

# **Glasgow Child and Family Services Plan 2009 – 2012**

## **Executive Summary**

<b>Content</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Forward</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Improve Outcomes for Children and Young People</b>	
<b>Glasgow's main priorities for improvement</b>	
<b>Vision, Aims and Values</b>	
<b>2. The Plan</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. The Profile of Needs of Glasgow's Children, Young People and Families</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. What Children and Young People have told us</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5. Financial Information</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6. How we intend to meet the needs of Glasgow's Children</b>	<b>8</b>

## Foreword

Welcome to the summary version of Glasgow's Child and Family Services Plan 2009-2012, which provides you with an overview of our plan for children and family services in Glasgow. It details the shared priorities of all partner services and agencies and how we will work to achieve them.

The **Vision** for the Child and Family Services Plan 2009 – 12 is that:

**“We want every child to be supported to achieve their full potential and contribute positively to their communities, throughout their lives”.**

The Plan requires all partners to focus on this as their first priority. It details the significant challenges associated with supporting the City's children and young people to realise their potential. Although Glasgow has come a long way over the past two decades, too many of our children continue to suffer the disadvantages associated with poverty and social exclusion. The current economic recession can be expected to reinforce some of the challenges we face around community cohesion, family breakdown, homelessness, addiction, poor mental health and employability.

The key partner agencies command significant resources and expertise across the range of public services, from early years support, to schools, social work, health care, police and community safety. This plan sets out how we will work together to rise to the challenges we face.



Councillor Jonathan Findlay



Councillor Archie Graham

## 1. Introduction

1.1 This is a summary of the fourth Glasgow Child and Family Services Plan. It sets out the key strategic priorities for the period 2009 to 2012 and links to the continuous improvement objectives outlined in the 2007 Review of the 2005-2008 Plan.

1.2 The Plan will govern the activity of all partner agencies providing services to children, young people, their parents and carers in Glasgow.

1.3 The Plan sets out the commitment of all services and partner agencies in Glasgow to:

**Improve outcomes for children and young people** to ensure that they:

- **have the best start in life**
- **enjoy their childhood**
- **are supported to develop as responsible citizens, effective contributors, confident individuals and successful learners**
- **are safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, included, respected and responsible**

All of these themes are firmly embedded in "*Getting it Right for Every Child*".

1.4 **Our main priorities** are:

- **Parenting**
- **Early Childhood and Extended Services**
- **Keeping Children Safe**
- **Raising Attainment and Achievement**
- **Child Poverty**

1.5 The **Vision** for the Glasgow Child and Family Services Plan 2009 – 2012 is that:

**"We want every child to be supported to achieve their full potential and contribute positively to their communities, throughout their lives"**.

1.6 The **Aims** of the Plan are for all of Glasgow's children and young people to be: **safe, nurtured, healthy, achieving, active, respected and responsible, included**

1.7 The **Values** shared by the Plan partners are:

- Put the child or young person at the centre of everything we do
- Act in the best interests of the child or young person
- Ensure that children and young people receive help when they need it
- Ensure that help is proportionate, timely and appropriate
- Ensure that the help provided will improve the child or young person's situation and reduce risk
- Ensure that the best interests of the child or young person are at the centre of all policy making and decisions that affect them
- Listen to children and young people and let them know how their views are being taken forward
- Support children, young people and families to live in a healthy, safe home environment, within a caring supportive community that is aspirational and free from prejudice, poverty, exclusion, fear of crime and discrimination.

1.8 Key to delivering the above is to continue to improve **partnership working** in city for the delivery of children and young people services. Our partners include:

- Children, Young People, their Parents and Carers
- Glasgow City Council Education Services, Social Work Services, and Development and Regeneration Services
- Culture and Sport Glasgow
- NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Strathclyde Police

- Glasgow Children's Panel
- Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- Glasgow Community and Safety Services
- Voluntary and independent sector providers.

- 1.9 The Plan's priorities and commitments are consistent with those identified in related strategic plans, including the Glasgow Single Outcome Agreement which details the overall policy priorities for partner services in the City.
- 1.10 Importantly the Plan has been informed by the views of children, young people and their families. The key priorities set out within the Plan also reflect the recommendations for improvement identified in recent self-evaluations, internal and external audits and inspections.

## 2. The Plan

- 2.1 All Local Authorities are required to provide a 3 Year Integrated Children's Service Plan. The Plan must be reviewed and monitored on an annual basis.
- 2.2 In Glasgow the Children's Services Executive Group is the partnership group responsible for the Plan. Its role is to:
- Establish a clear **vision and strategic framework** for services to children, young people and families in the City
  - Ensure **ownership** of the Child and Family Service Plan strategically and operationally across all services to children and families in the City
  - Ensure **engagement** with children, young people, parents, carers and communities in identifying priorities and how these should be met
  - **Monitor and evaluate** the implementation of this Plan
  - Promote **interagency working** among the five children's service locality planning groups to ensure local delivery and accountability for improving outcomes.
- 2.3 The Plan is organised around the 5 community planning themes of **Healthy, Learning, Safe, Working and Vibrant**. There is also a section on **Corporate Parenting** to reflect the particular responsibilities of the Council Elected Members, staff and its partners towards children and young people who are, or have been, looked after.
- 2.4 There is an **Action Plan** against each of the five themes and the corporate parenting section. These are strategic actions, with more detailed plans being developed behind each of these by the various planning implementation groups that have been established. In addition, the five Children's Services Locality Planning Groups have been charged with ensuring that the actions are implemented and report progress on a regular basis to the Children's Services Executive Group.

## 3. The Profile of Needs of Glasgow's Children, Young People and Families

- 3.1 The following information is correct at the point of publication.

### Example of the General Population:

#### Healthy

- It is estimated that 20% of children and young people in Glasgow are **overweight or obese**
- It is estimated that 7,600 **children are affected by parental drug use** and 9,900 by **parental alcohol abuse**

#### Learning

In the academic session 2007/08, across all primary schools in Glasgow:

- 8 in every 10 children and young people attained the appropriate levels in 5-14 reading
- More than 7 in 10 children and young people attained the appropriate levels in 5-14 writing
- More than 8 in 10 attained the appropriate levels in 5-14 mathematics.

In the academic session 2007/08, across all secondary schools in Glasgow:

- 6 in 10 children and young people attained the appropriate levels in 5-14 reading

- 5 in 10 children and young people attained the appropriate levels in 5-14 writing
- 6 in 10 attained the appropriate levels in 5-14 mathematics.

In the 2007/08 SQA exam diet (pre appeals):

- 8 in 10 of the S4 cohort attained 5 awards or more at level 3 or better
- Just under 9 in 10 attained English and Maths at level 3 or better
- 2 in 10 of the S6 cohort attained 3 awards or more at level 6 or better
- Just over 1 in 10 of the S6 cohort attained 5 awards or more at level 6 or better.

## Vibrant

An audit of 74,000 children and young people across all education establishments in Glasgow was carried out between April 2008 and June 2008. Findings indicate:

- Over 3 in 10 children and young people had additional support need.
- In 2008 almost 4 in every 10 children in primary school were in receipt of free school meals compared to 2 in 10 nationally.
- In 2008 more than 3 in every 10 young people in secondary school were in receipt of free school meals compared to 1.5 in 10 nationally.
- Approx 4 in 10 **children live in poverty** in Glasgow, among the highest rate in the UK

## Safe

- As at March 2008, there were 304 children and young people aged 0 to 15 years on the **Child Protection Register** in Glasgow. This equates to 0.3 per 100 of the child population, higher than the corresponding Scottish rate of 0.3 per 100.
- Almost **half of children and young people on the Child Protection Register had “Physical neglect”** recorded as the relevant category of risk/abuse.
- During 2007/08 a total of 7,435 children from Glasgow City were referred to the **Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration** on grounds of care or well being.

## Working

- **SIMD 2006 data on vulnerable children shows that** around 4 in 10 children in Glasgow live among Scotland’s most deprived neighbourhoods **for employment, education and income**

## Corporate Parenting

- Over 1 in 100 children in Glasgow are Looked After, accounting for one-fifth of the Scottish total.

## 4. What Children and Young People have told us

4.1 Feedback from children and young people is presented throughout the Plan. Detailed here are just a few examples of what children, parents/carers and stakeholders have told us:

### Stakeholders have told us that vulnerable children and young people:

- Are generally less able to advocate for themselves
- are dependent on adults for care, with some children being at risk of poor care, neglect or abuse
- Are dependent on adult focused systems and services
- Are often unable or not given the opportunity to make decisions about their lives
- Feel their views are not always listened to or acted upon

### Parents and Carers have told us that:

- Children and young people’s needs should be met and potential maximised by recognising their strengths and areas for development
- Access to services needs to be available when families feel they need them

- Policies and strategies should be in place to help children express concerns if they feel unsafe
- There needs to be improved communication at all levels
- Carers would welcome further opportunities for consultation and support as a group

**Staff have told us that:**

- There should be a greater focus on early intervention
- There should be improved response times for responding to support needs
- We need to improve the public image of children and young people
- There needs to be clarity about outcomes expected at local area level
- Staff development and support and a sufficient staff resource are essential to enable the delivery of good quality services

**4.2 Following a consultation young people representing different ages and interests from early years, Primary and Secondary and additional needs establishments told us:**

- We want a right to a good, inclusive education
- All children should have access to health fun and exercise
- Young people should have the right to relax, to play and should have more supervised activities to allow them to learn and to grow safely as activities
- The children's charter should apply to all young people, whatever their gender, religion, race, abilities or opinions. We want to be respected and respect others equally
- We have the right to fulfil our potential and our dreams
- Young people should have the right to an opinion and the right to be heard. Young people should be entitled to believe and to think that what they want, unless that opinion can result in hurt or harm to others. Young people's opinions should be taken seriously.
- We want to feel cared for – to have affection and comfort and to live where there is no cruelty, sufficient food and to be surrounded by friends. We want, not to feel threatened and not to be bullied; to live in communities where there are mixed clubs with no territorialism and where there is no peer pressure and no stereotyping.

## 5. Financial Information

The financial table below details the financial framework that will support the implementation of this plan. The gross estimated budget for 2008/09 for services to children and families across the City provided by Glasgow City Council, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde and Culture and Sport Glasgow is £716million.

### GROSS EXPENDITURE BUDGET 2008/09

Funding Source	Glasgow City Council								NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde				Culture and Sport Glasgow	
	Budget 2008/09	%	Social Work Services	%	Education Services	%	Dev & Regen Services	%	Partnership Budgets	%	Acute	%		%
	£ 000		£ 000		£ 000		£ 000		£ 000		£ 000		£ 000	
<b>Core Funded</b>	£661,675	92.4%	£103,743	99.1%	£474,393	93.1%			£27,774	93.2%	£53,265	77.1%	£2,500	100%
<b>Surestart</b>	£8,901	1.2%			£8,671	1.7%			£230	0.8%				
<b>Scottish Government Grant</b>														
– National Services Division	£17,047	2.4%							£1,197	4.0%	£15,850	22.9%		
– Education Maintenance Allow.	£3,000	0.4%			£3,000	0.4%								
– Intensive Secure Managed Service (ISMS)	£99	0.0%							£99	0.0%				
– Other	£6,260	0.9%			£5,993	1.2%			£267	0.9%				
<b>Other Grant Funding</b>														
– The Big Lottery	£415	0.1%			£415	0.1%								
– Miscellaneous	£626	0.1%	£356	0.3%	£270	0.1%								
– Fairer Scotland Fund	£5,553	0.8%	£353	0.3%	£4,678	0.9%	£290	100%	£232	0.8%				
<b>Other Income (Inc Fees and Charges)</b>	£12,244	1.7%	£284	0.3%	£11,960	2.3%								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£715,820</b>		<b>£104,736</b>	<b>14.6%</b>	<b>£509,380</b>	<b>71.2%</b>	<b>£290</b>	<b>0.04%</b>	<b>£29,799</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>£69,115</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>£2,500</b>	<b>0.3%</b>

## 6. How we intend to meet the Needs of Glasgow's Children

### HEALTHY

#### **Our local single outcome agreement priorities are:**

- Reduce obesity in children and adults
- Reduce alcohol consumption and alcohol related harm
- Reduce inequalities in health, particularly those caused by childhood poverty
- Reduce the harm caused by smoking
- Reduce drug addiction

#### **In addition, our key objectives within Children and Family services to meet the above priorities are to:**

- Ensure that children and young people have access to services in their local communities
- Ensure that services for young people are based on evidence and best practice
- Improve the way services are delivered, with an emphasis on support to the family
- Ensure that children and young people receive single care management and a single point of access to services
- Ensure children and young people receive the care they need at the earliest opportunity

### LEARNING

#### **Our local single outcome agreement priorities are:**

- Improve literacy and numeracy of the population
- Improve educational attainment and achievement of all children and young people

#### **In addition, our objectives within children's services to meet the above priorities are:**

- Improve literacy and numeracy of children and young people, parents and families
- Improve skills for employment and secure positive destinations for all young people
- Improve community learning and development
- Improve the educational experience of children while looked after
- Improve the education estate: learning and childcare environments

### SAFE

#### **Our local single outcome agreement priorities are:**

- Reduce the level of violent crime, including gender-based and domestic abuse
- Reduce the involvement of young people in crime and as victims of crime and accidents

#### **In addition, our objectives within children's services to meet the above priorities are:**

- Protect children and young people from abuse, harm and neglect
- Ensure children and young people have their needs met
- Reduce the harm to children and young people affected by parental alcohol abuse
- Reduce the harm to children and young people affected by parental drug abuse
- Protect children, young people and their families from homelessness

### VIBRANT

#### **Our local single outcome agreement priorities are:**

- Improve residents' aspirations, confidence, decision-making capacity and involvement in community life

#### **In addition, our objectives within children's services to meet the above priorities are:**

- Improve the childhood experiences of children and young people
- Promote positive parenting across the City
- Improve play opportunities
- Promote and develop volunteering in Glasgow

### WORKING

#### **Our local single outcome agreement priorities are:**

- Increase the proportion of Glasgow residents in work
- Reduce the proportion of children in poverty
- Improve skills for employment

**In addition, our objectives within children's services to meet the above priorities are:**

- Improve skills for employment and secure positive destinations for all young people

## **CORPORATE PARENTING**

**Our key objectives within children's services are:**

- Improving the education outcomes of children and young people who are looked after
- Improving the physical, mental and sexual health of children and young people who are looked after
- Improving the quality of care and services for children and young people who are looked after and accommodated
- Improved care planning and speedier decision making, in particular in relation to placement choice and planning towards permanency
- Shift the balance of care to community based services
- All young people leaving care will have a pathway plan that prepares and supports them to access appropriate housing, health services and employment, training or further education
- Continue to improve our joint responsibilities to listen to and take into account the views of children and young people.

**To achieve the above objectives Glasgow has put in place a number of Strategies and Policies, these are available for your information on the website:**

**[www.glasgow.gov.uk/glasgowchildandfamilyservicesplan](http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/glasgowchildandfamilyservicesplan)**

**Further information on all of the above can be found in the full version of our Children's Services Plan.**

**Please contact us:**



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