

## Children and Young People's Plan 2016 – Summary of Consultation Responses

### Summary

- The majority (67%) of respondents were professionals; 23% were parents or carers. There were only 4 respondents who were young people (however the consultation was not aimed at young people as they have been engaged with in other ways).
- There was a broad and fairly consistent level of responses across the areas in which people worked and in which they lived meaning we had good coverage across the County.
- There was also a broad and consistent coverage across the types of service provision and the age ranges covered by the services those responding to the survey worked for.
- 94% of respondents said they understood all of the Plan (54%) or some of it (40%)
- 19% of respondents said they could see a clear role for their organisation in delivering the plan – most people said that this would require more discussion within their organisations or that this needed to be made clearer (the Plan did not aim to articulate this in detail)
- There were very high levels of agreement or strong agreement with all elements of the Plan; where people did not agree they either did not say why or they said they were disagreeing because they did not feel the element was properly explained or articulated
- Most people commented that the Plan 'offered' something to them, for example in promoting partnership working, setting out the types of support that were available and underlining a commitment to improving how the system works together; however the responses from parents were less positive with many saying they were unclear what the plan offered to them or highlighting that it did not seem to meet their specific needs / requirements (the Plan was not specifically aimed at parents)

Totals strongly agreeing or agreeing with the priorities:					
<i>Stable, Resilient, Safe Families</i> 97%	<i>Emotionally Healthy</i> 97%	<i>Physically Healthy</i> 97%	<i>Socially Connected</i> 94%	<i>Positive Future</i> 94%	
Totals strongly agreeing or agreeing with the outcomes:					
<i>CYP are well looked after and safe with their basic needs being met within resilient families</i> 95%	<i>CYP are emotionally healthy and make good decisions</i> 95%	<i>CYP are engaged in positive activities and are physically healthy</i> 94%	<i>CYPF support each other within their communities</i> 91%	<i>CYP attend good quality education, training and work opportunities</i> 95%	
Totals strongly agreeing or agreeing with objectives:					
<i>Protection for the most vulnerable</i> 100%	<i>Closing the gap for the most vulnerable</i> 100%	<i>Behaviour change within individuals, families and communities</i> 93%	<i>Better use of community assets</i> 93%	<i>Effective and efficient use of collective resources to deliver outcomes</i> 86%	<i>System workforce culture and development</i> 93%

**Summary of common comments made:**





- Concerns about how the plan could be achieved against the context of service and budget cuts
- Desire for more detail about how the Plan will be implemented
- Desire for more detail about how the Plan will be monitored and success evaluated
- Requirement for greater clarity about meaning / intention of priority originally called 'socially connected'
- Concern about 'behaviour change' – how might this be implemented, what does it mean
- Concern about communities / families supporting each other – how it is intended this is supported by agencies, ensuring this is positive support and whether this is just a strategy to enable service reductions
- Respondents underlining that the Plan can only be achieved through effective partnership working
- Commonly mentioned issues which needed further highlighting / prioritisation were: mental health, housing, poverty and social isolation. Respondents also requested the broadening of references to sexual exploitation and domestic abuse

**Key changes made in response to consultation:**














- 'Socially connected' renamed 'involved and connected'
- 'Behaviour change within individuals, families and communities' renamed 'Promote resilience and positive choices' and explanatory paragraph amended
- Changes made to clarify that community support needs to be positive and to underline that community action / volunteering does need support statutory services
- A clearer explanation provided about how action plans will be developed, implemented and monitored
- A clearer explanation given of how delivery is expected to occur without additional funding
- Additional emphasis included in foreword about successful delivery being reliant on engagement from all partner organisations (and emphasise that all organisations have provided a commitment to this through signing up to Plan)

## Full responses










### 1. Are you responding primarily as a:

		Response Total	Response Percent
Parent / Expectant Parent/ Carer		51	23%
Young Person		4	2%
Professional		149	67%
Other		19	9%
Total Respondents		223	


















### 2. Which District do you live in:

		Response Total	Response Percent
Basildon		14	7%
Braintree		32	16%
Brentwood		5	2%
Castle Point		13	6%
Chelmsford		27	13%
Colchester		24	12%
Epping Forest		17	8%
Harlow		17	8%
Maldon		12	6%
Rochford		8	4%
Tendring		11	5%
Uttlesford		8	4%
Other, please state <a href="#">view</a>		16	8%
Total Respondents		204	








### 3. Which District do you work in:

		Response Total	Response Percent
Basildon		0	0%
Braintree		2	9%
Brentwood		0	0%
Castle Point		1	5%
Chelmsford		2	9%
Colchester		3	14%
Epping Forest		0	0%
Harlow		3	14%
Maldon		1	5%
Rochford		0	0%
Tendring		2	9%
Uttlesford		1	5%
Other, please state		7	32%
Total Respondents		22	



#### 4. What type of services do you provide

		Response Total	Response Percent
Social Care Services		1	4%
Early Years		4	16%
Education		6	24%
Further Education		2	8%
Adult Community Learning		2	8%
Vocational Training		1	4%
Housing		3	12%
Leisure Services		3	12%
Health Commissioning		2	8%
Health Provider		3	12%
Public Protection		2	8%
Community Safety		5	20%
Benefits and Finance Advice		4	16%
Family/Parenting Support and Mentoring		6	24%
Volunteering Development and Support		5	20%
Youth Work		4	16%
Other, please specify		5	20%
<b>Total Respondents</b>		<b>25</b>	





#### 5. To which group(s) do you / your organisation provide support?

		Response Total	Response Percent
No responses were entered for this question.			
Pre-Birth		6	24%
Under 5		13	52%
5-10		11	44%
11-15		14	56%
16-19		13	52%
20-25		10	40%
Parents / Carers		9	36%
<b>Total Respondents</b>		<b>25</b>	

#### 6. Have you read the draft Essex Children and Young People's Plan?

		Response Total	Response Percent
No responses were entered for this question.			
Yes		160	91%
No		16	9%
<b>Total Respondents</b>		<b>176</b>	

**7. If yes, How much of the document did you understand?**

		Response Total	Response Percent
No responses were entered for this question.			
I understood all of it		78	54%
I understood some of it		58	40%
I didn't understand much of it		7	5%
I didn't understand any of it		2	1%
<b>Total Respondents</b>		<b>145</b>	

**8. To what extent do you agree with the Priorities we have included in the plan?**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Response Total
Stable, Resilient, Safe Families	73.47% (72)	23.47% (23)	1.02% (1)	2.04% (2)	0% (0)	98
Emotionally Healthy	76.29% (74)	20.62% (20)	1.03% (1)	2.06% (2)	0% (0)	97
Physically Healthy	68.75% (66)	28.12% (27)	1.04% (1)	2.08% (2)	0% (0)	96
Socially Connected	62.89% (61)	30.93% (30)	4.12% (4)	2.06% (2)	0% (0)	97
Positive Future	71.88% (69)	22.92% (22)	3.12% (3)	2.08% (2)	0% (0)	96
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>98</b>

**9. To what extent do you agree with the Outcomes we have included in the plan?**






	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know	Response Total
Children and Young People are well looked after and safe with their basic needs being met within resilient families	74.47% (70)	20.21% (19)	1.06% (1)	0% (0)	4.26% (4)	94
Children and Young People are emotionally healthy and make good decisions	73.63% (67)	20.88% (19)	1.1% (1)	0% (0)	4.4% (4)	91
Children and young people are engaged in positive activities and are physically healthy	68.82% (64)	24.73% (23)	2.15% (2)	0% (0)	4.3% (4)	93
Children, young people and families support each other within their communities	60.44% (55)	30.77% (28)	2.2% (2)	1.1% (1)	5.49% (5)	91
Children and young people attend good quality education, training and work opportunities	76.92% (70)	17.58% (16)	0% (0)	1.1% (1)	4.4% (4)	91
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>94</b>

**10. To what extent do you agree with the Objectives we have listed in the document?**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know	Response Total
Protection for the most vulnerable	73.33% (11)	26.67% (4)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	15
Closing the gap (i.e. helping those less well off) for the most vulnerable	73.33% (11)	26.67% (4)	0% (0)	0% (0)	0% (0)	15
Behaviour change within individuals, families and communities	53.33% (8)	40% (6)	0% (0)	6.67% (1)	0% (0)	15

Better use of community assets	53.33% (8)	40% (6)	0% (0)	0% (0)	6.67% (1)	<b>15</b>
Effective and efficient use of collective resources to deliver outcomes	53.33% (8)	33.33% (5)	0% (0)	6.67% (1)	6.67% (1)	<b>15</b>
System workforce culture and development	53.33% (8)	40% (6)	0% (0)	0% (0)	6.67% (1)	<b>15</b>
<b>Total Respondents</b>						<b>15</b>

**11. In what ways does the plan help you to see how your organisation will contribute to achieving the objectives?**

		<b>Response Total</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>
No responses were entered for this question.			
I can see a clear role for my organisation in delivering the plan		<b>3</b>	<b>19%</b>
It will require more discussion within my organisation		<b>6</b>	<b>38%</b>
The role of organisations needs to be clearer		<b>2</b>	<b>12%</b>
There needs to be a more detailed action plan		<b>1</b>	<b>6%</b>
I don't think the plan is relevant for my organisation		<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
Other, please specify		<b>4</b>	<b>25%</b>
Other responses: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I can see a need for scrutiny of the delivery of the plan, which needs to be developed further itself</li> <li>For Essex Police, a more detailed action plan is required. For the OPCC, the same is true but we would also be keen to understand the implications for commissioning and how we can work together</li> <li>Having only just seen the plan today I need to take back to my team to discuss.</li> <li>There is a clear role to some of us but corporately we need to make sure this is discussed</li> </ul>			
<b>Total Respondents</b>		<b>16</b>	

**Summary of all comments:**

<b>Comment</b>	<b>Response</b>
<b>Austerity</b> – the impact of budget cuts and service reductions will make outcomes harder to achieve	This is acknowledged and an enhanced reference to this has been included in the foreword. The Plan is intended to represent a new way of working in response to reductions in budgets and services and the systems objectives represent what agencies need to do to respond to the challenges – for example, using collective resources more efficiently, maximising the use of community assets and encouraging communities to do more for themselves.
<b>Abuse and neglect</b> – the full scope of issues and concerns should be referenced, the plan should not overly focus on child sexual exploitation and	The reference in systems objective 1 has been expanded.

domestic abuse	
<b>Self-reliance and resilience</b> – the Plan should clarify that while self-reliance and resilience is important families should still seek help from public services if they need it	The language in systems objective 3 has been changed to clarify that while we need people to ‘stop and think’ before drawing on resources help is still available for those who need it. The importance of and role of early help is included in the Plan and will be highlighted in associated communications.
<b>Behaviour change</b> – language should be modified to clarify that this objective is not about forcing individuals to behave in the ‘right way’ but rather about enabling people to make positive choices most likely to lead to good outcomes	The language in systems objective 3 has been amended to reflect this.
<b>Communities supporting each other</b> – Plan needs to emphasise that this needs to be positive support, communities / individuals can also reinforce negative behaviours in one another	The language used has been amended to reflect this.
<b>Joint / partnership working</b> – Plan needs to emphasise that it can only be implemented by partners working effectively together on a strategic and operational level	The foreword has been amended to more strongly reflect this.
<b>Implementation and monitoring</b> – Plan needs to include more detail about how it will be implemented and monitored	The Plan is not intended to provide detail in respect of this as it is a high level, summary document. Section 8 of the Plan has been amended to clarify this and explain what the process will be for developing more detailed action plans and how performance will be monitored.
<b>Socially connected</b> – the meaning of the priority ‘socially connected’ and how this is intended to be achieved is not clear	The priority has been renamed ‘involved and connected’ and systems objective 5 expanded to give more detail about how the engagement of children and young people in their communities will be encouraged.
<b>Volunteering</b> – the use of volunteers and communities to deliver / develop their own services needs to be properly supported	This has been included in systems objective 5 and objective 6 has been changed to highlight that the system’s workforce includes volunteers.
<b>Poverty / social isolation</b> – the importance of the limiting impact of poverty and social isolation on individuals achieving positive objectives should be emphasised	Children and young people living in poverty are recognised as a vulnerable group in the Plan and the difficulties of those in vulnerable groups in achieving positive outcomes is covered in systems objective 2.
<b>Schools</b> – buy in from schools in delivering the Plan is key, this may be impacted by increased numbers of schools becoming academies	A reference has been included to the academy agenda and the increasing complexity of the children’s landscape resulting from this. Schools representatives have been fully engaged in the development of the Plan and will sign it off; the specific input required from schools will be considered during the action planning phase.
<b>Vulnerable children</b> – recognition should be given to children who are ‘on the edge’ of vulnerability professionals should have awareness of this; the list	A reference has been included to children ‘on the edge of vulnerability’; it is has been decided not to expand the list of vulnerable groups as those

of vulnerable groups should be expanded	originally selected were based on a review of data and the consultation activity that was undertaken.
<b>Business</b> – businesses need to be engaged in delivering the Plan	This is acknowledged in systems objective 4 and will be taken forward in action planning.
<b>Access to information</b> – the importance of improving the access of children and young people to information to help them make positive choices should be emphasised	Systems objective 3 now includes a specific reference to this.
<b>Links with other partnerships / organisations</b> – it should be acknowledged achieving this Plan is dependent on action which is beyond the remit of the Partnership – good engagement with / influence over other Partnerships is needed	An acknowledgement of this has been included in the Plan.
<b>Data</b> – data used needs to include baseline and comparators; the evidence base for some statements included in the Plan was questioned	The data section will be removed from the Plan as not all selected data points have baselines and comparisons available and including full detail on this would in any case lengthen the Plan too much. More detailed information will be made separately available. Section 1 has been altered to ensure statements are not included where there is no evidence base.
<b>Local Boards</b> – a more localised approach is needed to address identified issue as a result of the diverse nature of Essex	There are Locality Children’s Partnership Boards whose role is covered in the Plan – these Boards will use the Plan as a strategic framework for developing their own action plans reflecting local need and priority.
<b>Impact of Plan</b> – the Plan in itself will not result in change, how it is implemented and responded to will	This is acknowledged by the Partnership however the Plan is important in that it provides the foundations on which discussions will be held amongst partners about how they will work together to enact change.
<b>Value of Plan for parents and carers</b> – the Plan does not offer any specific advice or guidance for parents and is difficult to understand for non-professionals	This was not the intention of the Plan. The Plan will be reviewed for clarity and further discussions will be held about how the Plan can be communicated to parents and how they can best be directed to the support they need.
<b>Children’s centres</b> – negative comments about the plans to change the provision of children’s centres and the impact of this on support for families and the delivery of the Plan’s objectives	These comments will be considered as part of the analysis of the public consultation on children’s centres.
<b>Outcomes</b> – the outcomes listed are not inclusive as it is hard to see how they could be achievable by all children including those with CWD; it should be recognised that a personalised approach is needed when planning for children and young people to achieve objectives	The outcomes are appropriate aspirations for all children and young people however it is acknowledged that a personalised approach to planning needs to be taken at an operational level. Children with SEND are recognised as a ‘vulnerable’ group for whom there may be gaps in outcomes and who may need specific support to overcome this.
<b>Plan on a page</b> – further explanation is needed to help understand the different elements of the plan	The text has been amended to address this.



on a page and how they interrelate	
<b>Young people's involvement</b> – young people should be more fully involved and engaged in the development, implementation, monitoring and governance of strategic plans	A commitment to this clear in the plan; further consideration will be given to on-going involvement with children and young people during the action planning phase.
<p><b>Additional priorities</b> – the following were suggested for inclusion as additional priorities / areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved communication and data sharing</li> <li>• Better access to support networks and services</li> <li>• Better access to clubs and activities</li> <li>• Access to longer term support for families (as opposed to short term interventions)</li> <li>• Children with disabilities – better access to services and support.</li> <li>• Better / more stable / more appropriate school placements for CYP with ASD etc and improved processes around this.</li> <li>• Access to mental health services</li> <li>• Support / services for males who have experienced sexual violence.</li> <li>• Better outreach work for early years</li> <li>• Improved access to healthy activities – including those outdoors.</li> <li>• Better information for CYP</li> <li>• Improved safeguarding training</li> <li>• CYP are happy and proud to live in Essex</li> <li>• Improved parenting</li> <li>• Working with partners to proactively safeguard those at risk</li> <li>• Housing for care leavers</li> </ul>	<p>No changes have been made to the Plan as it is viewed that these issues are either already covered within the existing priorities, outcomes or objectives or that they are more specific issues which would be considered during the development of more detailed action plans. Some issues such as housing are outside of the direct remit or influence of the Partnership Board however where this is the case the Plan has emphasised that the Partnership will take an active role in seeking to influence other organisations / partnerships who do have a more direct role.</p> <p><b>Mental Health:</b> The prominence of emotional health and wellbeing has been further highlighted in the strategic objectives and 'emotionally healthy' is already a core priority.</p>