

## **Appendix A**

### **Kent Children and Young people's Plan 2008-2011 – Positive about Our Future**

The following changes were made to the Children and Young People's Plan following consultation:

#### **Priority One: Reducing the impact of poverty:**

- Ensure parents are enabled to take up work was extended to include enabling parents to take up learning opportunities in recognition that further education is also a route out of poverty.

#### **Priority 2: Resilience, well being and healthy lifestyle:**

- New activities have been included focusing on the way services can work in partnership with parents to promote self esteem and self confidence and engaging whole families in lifestyle changes to help and support children who are an unhealthy weight.
- An additional activity was included to ensure all steps are taken to avoid young people being admitted to adult psychiatric wards.

#### **Priority 3: Parenting:**

- There was some remodelling of this section to ensure that services recognise the whole range of challenges parents might face, they offer what parents want, help them in their role and are easily accessible.
- The specific needs of fathers were highlighted to ensure that male carers are recognised and involved in decisions about their children.
- Family learning was included as another opportunity to help families out of the cycle of poverty, to raise self-esteem of parents and to inspire children to learn through the example of their parents.
- Concern over the drop in MMR immunisations in Kent by the age of 2 led to this being included as a focus for activity.

#### **Priority 4: Housing:**

- The housing section was strengthened to highlight the problems of hidden homelessness and to ensure support is made available to help resolve disputes and tenancy problems.
- Also an additional action to improve the timeliness of housing adaptations for children with disabilities was included.
- Improving the supply and affordability of housing for young people was a theme throughout consultation and has now been included.

#### **Priority 5: Vulnerable children:**

- There was specific recognition made of those children who may have an autistic spectrum disorder and ensuring early diagnosis and support is available.

**Priority 6: Things to do and places to go:**

- Recreation and leisure activities were separated out to reflect the needs of different age groups- young people were asking for places to go and be together, younger children wanted play areas
- The needs of young people who are at risk of reoffending were recognised rather than focusing purely on prevention of first time offending.

**Priority 7: Participating and engaging in learning and society:**

- The outcome for early years changed from a focus on attainment to improving more general outcomes for children from birth to 5 so that the importance of learning through play and the role early years settings have in preparing children for school were included.
- Ensuring young people were engaged in learning and prepared for work was a key area that was strengthened following consultation. Ensuring that an accessible and appropriate curriculum was available, careers advice and guidance, enterprise and creativity and skills to make young people employable were all added.

**Priority 8: Children and young people are safe and free from bullying and harassment:**

- The responsibility of providers to provide a safe environment for all, but especially for vulnerable CYP was strengthened.

Enabling sections: How we will deliver the plan

- Strategic or organisational activity was moved to the enabling sections so that all activity relating to delivery structures, workforce planning, integrated processes and participation has been grouped rather than scattered across the different priorities.