

Skills Be healthy Services Schools Education  
Achievement **Play** Every child matters Prevention Local Participate Learn  
**Tackling inequality, creating opportunity** Enjoy and achieve Stay safe  
Caring Happy Protect Children's centres  
Trust **Children and Young People's Plan**  
Quindrat Youth **2009-2013**  
Positive contribution Opportunity Improving Engage  
Health Parents Economic wellbeing Families



Richmond upon Thames  
Children and Young People's Trust

## Selecting priorities

The Children and Young People's Plan provides a comprehensive set of commitments, benefits and performance measures for the Children and Young People's Trust for the four year period of this plan.

In addition, to ensure the Trust has a sharp focus on those areas most needing concerted action, the Trust Board will identify a small set of priorities for the year ahead. Priorities will be selected based on three types of information:

- Our starting point for selecting priorities will be the borough needs assessment which identifies the needs of children, young people and families to which local services must respond.
- Alongside this we will look more widely at our current performance using performance data, the annual self-assessment of our CYPP achievements and feedback from inspectorates such as Ofsted.
- We will also consider the views and expectations of children, families and residents in the borough gathered through wide-ranging consultation, particularly with young people, during all the development stages of the CYPP and through its annual review.

The thematic Delivery Boards supporting the Children and Young People's Trust Board will deliver clear action plans in support of the priorities selected. The Trust Board will have a particular focus on measuring progress in these areas, ensuring that resources are

focused on them so that outcomes improve, whilst also ensuring continued excellent performance in other areas of the plan.

The Trust Board will review its priorities annually taking into consideration the latest performance data and information on changing needs, as well as the views of service users and local residents. Some priorities are likely to roll forward and remain for the full term of the plan, as they involve medium-term change programmes. Others may be replaced as specific issues are addressed and new challenges emerge in other areas of the plan.

The intention is to keep the priority list short, so that the selection of priorities provides a genuine opportunity for the Trust Board to focus on the small number of areas requiring most concerted attention and service improvement.

## Draft priorities for 2011-2012

The Children and Young People's Trust Board has selected six priority areas for 2011-2012. These have been selected based on the three types of information set out above and will be the subject of consultation.

The table below sets out the list of proposed priorities, with a brief explanation of why they have been chosen and the actions which will be taken during 2011-2012.

Priority area	Why has this area been selected as a priority?	Benefits lines
<p><b>1 Promoting greater choice and diversity in education</b></p>	<p>Richmond Council is committed to providing the best schools in London. To achieve this, the Council is keen to provide parents with greater choice and diversity in primary and secondary education.</p> <p>The Council is supporting schools to covert to academies. Academies are publicly funded independent schools which are all-ability and have greater freedoms to raise educational standards through innovative approaches to management, governance, teaching and the curriculum. Three secondary schools in the borough became sponsored academies on 1 September 2010.</p> <p>The Council is continuing to respond to the need to expand primary school provision by as many as 300 places over the next 10 years. The borough has many outstanding primary schools, but in order to maintain standards as the number of pupils rises it is essential that appropriate facilities are in place, which means providing permanent school expansions where possible. This would ensure that families in the borough have increased chances to access the schools of their choice within their immediate communities.</p> <p>The Council wants to meet the demand for sufficient secondary school places and drive up standards by establishing sixth form provision in schools. It is also committed to establishing two new secondary schools including a Roman Catholic school. The borough currently has five secondary schools and three academies, with no sixth form or Roman Catholic provision. Providing sixth forms will provide greater choice in post-16 education and may also encourage parents and young people to choose borough secondary schools and academies when planning the transition from primary school.</p>	<p>2.2.1 All primary schools improve attainment and achievement, with children in all areas of the borough able to access high quality places throughout the primary stage</p> <p>2.2.2 All secondary schools improve attainment and achievement, so that all are in line with, or above, the national average</p> <p>3.2.2 All young people are provided with high quality information, advice and guidance and supported to find learning pathways which successfully engage them in post-16 education and training</p>

Priority area	Key actions to be taken during 2011-2012	Benefits lines
	<p>During 2011-2012 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support schools across the borough to convert to academies;</li><li>• Implement the Primary Strategy for Change to deliver more primary school places;</li><li>• Promote of sixth form provision in schools; and</li><li>• Undertake a feasibility study to establish two new secondary schools including a Roman Catholic school.</li></ul>	

Priority area	Why has this area been selected as a priority?	Benefits lines
<p><b>2 Tackling risky behaviour</b></p>	<p>Tackling risky behaviour remains a priority in Richmond upon Thames, despite making good progress in improving the take-up of Chlamydia screening; reducing teenage conceptions; and increasing the level of drug and alcohol support available to young people through the newly-established joint substance misuse service with the Royal Borough of Kingston.</p> <p>However, there are still specific concerns about young people’s alcohol misuse in the borough. Nationally, there are rising rates of hospital admissions for alcohol-related harm and increasing levels of crime and anti-social behaviour related to alcohol. The costs associated with dealing with the consequences of alcohol misuse are also increasing. There is a similar picture in Richmond upon Thames. The borough’s crude rate of alcohol related call-outs for 10 to 19 year-olds is the 12th highest in London and has increased by 35% between 2003-04 and 2009-10, although these may not all be borough residents. Health data indicates that alcohol-specific admissions to hospitals in young people aged 18 are also high in comparison to the London average – there are approximately 18 such admissions to hospitals each year.</p> <p>The Children and Young People’s Trust will remain focused on sustaining improvement in young people’s sexual health services and will ensure that the best possible specialist substance misuse service is in place to address particular issues in the borough. It will also remain focused on prevention and early intervention and tackling the causes of risk-taking behaviour.</p>	<p>1.2.3 Teenage conceptions and sexually transmitted infections are reduced</p> <p>1.2.4 Children and young people are free from risks associated with substance misuse, leading to reduction in the number of young people who smoke, drink alcohol or take illegal drugs</p> <p>1.3.4 All children and young people who need it can access targeted support regarding self-esteem, anger and challenging behaviour, leading to enhanced wellbeing</p>

Priority area	Key actions to be taken during 2011-2012	Benefits lines
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a 'universal' offer to schools for the training of teachers/leads as well as to pupils on elements of risky behaviour, including drug, alcohol, mental health and sex;</li><li>• Develop and implement a training programme for professionals around risky behaviour;</li><li>• Pilot an education programme to young people to increase protective factors such as self esteem;</li><li>• Review the funding being spent on prevention and treatment to ensure funds are being used on early intervention and prevention;</li><li>• Improve access to drug and alcohol specialist services and improve young people's access to information and advice; and</li><li>• Develop a specialist referral pathway and protocol for needle exchange, detox and rehabilitation.</li></ul>	

Priority area	Why has this area been selected as a priority?	Benefits lines
<p><b>3 Increasing participation and engagement with children, young people and their families</b></p>	<p>It has been a long-term ambition of the Children and Young People’s Trust to provide increased opportunities for children, young people and their families to participate and engage in shaping the services they receive.</p> <p>Currently, there are good opportunities for participation and engagement across the Children and Young People’s Trust, including the Children in Care Council, the Youth Parliament and the Youth Forum, all of which have been successful in engaging and involving young people in decision-making. This is clearly shown in the high levels of participation in the 2010-2011 Youth Parliament elections which had a turn-out of 6,567 young people – a 15% increase from the previous election.</p> <p>Both nationally and locally, the importance of participation and engagement with children and young is growing. The policy of the central government is to provide citizens and local government with the power and information they need to work together to resolve issues and play more active roles in their local communities. This ambition is shared by the Council which has set out its commitment to listening to the views of residents and involving them in shaping local services. The Council launched its All in One household survey in October 2010 and held a series of planning events in June and July 2011 to gather the views of local residents. It is essential that children’s and young people’s voices are heard throughout the process.</p>	<p>4.3.1 Providing the opportunity for children, young people and their families to participate and engage in shaping their community and planning the services that affect their lives</p>

Priority area	Key actions to be taken during 2011-2012	Benefits lines
	<p>During 2011-2012 we will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="651 331 1594 435">• Improving participation and engagement with children, young people and their families through the development an Engagement Strategy for the Children and Young People’s Trust; and</li><li data-bbox="651 472 1579 539">• Ensuring children’s voices are heard and responded to, particularly those children involved with the child protection process.</li></ul>	

Priority area	Why has this area been selected as a priority?	Benefits lines
<p><b>4 Implementing alternative service delivery and provision</b></p>	<p>The government has made it clear that funding of local authorities will be reduced and that unsustainable levels of public spending, based on the continued accumulation of public debt, will not return. In response, the Council has set out a new direction as a strategic commissioning organisation with a reduced role in the direct delivery of services. In this model the Council will look to withdraw from directly providing services where this will reduce cost but enable it to sustain or improve key frontline and community services by commissioning services from the most effective provider.</p> <p>At the same time, the Council will work in collaboration with other local authorities and public and private sector partners where this will improve services and secure better outcomes for local residents. It will also direct effort towards building community capacity to enable residents to have greater control over their lives and local services.</p> <p>The Children and Young People’s Trust is considering all potential options for alternative service delivery for children’s services. The aim is to develop a sustainable approach that is able to achieve the level of savings required but which does not negatively impact on the outcomes for children and young people.</p>	<p>4.1.2 Ensuring local partners work together through the Children and Young People’s Trust</p> <p>4.1.3 Commissioning in line with need</p> <p>4.5.1 Ensuring resources are effectively and flexibly deployed so they can have the biggest impact on services</p>

Priority area	Key actions to be taken during 2011-2012	Benefits lines
	<p>During 2011-2012 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research and consult on options for alternative service delivery and provision; and</li><li>• Implement the chosen alternative service delivery model to ensure savings are delivered not to the detriment of outcomes for children.</li></ul>	

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<p><b>5 Improving health visiting provision</b></p>	<p>Improving health visitor provision is a priority for the NHS nationally, as well as a main focus for NHS Richmond. The government has launched the Health Visitors Implementation Plan which sets out the full range of services that families will be able to expect from health visitors and their teams. It will create a bigger, rejuvenated workforce with an extra 4,200 health visitors nationally by 2015 and an improvement in the quality of the health visiting service for children and families.</p> <p>We are currently undertaking detailed reviews of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Community Paediatrics and Speech and Language Therapies (SALT) to improve local services. There are a lot of interdependencies between these services and similar challenges in terms of access and fragmentation. Hence a parallel review offers the chance to particularly focus on the boundary issues between the services and find common solutions.</p> <p>Health Visiting Services, Community Paediatrics, and SALT are currently all provided by Hounslow and Richmond Health Care (HRCH). GP commissioners have decided to work closely with HRCH to unpack the block contract and create an innovative community provider organisation, which will lead to excellence for out-of-hospital integrated health and social care. It is important to ensure that children's services receive appropriate attention.</p>	<p>1.2.1 Every family is supported to keep children healthy during the early years and protected against avoidable disease and infection</p>

Priority area	Key actions to be taken during 2011-2012	Benefits lines
	<p>During 2011-2012 we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review the Health Visiting Service which will include: service mapping; a clinical stakeholder assessment; a service user stakeholder assessment; a comparative assessment with similar services, e.g. Kingston, Surrey, Hounslow; and the development of a service specification.</li></ul>	

Priority area	Why has this area been selected as a priority?	Benefits lines
<p><b>6 Improving access to high quality Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</b></p>	<p>It is widely recognised that there needs to be a greater focus on dealing with mental health problems at an early stage. This is reflected in the new Mental Health Strategy for England which promises an extra £400 million for therapies, such as counselling, and to increase access to them by access by 2015. The strategy covers services for all age groups but there is a particular focus on children as, at a national level, 10% of children develop a mental health problem at some point.</p> <p>Half of lifetime cases of diagnosable mental illnesses begin by age 14 (three-quarters by mid 20s). Improved availability of early intervention services for children and young people could prevent 25–50% of adult mental illness.</p> <p>In February 2011, there was a review by the National Support Team for Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (EWMH) in Richmond. The review found that although there are services available, there are issues around access, clarity of pathways and duplication of services. The current strategy for EWMH needs to be updated to reflect current evidence and national policy, as well as local needs and gaps in services.</p>	<p>1.3.1 Children and young people enjoy good emotional and mental health and get the support they need to address mental health issues quickly and effectively when they arise</p>

Priority area	Key actions to be taken during 2011-2012	Benefits lines
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase the access and availability to counselling services for school aged children;</li><li>• To put in place counselling services for disabled children and their families;</li><li>• To work with key stakeholders in developing a new Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Strategy, including undertaking a needs assessment;</li><li>• To work across partners to review access to more specialised mental health services; and</li><li>• To increase Educational Psychology resource to meet demand.</li></ul>	