

The Youth Agenda – Current challenges, priorities and emerging themes

Ref.	Category	Position statement/ commentary	Data contact/ author
1	Young people obesity and physical activity	<p>Children in all areas in the City are more likely to be overweight or obese than the 1990 national average. Nationally 16 per cent of children aged 2 to 15 were classed as obese in 2006 and amongst children aged 2 to 10, 15 per cent were classed as obese (The Health Survey for England, 2006).</p> <p>In relation to local figures on obesity in children, our figures are lower than the national average. In Sheffield 6.9% of reception aged children and 14.8% of Y6 children are obese. Compared with the rest of South Yorkshire, Sheffield has the greatest percentage point increase in obesity levels for females, and the second greatest increase for males between YR and Y6.</p> <p>Arbourthorne/ Manor/ Darnall has the greatest prevalence of overweight and obesity among children at YR and Y6 – it also has the one of the largest percentage point increases in the number of overweight/ obese children between YR and Y6.</p> <p>Rivelin to Sheaf service district has the lowest prevalence of overweight and obesity for girls at YR and Y6, and boys at Y6. The service district with the lowest overweight and obese prevalence for boys at YR is Hillsborough to Upper Don. There appears to be a positive relationship between levels of overweight/ obesity and levels of deprivation. (child BMI for age in Sheffield, Sheffield PCT, 2005/6).</p>	Paul Billington (DEL)
2	Prevalence of mental health	<p>Nationally, it is estimated that about one in six children and young people will have a mental health, emotional or behavioural problem sometime in their life. About 10% of young people will require some form of Child and Adolescence Mental Health Services (CAMHS) support at any one time and about 1% will require specialist Child and Adolescence Mental Health Services support (source Health Advisory Service). The 2008 population forecast for children and young people (CYP) aged 0-17 in Sheffield is 111,150 and therefore we can anticipate that approximately 11,115 CYP are likely to require some form of mental health support at some time.</p> <p>The total number of referrals to CAMHS between April 2007 and March 2008 was 1501 - 1139 into community CAMHS Teams; 88 into CAMHS Tier 4; and a total of 274 into specialist CAMHS teams (Dual Diagnosis; Forensic; MAPS – team for Looked After children; SHED – substance misuse; and to the mental health workers based in YOT) . Geographically, the community team with the most referrals was the Centenary Team – 392 (covering Shiregreen/Burngreave & Parson's Cross/Ecclesfield Service Districts); compared to the Beighton Team – 389 (covering Arbourthorne/Manor/Darnall & Mosbrough/Handsworth Service Districts); and the Flockton Team – 358 (covering Rivelin/Sheaf; Greenhill/Gleadless; and Hillsborough/Upper Don Service Districts). Overall community CAMHS teams saw 339 less children during this period than the preceding financial year period.</p> <p>NB CAMHS teams accept referrals of children up to 16 years in general. Referrals aged 16 or over are made to adult mental health services. Referrals into Forensic CAMHS; MAPS and mental health workers in YOT are up to 18 years</p>	Gail Gibbons (CAMHS)
3	Prevalence of substance misuse	<p>The most recent local needs assessment estimated that between 2000-4000 young people aged 10-17 in Sheffield are frequent users of alcohol or illegal drugs (primarily cannabis), and that 200-400 of these young people would be experiencing serious problems related to their substance misuse at a level that would warrant specialist treatment. The misuse of heroin and crack by under 18s in Sheffield is extremely low, and injecting behaviour virtually non-existent.</p> <p>Young offenders, looked after children and children excluded or regularly truanting from school are key groups found by local and national research to be at a much higher risk of developing substance misuse problems. Nationally, over 50% of young offenders in</p>	Sam Martin (CYPD)

		<p>custody reported Class A drug use in the past year, among the highest of any at risk group</p> <p>Self report surveys show reported levels of alcohol and drug use by young people in Sheffield to be lower than expected in comparison to the national average and statistical neighbours. Hospital admissions for under 18s in relation to alcohol are surprisingly low, with Sheffield for example ranked 68th out of 354 local authority areas for rates of hospital admission.</p> <p>Hidden Harm, the report by the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs, estimated that between 200,000 and 300,000 CYP in England and Wales have one or both parents with serious drug problems. Parental drug problems are associated with poor outcomes for young people (YP), including early drug misuse. Local audits consistently estimates that drug and alcohol problems are the primary presenting issue in a third of social work child protection cases, and are a contributing factor in a further third of cases.</p> <p>Alcohol misuse is a major factor in domestic violence within the homes, and there are also strong links between alcohol use and teenage pregnancy.</p>											
4	Teenage pregnancy	<p>National data on under 18 conception rates was published by the ONS in February and the Sheffield position is as follows:</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2006 Rate</td> <td>49.0 per '000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">1998 Rate (baseline)</td> <td>50.5 per '000</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2006 Rate as % change from 1998 Baseline</td> <td>-3.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2006 Rate as % change from 2002 (highest peak)</td> <td>-12.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: right;">2006 Rate as % change from 2005</td> <td>-5.2%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Sheffield's conception rate has shown a steady reduction from its highest peak in 2002. Most recent data from 2006 shows that we are at our lowest level since the start of the National Strategy in 1998, and for the first time our rate is lower than in the baseline year. Preliminary local data for 2007 suggests a continued positive reduction in the conception rate. Despite this it is unlikely that we will meet the National Target of a 50% reduction by 2010. Sheffield remains on the DCSF list of 22 Partnerships with significantly high rates of teenage pregnancy.</p> <p>Risk factors for Teenage Pregnancy are the same as for a range of other poor outcomes such as youth offending, problem substance misuse or poor mental health: low self esteem and aspiration for the future, disengagement from school, poor family relationships, deprivation. Young mothers are more likely to be single mothers and to smoke during pregnancy, and are at higher risk of post natal depression, dropping out of education and unemployment. Children of teenage parents are more likely to suffer early health problems, later behavioural problems, and are more likely to become teenage parents themselves.</p>	2006 Rate	49.0 per '000	1998 Rate (baseline)	50.5 per '000	2006 Rate as % change from 1998 Baseline	-3.0%	2006 Rate as % change from 2002 (highest peak)	-12.7%	2006 Rate as % change from 2005	-5.2%	Sam Martin (CYPD)
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5	Homelessness	<p>Families with CYP make up more than two-thirds of the total number of homelessness acceptances. In 2006-07 there was a significant amount of referrals to the homelessness unit for YP aged 16-17 years. There are as many as three times as many units of support for single homeless people as for people with mental health problems and people with learning disabilities, who form the next two largest groups of need in the City.</p> <p>In 2007</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 266 16 & 17 year olds assisted to prevent becoming homeless • From the 75 YP accepted as homeless of these 17 were pregnant • 34 YP accepted were care leavers • 63 YP accessed supported accommodation • 5 YP accepted as vulnerable young person • 26 YP accepted as supported accommodation leaver 	Jeremy Hamm (CYPD)										

- 63 YP were able to return home with the help of mediation

In 2007/08 a total of 84 16/17 year olds were accepted as homeless and in priority need

6	Domestic violence	<p>Nationally we know that domestic violence (DV) accounts for almost a quarter (23%) of all violent crime and that the most recent British Crime Survey found that only 34% of respondents who were victims of DV report the incidence to the police. Based on the number of reported incidents in Sheffield from April 2007 to March 2008, there has been 9,595 recorded incidents of "Violence Against the Person", of these incidents 2,238 (23%) were flagged as DV. We can then estimate that according to the British Crime Survey the true figure for violent domestic incidents in Sheffield is likely to be around 6,582.</p> <p>It is estimated that around half of all cases of child protection in the City will involve an element of DV, with a significant number of families per month submitting homeless applications to Sheffield City Council because of DV.</p>	Sarah Banks (NCC)
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7	Bullying and the fear of crime	<p>Ofsted's Tell Us Survey of primary and secondary school children in Sheffield found that 40% of primary school pupils said they had been picked on or bullied at school; 30% of secondary school pupils; and 11% of post compulsory pupils also reported incidence of bullying taking place.</p> <p>Feelings of safety in the local area, going to and from school, at school and at home are close to the national average. 73% of primary school children said they felt safe in the area in which they live; 86% of secondary school and post compulsory pupils said they felt safe in the area in which they live. There is no geographical breakdown available.</p> <p>Sheffield's 'Every Child Matters' survey of 4,929 children and young people found that broken bottles, glass and needles lying around were most likely to make primary children feel unsafe, whilst secondary and post-16 young people worried more about human behaviour (e.g. people carrying knives and guns, gangs, people drunk or on drugs).</p>	Sarah Banks (NCC)
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8	Youth Offending	<p>In 2006-07 there was a 5.8% increase in offences committed compared with the preceding year. There were 4425 offences committed by YP aged 10-18 years (4.25% of YP in Sheffield). Sheffield experienced an increase of incidents of violent offences (5.8%) and domestic burglary (24%), whilst vehicle theft decreased by 19.5%.</p>	Andy Peaden (CYPD)
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10-17 Population (2006 mid-year estimates) = 49508 (Info YJB Counting Rules)

2005 to 2006		
Clients	Offence Type	Offences
16	Arson	16
68	Breach Of Bail	95
3	Breach Of Conditional Discharge	4
175	Breach Of Statutory Order	269
405	Criminal Damage	489
52	Domestic Burglary	62
123	Drugs	146
17	Fraud And Forgery	17
217	Motoring Offences	597
45	Non Domestic Burglary	52

2006 to 2007		
Clients	Offence Type	Offences
23	Arson	25
82	Breach Of Bail	118
3	Breach Of Conditional Discharge	3
186	Breach Of Statutory Order	292
433	Criminal Damage	529
67	Domestic Burglary	77
106	Drugs	146
11	Fraud And Forgery	19
170	Motoring Offences	438
96	Non Domestic Burglary	103

69	Other	78
259	Public Order	309
13	Racially Aggravated	15
85	Robbery	127
24	Sexual Offences	33
624	Theft And Handling Stolen Goods	805
142	Vehicle Theft / Unauthorised Taking	180
695	Violence Against The Person	889
4183 Offences Committed by 2075 Young People		

83	Other	93
256	Public Order	316
19	Racially Aggravated	28
125	Robbery	233
10	Sexual Offences	14
668	Theft And Handling Stolen Goods	905
110	Vehicle Theft / Unauthorised Taking	145
702	Violence Against The Person	941
4425 Offences Committed by 2102 Young People		

2005 - 2006 4.2% of Young People committed Offences

2006 - 2007 4.25% of Young People Committed Offences

Between 05/06 and 06/07 there was a 5.8% increase of all offences committed with a 5.8% increase in Violent Offences
In the same period Domestic Burglary Offences increase by 24% whilst Vehicle theft Decrease by 19.5%

9	Participation and Consultation	There are high levels of participation and consultation of YP throughout the City, although activity is not coordinated or mapped effectively. However, the implementation of the LA Participation and Consultation Strategy will provide a clear focus for all partners to enable the collation of information about levels of activity and impact. The implementation of the strategy will increase the numbers of young people involved in a wide range of activity extending participation and decision-making. In addition the implementation of Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Fund programmes has supported a wide range of activities for YP across Sheffield, with over 8,000 young people involved in project design, benefiting an additional 9,000 YP.	Kim Allen and Kerry Jones (CYPD)
10	Care leavers	In 2007, 77% of former care leavers aged 19 in Sheffield were in education, employment or training (EET) - a rate that was slightly higher than the comparable national and Statistical Neighbour figures. The Sheffield 2007 figure had risen very significantly from 29% in 2005 and 54% in 2006. The most recent information shows that the ratio of young people leaving care in EET to the city average is 0.72, compared with the national figure of 0.71.	Jeremy Hamm (CYPD)
11	School exclusions	CYP are less likely to be permanently excluded in Sheffield than in our data set neighbours (core cities group) and nationally. In 2005-06, the percentage of pupils in Sheffield who were permanently excluded was very slightly higher than nationally (0.14% compared with 0.12%). However, the numbers excluded in Sheffield fell significantly from 2005-06 to 2006-07 (from 102 to 10). 2006-07 national and Statistical Neighbours data for this measure is not currently available. There were no looked after children who were permanently excluded from Sheffield schools in 2006-07.	Jeremy Hamm (CYPD)
12	School attendance	In Sheffield primary schools, the level of unauthorised absence was above the national average (0.8% compared with 0.5%) in 2006-07 and above the average for our Statistical Neighbours (0.6%). Authorised absence in primary schools during this time was 4.7% - the same as the national average but lower than the average for Core City and Statistical Neighbour benchmark groups (5.1% and 4.8% respectively). In secondary schools, the 2006-07 level of authorised absence at 6.3% was significantly below our benchmark Core Cities and Statistical Neighbours groups (6.9% and 6.6% respectively) and below the national average of 6.4%. However, the rate of unauthorised absence was higher than the national average (2.0% compared with 1.5% nationally) but the same as the average for	Jeremy Hamm (CYPD)

		our Statistical Neighbours, and below the average for Core Cities (2.3%)..	
13	Children in Need	<p>During the most recent Children in Need Census in February 2005, 4500 CYP in need were known to children's social care, of whom 3010 (67%) received a service during the Children in Need Census week. The number of CYP receiving a service per 1000 CYP in the City (27) was higher than the national average (21), lower than Core City comparators (30), nearly the same as statistical neighbours (26).</p> <p>In the 2005 Census, 21% of cases were from Black and Minority Ethnic communities, compared to 20.5% of Sheffield CYP in primary schools and 20.34% CYP in secondary schools. In 2008, the proportions have altered: there are now 24% BME children in primary schools and 24.86% in secondary schools.</p>	Trevor Owen (CYPD)
14	Not in education, employment or training (NEETs)	The NEETs figure for 16-18 year olds in Sheffield is higher than the comparable national and Statistical Neighbours figure - on the basis of 2006-07 data, 10.5% of 16-18 year olds were NEET, compared with 7.7% nationally and 8.9% for our Statistical Neighbours. However, the rate of longer term improvement in Sheffield has been stronger than nationally - and the 2007-08 data shows Sheffield significantly bringing down the NEET rate to 9.2% (comparison figures are not currently available).	Jeremy Hamm (CYPD)
15	Deprivation and low income	<p>The 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation showed Sheffield was ranked 63rd of 354 local authorities in terms of overall deprivation, placing it within the 20% most deprived authorities.</p> <p>The 2001 Census (over 7 years out of date now) showed that Sheffield had a higher rate of dependent CYP living in households with no working adults (21.0% compared with 17.4%). The same source showed that the city also had a higher percentage of dependent CYP living in lone parent families than was the case nationally (23.6% compared with 22.8%). In addition, it had a slightly higher percentage of dependent CYP providing unpaid care (1.4% of CYP compared with 1.3% nationally).</p>	Jeremy Hamm (CYPD)

Challenges and Emerging Themes – LA key priorities/ strategic aims and recommended actions

- Implementation of Integrated Youth Support Services (IYSS)
- Strategic commissioning processes across all elements of IYSS
- Alignment of new and existing resources
- Increasing the capacity of voluntary and community sector providers
- Development of a single strategy for Positive Activities across 8 – 19 age range.
- Increasing and improving the level of connectivity of CYP interfacing services across Crime Reduction, Education, Social Care, Health, Neighbourhoods/ Communities and VCF Sector to ensure a collective responsibility to IYSS Agenda (as advocated by Central Government in Youth Matters, Aim Higher for Young People and The Children's Pan). These plans place a duty on all CYP interfacing services to collaborate in order to improve Youth/ Young People outcomes on both a policy and practice level.

The implementation of IYSS will require increased collaboration across all commissioners to ensure all elements of IYSS are:

- not duplicated,
- work together to meet the needs of young people effectively,
- ensure Best Value and

- address the needs of communities.

The commissioning of services needs to be underpinned by a single, cohesive framework, implemented consistently by all service managers to ensure procurement is:

- open and transparent
- secures the best provider, ensuring quality,
- governed by a corporate Board and informed by key stakeholders and
- performance managed through a consistent framework.

Government proposals to commit additional funding for Positive Activities for young people 13 – 19 years will not be directly allocated to Local Authorities. Expectations are that Local Authorities will play a key strategic role in accessing new resource and will therefore have implications for:

- increased partnership working with the third sector,
- ensuring all stakeholders are engaged in determining strategies to access resources and
- developing an awareness of the provision available in order to build on best practice and address gaps in provision across the city.

The Government's emphasis on increasing the focus on third sector organisations as future providers of key services will require:

- a major analysis of the range of provision currently delivered by the sector,
- an analysis of the training and development needs of organisations in the sector and
- the development of a city strategy to increase the capacity of key providers in the sector to ensure new investment is sustainable.

The Local Authority's commitment to resource a new programme of positive activities for children and young people 8 – 13 years will require strategic alignment to the development of the Positive Activities element of IYSS for young people 13-19 years to ensure:

- a single framework for delivery of services exists to establish a continuum of activities across the 8 – 13 age group that is appropriate and accessible,
- a breadth of local, inclusive activity is available and involves communities in determining what is available and
- engages a range of providers in the delivery of an innovative menu of activities.