources, Legal Service Commission, Financial Inclusion Funding Credit Unions, Newport City Homes, Big Lottery, development of Social Enterprise Projects

### **Key local policies/strategies**

Health Social Care and Wellbeing Strategy  
 Draft Financial Inclusion Strategy  
 Fuel Poverty Strategy  
 Childcare Sufficiency Audit  
 Integrated Family Support Team (IFST)

### **National Policy/Strategy**

Genesis Programme.  
 Family Information Service.  
 Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010  
 Welsh Assembly Government, [Child Poverty Strategy and Delivery Plan](#).  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [Reducing the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training in Wales](#)  
 Welsh Assembly Government (2009), [We are on the way - A Policy Agenda to Transform the Lives of Disabled Children and Young People](#)

## **Workforce Development and Planning**

### **Our Vision**

The agenda set out in the Plan is challenging and the workforce is at the heart of our ability to achieve the outcomes for children and young people set out here. If we are to meet the needs of our children and young people every member of our workforce must be:

1. Aware of our Plan and how they can contribute to its success
2. Competent, confident and safe to work with children and young people
3. Supported to develop professionally
4. Able to ensure the physical and emotional safety of Newport's children and young people

### **Community Strategy**

To deliver better public services

### **Current Situation**

In Newport we have a strong belief in the capacity of our communities to work together to provide excellent services for our children and young people. Services have been in place for children and their families for a number of years and we also have a tradition of voluntary services in Newport.

We have a large workforce engaged in delivering services to and for children, young people and their families and there are already joint arrangements in place across a range of cross cutting agendas. We have a significant voluntary sector workforce and sectors like play, early years, sport and youth work services are heavily reliant on this voluntary workforce. A high proportion of our early years and education volunteers are parent carers.

There is good access to training and workforce development on an annual, multi-agency basis and approximately 70% of the workforce has a relevant qualification. Independent and impartial careers and employment advice is also available.

However, the diversity of the population of Newport is not currently reflected within the workforce and the availability of workers able to deliver through the medium of Welsh continues to be an area for development. The overall qualification base of Newport is lower than the Welsh average with variations between wards with the highest levels of deprivation. There is also a particular need for workers to be confident in the use of protocols for sharing personal information and understanding the National Participation Standards.

### **Our priorities for the next three years**

Improve our knowledge and understanding of the workforce to inform planning and development

Support individual professional development and development of the workforce as a whole

Improve the way the workforce meets the needs of our communities

**To achieve this we will:**

We will improve our knowledge and understanding of the workforce to inform planning and development	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Gathering more detailed information about the size and characteristics of the workforce</li> <li>➤ Making sure that the implications for the workforce of the identified priorities are risk assessed and addressed</li> </ul>
We will support individual professional development and development of the workforce as a whole	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Develop and publicise career and learning pathways</li> <li>➤ Develop and publicise qualification frameworks and establish capacity to deliver qualifications</li> <li>➤ Establish workforce access to mandatory, core and specialist training</li> <li>➤ Put in place cost effective arrangements between agencies for joint funding of non-qualifying training</li> <li>➤ Establish a Partnership programme of prioritised training</li> <li>➤ Competence Mapping of posts against National Occupational Standards</li> <li>➤ Jointly identifying workforce development initiatives</li> <li>➤ Identifying hot spot areas where recruitment and retention in difficult and taking steps to ensure fewer vacancies and better retention</li> </ul>
We will improve the way the workforce meets the needs of our communities	By	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Take steps to increase the numbers of workers who are able to deliver services through the medium of Welsh</li> <li>➤ Take steps to increase the numbers of people from minority groups within the workforce</li> <li>➤ Work with communities to ensure more people from minority groups access services</li> </ul>

**Who needs to be involved?**

Coleg Gwent, University of Wales Newport, Schools, childcare agencies and providers, Work Based Learning providers, National Training Federation, Newport City Council, local community groups, Communities First, Job Centre Plus, CSSIW, Careers Wales, Play Wales

**How will we pay for it?**

Core budgets, Grant funding