

Appendix to Joint Commissioning Strategy 2011-14 Key Commissioning Priorities

The previous 3 year joint commissioning strategy identified 10 priority areas as a primary, but not sole, focus of commissioning work. Priorities going forward for 2011/2014 will flow from the joint strategic needs assessment and related strategies. However because the JSNA is still relatively new we have not yet reached a point where there is total congruence between the needs analysis in the JSNA and the several strategies that underpin the Children & Young People's Plan.

The JSNA summarises the needs as follows:

Conclusions and Priorities

The majority of children and young people in Buckinghamshire are healthy and do well on a range of measures related to wellbeing, achievement and safety. However there are significant groups of children who fare less well including those growing up in socially or materially deprived circumstances. This needs assessment highlights that we need to close the gap between the more and less advantaged children and families. High quality evidence suggests that we need to do this by tackling the causes of childhood poverty and supporting those growing up in disadvantage to improve their achievement, health and life chances. This includes ensuring the best possible start for all by ensuring a healthy pregnancy. The early years (0-5 years particularly) has been identified as a critical time to improve outcomes for children with support for parents at this time and high quality early years experience and education for the children. We also need to continue to improve wellbeing, health and achievement for the vulnerable groups highlighted in this section.

Additional priorities include improving the emotional wellbeing and resilience of children and young people, improving health promoting behaviours such as increasing levels of physical activity and healthy eating – a marker of success in these areas will be a reversal of the rising trend of overweight and obesity in our children and young people. There is also a continuing need to ensure children and young people resist health harming behaviours such as smoking, drug and alcohol abuse and risky sexual behaviour.

These are reflected in the development of a childhood poverty strategy and five main commissioning priorities in our Children and Young People's Plan. These are:

Closing the Gap – tackling the divide between poorer children and young people and the rest in terms of outcomes by helping them to achieve at school, be healthy and get help if they need it.

Family Focus – ensuring that services are working together to support the whole family to improve outcomes.

Transitions – supporting children and young people when they need help at key stages in their lives. This could include starting, changing or leaving school, leaving care, divorce, bereavement or trauma.

Early Intervention and Secondary Prevention – targeting resources to help children, young people and families who are at risk of poor outcomes earlier so problems don't get out of control. This includes access to activities.

Involving Children and Young People in decision making – making sure children and young people have a real say in making decisions about the services that are provided for them”

This gives the following priorities:-

1. Commissioning more Early Intervention and Prevention services with a proven evidence base as detailed in for example the Allen Review e.g. Family Nurse Partnership.
 - *This will be supplemented with a “Prevention Commissioning Framework” in line with the Prevention Strategy*
 - *This will link with Health Service change programmes such as the work to increase and re-focus the work of health visitors to ensure both early intervention and an integrated approach*
2. Commissioning services that support the Child Poverty Strategy
3. Commissioning education and training provision to close the gap between the lowest 20% and the median re: [a] those achieving level 2 at 16 and level 3 by 19 [b] points score at Early Years Foundation Stage [NI92]
4. Parenting Support.
 - *This will link to the Parenting Strategy.*
5. Protection, prevention and treatment: Domestic Abuse
6. Prevention and treatment: Substance Misuse
 - *This will link to the Buckinghamshire DAAT Commissioning Strategy 2010-13*
7. Sufficiency of placements for both social care and educational services, this includes sufficiency both by type and volume, and action to ensure value for money
8. Sufficiency of Early Years places.
 - *This will link to the Sufficiency Action Plan.*
9. Re-commissioning of services for children & young people with special educational needs and disabilities, so as to improve outcomes and value for money
10. Re-commissioning of services at the point of transition to adulthood, so as to improve outcomes and value for money
 - *This will link to the Strengthening Transitions Arrangements Programme Delivery Plan*
11. Ensure that the capital programme is aligned with these priorities