

CABINET	DATE 24 July 2024	ITEM NO 10
TITLE Children and Young People’s Plan - 2024-2029	WARD (S) All	
CHIEF OFFICER Director of Children’s Services	CABINET MEMBER Children and Young People	
DECISION CLASSIFICATION Key: added to forward plan 5.05.24 Non-exempt report/ appendices	IS THE FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT TO BE MADE AT THIS MEETING? Yes	

1. **Decision required**

1.1 This report makes the following recommendations to the decision-maker:

Approve the new Children and Young People’s Plan (CYPP) 2024-2029 (Appendix 1) and agree the high-level objectives (in paragraph 4.5) and the priorities suggested by the Greenwich Young People’s Council outlined (in paragraph 4.6).

2. **Links to Our Greenwich missions**

2.1 This report relates to the Council’s agreed missions as follows:

People

- People's health supports them in living their best life.
 - The CYPP objective Our Health: improving access to mental health and wellbeing support contributes to this mission.
- People will not experience discrimination.
 - The CYPP objectives Our Safety: improved safety within the borough; and Our Relationships: Support to maintain positive personal relationships contributes to this mission.
- Those in financial need can access the right support, advice and opportunities to improve their situation.
 - The CYPP objective Our Support: support families to cope with the cost of living contributes to this mission.
- Children and young people can reach their full potential.
 - The CYPP Our Future: increased work experience and employment opportunities contributes to this mission.
- Everyone in Greenwich is safer, and feels safer.
 - The CYPP objective Our Health: a cleaner borough contributes to this mission.

Place

- Neighbourhoods are vibrant, safe and attractive with community services that meet the needs of local residents.
 - The CYPP objective Our Health: a cleaner borough contributes to this mission.

Economy

- Everyone has the opportunity to secure a good job.
 - The CYPP Our Future: increased work experience and employment opportunities contributes to this mission.
- Town centres, high streets and shopping parades are vibrant, prosperous, well-maintained places that meet the needs of local people.
 - The CYPP objective Our Health: a cleaner borough contributes to this mission.

Communities

- Our Council is better at listening to communities, and communities feel they are heard.
 - The CYPP was developed through consultation with CYP, parents/carers and professionals who work with children and young people and therefore is directly designing improved services based on residents' contributions.
- We design our services around the needs of our residents.
 - The CYPP was developed through consultation with CYP, parents/carers and professionals who work with children and young people and therefore is directly designing improved services based on residents' contributions.

3 Purpose of Report and Executive Summary

- 3.1 This report sets out the background to the development of the Children and Young People's Plan 2024-2029. As set out in Appendix I, Cabinet members are invited to:
- note the feedback received from children, families, and partners
 - note the vision statement developed by members of the Greenwich Young People's Council (GYPC)
 - approve the proposed areas of priority agreed by the Children and Young People's Board with input from the GYPC
 - approve the proposed publication and communication arrangements.
- 3.2 Cabinet is considering this now in advance of its planned publication in September.
- 3.3 The publication of a revised Children and Young People's Plan enables us to renew our commitment to ensuring children and young people are able to influence decisions pertaining to them. For the first time, we are formalising and

enhancing the role of the GYPC (and, by extension, Greenwich children and young people) in promoting the plan and scrutinising delivery against commitments made in the plan.

4. **Introduction and Background**

- 4.1 The Government announced in 2010, that local areas would no longer be statutorily required to complete a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). The Royal Borough of Greenwich has continued to produce the Children and Young People's Plan to fulfil this important strategic commitment to children and young people within the borough.
- 4.2 The existing CYPP is due to expire in 2024. Its delivery is overseen by the multi-agency Children and Young People's Partnership Board (CYPPB). It is a partnership, not a single-agency plan.
- 4.3 The revised CYPP is a 5-year partnership strategy aimed at improving the lives of children and young people across The Royal Borough of Greenwich. (see Annex I).
- 4.4 The proposed new CYPP has been developed through direct consultation with children and young people, parents/carers, and those organisations working to support them. We have also utilised recent feedback from surveys, including the Action Change and Equality (ACE) survey and The Schools and Students Education Unit (SHEU) survey.
- 4.5 We have developed a framework with Greenwich Young People's Council (GYPC) to highlight themes from the consultation feedback and to develop a set of objectives moving forward. The proposed objectives contained in the plan have been shaped by children and young people:
- **Our Future** – We want better access to opportunities and work experience across a range of industries and improved career guidance.
 - **Our Safety** – We want to feel safe at home, in the community and online, with support to build resilience.
 - **Our Health** – We want to be supported to be healthy, this includes understanding how to help ourselves and where more support is needed, we want a choice of support that we can access easily.
 - **Our Relationships** – We know our family and networks are important and we want support to maintain positive relationships and for our families who are struggling with the stress of issues such as the cost-of-living crisis.
 - **Our Support** – We want to know what support is available and if we are struggling, how to access it, and that it is accessible when we need it.

- **Our Voice** - We want to be heard, influence change and decision-making that has an impact on our lives.

4.6 The GYPC considered this framework and feedback from children and have identified 5 high-level priorities which will be the primary focus for the CYPPB partnership.

1. Identity, Emotions and Feelings
2. Mental Health and Wellbeing
3. Pollution, Litter and Safety
4. Work experience and future opportunities.
5. Cost of living/ Poverty

4.7 Whilst the Greenwich Young People's Council (GYPC) have selected 5 high level priorities for the partnership other areas highlighted throughout the consultation will also be developed into an action plan for the partnership.

5. **Available Options**

5.1 Cabinet may choose the following options:

- **Approve the CYPP** – this option would approve the proposed new CYPP 2024-2029. This option is recommended for agreement.
- **Reject the CYPP** – this option would reject the proposed CYPP. This option would require going back to partners to revise the plan. As the proposed plan has been developed with input from a wide range of stakeholders, and as the development of the plan has been overseen by the CYPPB partnership this option is not recommended.
- **Do nothing.** – this option would not produce a new plan. This is not recommended as the plan provides a necessary framework underpinning effective partnership working within the borough and supports the improvement of outcomes for children and young people.

6. **Preferred Option**

6.1 **Approve the CYPP** - The preferred option for Cabinet is to approve the proposed CYPP set out in Appendix A. It was developed in consultation with children and young people and what they have highlighted as important for them for the partnership to improve within the Royal Borough of Greenwich. It was also developed in conjunction with the CYPPB partnership and places a shared strategy for children and young people.

6.2 A partnership action plan will be completed by September 2024 highlighting work the partnership will complete to improve the objectives identified through the consultation. This will be monitored by the CYPPB and the GYPC. The priorities selected by the GYPC may be reviewed annually to ensure oversight and an agile approach with input from children and young people on the progress of priority areas.

7. **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 7.1 We are proposing Cabinet agree to these objectives for the following reasons:
- The proposed objectives are reflective of the feedback gathered from children, young people, parents/ carers and professionals that work with children.
 - for the first time, the GYPC has had a role in shaping the CYPPB priorities for 24/25.

8. **Consultation Results**

8.1 Our consultation approach was multi-faceted, and included face-to-face engagement with children and young people as well as drawing on existing survey results. This is outlined below.

Table 1: CYPPB – Consultation approach

Consultation Approach	Detail
Face-to-face – children and young people	444 CYP face-to-face consultation including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools - from reception to year 13. • Youth Justice CYP • GYPC • Young Commissioners Group • Charlton Athletic Community Trust session • Fun Work Club session
Face-to-face – parents	63 parents including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Centres • Care Leavers Parents Group • Foster Carers Groups • Youth Justice Service Parents Network • SEND Parent Champion Group

Survey	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ACE survey – 400+ CYP with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) 2. SHEU survey – 4500+ CYP in school years 4-13.
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9. **Next Steps: Communication and Implementation of the Decision**

9.1 The proposed CYPP is planned to be published in September 2024 at the beginning of the new school year.

9.2 Insight from our consultation events suggest that the not many children and young people were aware of the Children and Young People Plan or the Children and Young People Partnership Board. We are therefore considering innovative child-led ways of promoting the plan and work of the GYPC. This will include:

- Working with GYPC young people to produce reels/ shorts outlining the priorities.
- Promoting the plan via the schools bulletin and school assemblies
- Promoting the plan via Social Media – feeds highlighting the CYPP published link.
- Promotion via the Schools Bulletin (published weekly).
- Hosting on the council website.

10. **Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications**

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	<p>There is no longer a statutory requirement to produce a Children and Young People’s Plan. The Children and Young People’s Plan is therefore not governed by any specific legislative framework.</p> <p>No Legal or Human Rights issues arise from the recommendations in this report.</p>	<p>Davidaire Horsford Interim Head of Legal Services 02 July 2024</p>
Finance and other resources	<p>The decision maker is requested to approve the new Children and Young People’s Plan (2024-2029) and agree the high level objectives and the priorities suggested by the Greenwich and Young People’s Council.</p>	<p>Akosua Boachie Accountancy Business Change Manager</p>

	<p>Whilst there are no financial implications arising directly from this report any decisions arising from objectives/priorities identified in this report will be subject to a further report.</p> <p>The report author indicates that this is a key decision.</p>	24th May 2024
Equalities	<p>It is deemed the CYPP will benefit all children and the decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act.</p> <p>The CYPP will directly contribute to Greenwich's Equality and Equity Charter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenging discrimination, harassment, bullying, hate crime and victimisation. - Listening to and understanding the diverse needs of all people. <p>The consultation highlighted children have experienced and are concerned with the levels of bullying, hate crime, and racism. This will be a key part of the objectives within the CYPP to address these issues.</p>	Adam Mooney Improvement and Specialist Projects Lead 02.07.24
Health and wellbeing	<p>The CYPP is aimed at children and young people 0-25 and will therefore target this cohort to improve the priorities. Children have identified better access to Mental Health services. The SHEU survey has identified health aspects such as alcohol and drug use, sleeping habits, healthy eating, and physical activity – the CYPPB will link with the Healthier Greenwich Partnership Board in response to these aspects.</p>	Adam Mooney Improvement and Specialist Projects Lead 02.07.24

Climate change	There is no deemed impact on the Carbon neutral plan.	Adam Mooney Improvement and Specialist Projects Lead 02.07.24
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11. **Report Appendices**

- 11.1 The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:
- *Appendix A: Children and Young People Partnership Plan 2024-2029.*

12. **Background Papers**

- 12.1 None required.

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