

Solihull Children & Young People's Plan

2013 - 2016



DRAFT FOR
CONSULTATION

JANUARY – FEBRUARY
2013

This is Solihull's 3 year Children and Young People's Plan. It sets out how organisations, families and communities will work together to improve outcomes for children and young people in Solihull. It is a strategic plan, so sets overall direction and gives headlines but is supported by more detailed plans which are available on the Children and Young People's Trust website.

Our vision is that by 2018 Solihull will be a place where everyone has an **equal chance** to be healthier, happier, safer and prosperous; and where **all** children and young people are **loved and valued** by their families and communities, and **thrive and succeed**.

Solihull has 52,210 children and young people under the age of 19. This plan is about all of them, plus those up to the age of 25 that are care leavers or have special needs or disabilities.

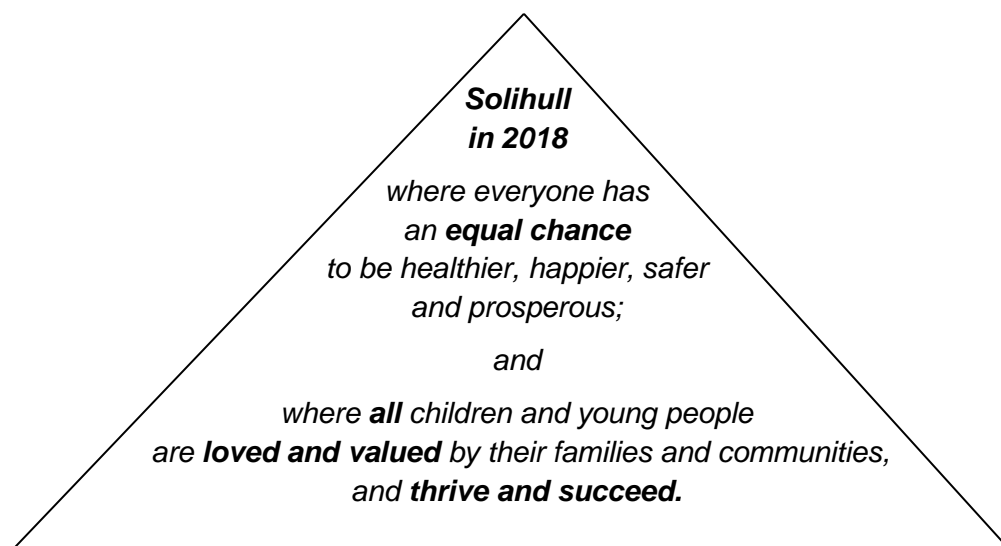
This Plan has 4 priorities for action:

1. Early Help: making Solihull an early help place where families, communities & organisations all reduce demand for emergency services.
2. Safe from Harm: keeping the most vulnerable children and young people safe and ensuring preventative strategies reduce harm.
3. Building aspirations: raising aspirations and opportunities for children & young people to reach their potential, particularly those that are vulnerable or disabled, or living in poverty.
4. Healthy Childhoods: improving the physical, emotional and sexual health and well-being of children and young people.

SOLIHULL CHILDREN AND
YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST

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OUR VISION



An equal chance means giving **different support to different families**, depending on what they need and want. Our approach to achieving this is based on whole community early help, integrated working between organisations, and giving families choice and control of personalised support.

PROGRESS IN 2011 - 2012

The Children and Young People's Trust Board made the following progress in 2011/12:

- Development of a 'First Co-ordinated Response' to replace the common and initial assessments, and inter-agency referral form to Social Work Services.
- Revisions to the 'missing children' procedures.
- Review of domestic abuse triage for children and young people.
- Revisions to key e-safety documents to support schools.
- Relaunch of 'Welcome to Nursery'. 90% of parents felt that the programme had helped them to develop good relationships with school, feel confident to help their child's learning and had helped their child settle quickly.
- Preparation of an all age menu of parenting programmes, from universal to specialist needs.
- Development of two 'Community Parents' schemes in north Solihull, Plush and Chase, helping parents feel more confident and less isolated.
- Launch of a young people's app to reduce mental health stigma.
- Review of unintentional injuries data and current practice for reduction.
- Testing new approaches for personal budgets for children with disabilities.
- Consulting families about how to make leisure services more inclusive.
- Large-scale consultation on an early help strategy for Solihull.

To read more about the progress made and outstanding challenges read the Children and Young People's Trust Board's Annual Report, July 2012 which is published here: www.solihull.gov.uk/cypt.

Every year the Children and Young People's Trust Board produces an Outcomes Review which is Solihull's strategic needs assessment for children and informs the planning and commissioning of children's services.

Key headlines in 2012:

- Solihull is a great place to live, learn and play for the majority, and most children and young people thrive and succeed. However some children and young people do less well and do not achieve their potential.
- The population is changing, getting older as a whole but younger in north Solihull; and more diverse, particularly in the urban west of the Borough.
- Not all babies get the best start in life: 1 in 7 women smoke during pregnancy; rates of breastfeeding are falling; and uptake of the MMR vaccine is below the recommended level.
- The rate of children with child protection plans has risen fourfold in 4 years, far exceeding the national rate. More than half of these are in the Regeneration Zone, which only has 22% of the Borough's child population.
- Local evaluations show common processes such as LINCIS make a difference for families, but practitioners report that it is not being used early enough.
- The gap in educational outcomes has closed significantly across a range of measures.
- Outcomes for children and young people in the three regeneration wards remain very poor – from safeguarding to sexual health, learning, leisure, poverty and as victims of crime.

To read the full Outcomes Review go to www.solihull.gov.uk/cypt.

The Children and Young People's Trust Board is a strategic partnership of organisations and parents seeking to improve outcomes for children and young people in Solihull. The role of the Trust Board is to set direction, improve joined up working, and manage performance. Membership of the Board is drawn from parent groups and statutory, voluntary and private sector organisations.

Each year the Trust Board will publish a 1 year action plan and an annual review of progress for the previous year. In addition to the annual Outcomes Review, performance information against the measures in this plan will be published on a quarterly basis.

Further details of how partners will work together, including shared values, leadership arrangements and reporting relationships are contained in the Trust Board's terms of reference which are published here: www.solihull.gov.uk/cypt.

1. EARLY HELP

Objective: To make Solihull an early help place, where families, communities & organisations reduce demand for emergency services.

Tactics

- Strengthen information and advice services for families
- Enhance support from within the community
- Strengthen team working between families and professionals, including through joint training
- Secure investment in services which have the greatest long-term positive impact

Measures

- Number of children in care and needing child protection plans
- School attendance rates
- Number of first time entrants to the youth justice system
- Breastfeeding prevalence at 6-8 weeks after birth
- Parental satisfaction with support for parenting

2. SAFE FROM HARM

Objective: To keep the most vulnerable children and young people safe and ensure preventative strategies reduce harm.

Tactics

- Strengthen multi-agency involvement in child protection
- Improve local response to children affected by domestic abuse
- Tackle child sexual exploitation
- Minimise risk to children from communications technology
- Reduce bullying in schools and the wider community

Measures

- Number of children with protection plans for over 18 months
- Proportion of children who feel safer due to child protection
- Repeat referrals for children to domestic abuse triage
- Measures to be confirmed for missing children, sexual exploitation, e-safety, and anti-bullying.

3. BUILDING ASPIRATIONS

Objective: To support children and young people to develop the skills and attitudes which allow them to play a full part in community life.

Tactics

- Raise the participation age of young people in learning
- Personalise support for disabled children and young people
- Increase awareness of, and support for young carers
- Looked After Children tactic to be confirmed
- Child poverty tactic to be confirmed

Measures

- 16 – 18 year olds in full-time education or work-based learning
- Feedback from parents about inclusive services and choice
- Young carers, LAC and child poverty measures to be confirmed

4. HEALTHY CHILDHOODS

Objective: To improve the physical, emotional and sexual health and well-being of children and young people

Tactics

- Enhance the childhood obesity strategy
- Refresh the emotional well-being & mental health action plan
- Prevent drug and alcohol use amongst & harm to young people
- Maintain focus on teenage conceptions in north Solihull

Measures

- Excess weight in 4-5 and 10-11 year olds
- Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm
- Young people new presentations to drug treatment
- Alcohol related admissions to hospital for under 18s
- Under 18 conceptions rate