

Children & Young People Standing Panel

3 July 2007

Di Smith
Director
Children & Families Commissioning

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Nottingham
A city we're all proud of



Nottingham
City Council

JAR Report

HEADLINES

- Improving provision and outcomes in many areas
- Improved strategic planning and partnership working
- Previous inadequate provision in social care addressed
- Early intervention and prevention increasingly effective
- Innovative and effective multi-agency working
- Outcomes mapped to strategic planning

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AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Continued very low educational attainment affecting future life chances
- Further improvement needed to children's social care
- Aspects of provision for some vulnerable groups needs addressing

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CAPACITY TO IMPROVE

- Clear evidence of improvement over time e.g. Education
- Comprehensive strategic planning
- Good understanding of context
- Locality work e.g. MALTS, EIPS, Children's Centres
- Effectiveness of services to schools to support improvement

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Recommendations:

For immediate action

The council and its partners should:

- ensure that children in need and their families have improved access to services without the need to enter the child protection system
- ensure there is a full record of the planning and implementation of child protection investigations to enable managers to trace progress and outcomes.

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For action over the next six months

The council and its partners should:

- improve the range of quality assurance activity in social care and increase the focus on standard setting assessment, decision making and outcomes for children
- ensure that incidences of domestic violence involving children and young people receive an appropriate and timely response from all agencies; the LSCB should develop a robust system of multi-agency quality assurance and ensure a strategic overview of work to protect children at risk due to domestic violence
- increase the provision of specialist CAMHS in community facilities to improve access for families
- maintain the focus of improving educational attainment and promoting economic well-being and ensure challenging, measurable and explicit performance targets and actions to improve the attainment of all groups, including white boys and Pakistani boys and those who are looked after by the council
- increase participation in education, employment or training by young people who have offended
- ensure services for young carers are sufficient and sustained to meet the needs of all children and young people across the city.

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For action in the longer term

The council and its partners should:

- address the high rates of teenage pregnancy by consistently promoting sex and relationship education of a high quality across all schools
- target health promotion activities to reduce the number of young people who are overweight
- improve availability of appropriate leisure and recreation provision for those young people aged 14 and above.

JAR Improvement Activity

- Review of Children and Young People's Plan underway
- JAR recommendations and findings to be fed into CYPP review
- Strategic Partnership for Children Young People and Families actively involved
- JAR improvement activity built into CYPP refresh and Serving Children and Young People Better improvement programme