

Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee

18th June 2013

Annual Review of Children, Young People and Family Services 2012/13 (Local Account)

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee:

- Consider and comment upon the draft Annual Review of Children, Young People and Family Services 2012/13 (a final draft will follow).

1. Background

- 1.1 2012/13 is the first year we have produced an Annual Review of Children, Young People and Family Services – also known as the Local Account. It will be published on the Warwickshire County Council web site in September 2013. It is a public document, intending to provide the local population of Warwickshire with an overview of performance and priorities within the local authority's children, young people and family services.
- 1.2 The approach has stemmed from an adult services requirement to produce a local account of its social care services on an annual basis, as part of the Government's "sector-led improvement" agenda. The purpose of sector-led improvement is to place the emphasis on continuous improvement within a framework of self-regulation across local authorities, in a commitment to reducing the bureaucratic burden of inspection and assessment. We are developing our approach to sector-led improvement across the People Group and are engaging with other local authorities to ensure we challenge ourselves to improve in all aspects of our work. We actively contribute to West Midlands quality and performance networks for both adult and children's services, and participate in a CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) benchmarking group to compare and improve performance.
- 1.3 While local authority children, young people and family services are still subject to inspection and regulation through Ofsted, and there is no statutory requirement to produce a local account, the People Group has taken a decision to provide an annual review of these services to complement the adult document. The adult review was last published in January 2013

(available from <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/Socialcarelocalaccount>) and will be refreshed in September alongside the children's one.

- 1.4 Although it is a national requirement, there are no set guidelines for the content or timeframe of production for the adult local account, with the emphasis being placed on local discretion to meet local needs. However following the publication of the first round of local accounts in 2012, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Care (ADASS) in the West Midlands commissioned a review of all of the published documents to identify best practice. The findings of this review identified a greater need to ensure clarity in respect of the audience for the local account, an emphasis on public engagement in the development of the document and a focus upon ensuring that it is both easy to read, concise and to the point.
- 1.5 The shape and design of the document therefore largely follows that which was approved for the last adult review, with appropriate adjustments made in order to reflect the different priorities and areas of service covered by each report.
- 1.6 The content of the document has been largely influenced by the plans set in place by the People Group Business Units relating to children, young people and families: Learning and Achievement, Safeguarding, Early Intervention and Strategic Commissioning, which in turn have been produced following consultation with staff and customers. The document has also been approved by representatives from the Children in Care Council and the VOX Youth Council, following face-to-face meetings with them. They have advised that we go on to publish a summary version for children and young people – this will be done in consultation with them and will be published alongside the full report in September.
- 1.7 The document is in the process of being designed and corporately branded and a final draft will be available on CMIS at least a week prior to the O&S meeting. Please note therefore that layout and images are only indicative in the initial draft version.

2. Key Messages

- 2.1 The document is structured as follows:
 - Foreword
 - Getting involved and being heard
 - About the annual review
 - Annual summary report 2012-13
 - Outcome 1: Achievement – Raised educational attainment with no achievement gaps between vulnerable children and their peers
 - Outcome 2: Health – All children and young people are healthy and there are no health inequalities across the county
 - Outcome 3: Safeguarding – All children and young people are safe from harm and feel safe

- Outcome 4: Child poverty – The impact of child poverty is alleviated in Warwickshire by 2020
 - Feedback questionnaire
- 2.2 The Annual Summary Report section contains a summary of the local context, some headlines about our performance, and a summary of what our money was spent on during 2012/13. It then looks at our underlying themes of early intervention, personalisation and commissioning – which underpin all of our work in order to achieve the above outcomes.
- 2.3 Each outcome section is both backward-looking and forward-looking, with the intention of guiding the reader through a full picture of what we aim to be doing, have been doing and are going to do. It begins with an outline of our overall vision and aims under that outcome, then looks at what has been achieved over the last year in terms of delivery and performance, including the use of case studies. Following this, we look at the key things that will be done in the coming year, which are detailed further within the Business Unit plans.
- 2.4 A questionnaire has been included at the back of the document so that it can be developed in future years to ensure it is meeting the needs of its audience.
- 2.5 The data included in the document is as up to date as possible at the time of writing. Children’s social care data for the year ending 31st March is in the process of being validated via a set of statutory returns to the Department for Education. Indicative data for this year is labelled as such within the notes column of the performance sections and will be updated with final data once the returns are signed off at the end of July. Educational attainment data works on the academic year so the latest available data is for the year ending summer 2012.

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Creating Opportunity for Children, Young People & Families Through, Care, Support and Education

Annual Review of Children's Services 2012-13



97% of 16 year old school leavers in 2012 went into further education, training or employment

There are currently 697 looked after children in Warwickshire supported by social care services

82327 children are being educated in Warwickshire Schools

551 children in Warwickshire are currently subject to a child Protection Plan

In March 2013 there were 2,140 claimants of Job Seekers Allowance aged 18-24 years (4.7% of the active working population in that age group)

63% of children in Warwickshire achieved 5 or more GCSE graded A* to C in the 2011/12 school year

There are 263 schools in Warwickshire

There are 342 fostering households in Warwickshire

Just over 11% of children in Warwickshire were considered to be living in poverty in 2012 (in households with less than 60% of average earnings)

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Foreword

Welcome to our first annual review of services for children, young people and families provided by the People Group¹ within Warwickshire County Council.

This document complements the annual review of adult social care services published in 2012. It gives an overview of the children's services that we provide or ask others to provide and the progress we've made in delivering these services in the last year. It also highlights the challenges we face and what we need to improve so that we continue to provide high quality services at the right time for those who need them.

We want all children and young people in Warwickshire to fulfil their potential. To do this we want cost effective services that help them have the best possible start in life. We will continue to work towards improving the health and attainment of all children, young people and families, and reducing the gaps between vulnerable children and their peers. We want all children and young people to be safe and to feel safe, and for families to be lifted from poverty through access to the appropriate support and guidance.

Over the past year our learning and achievement services have supported schools to improve attainment. Overall, 80% of Year 6 pupils achieved the nationally expected level in English and Maths (up by 3% on the previous year). Similar progress was made by Year 11 pupils in secondary schools with 63% achieving 5 or more A*-C GCSE grades including English and Maths (up by 2% on the previous year).

Children's safeguarding services were recognised by Ofsted as being "Good" and having strong leadership in promoting the welfare and safety of children.

Significant challenges are ahead for all children's services due to changes in the sector which have been many and rapid. We are adapting to changes in education with new style academies,

¹Warwickshire County Council is organised into "Groups" of services. The People Group relates to provision for people of all ages across Warwickshire, including social care services, education and support for those with disabilities. For more information see <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/peoplegroup>

free schools and new opportunities within further education. The role of the local authority is changing but we remain committed to championing the needs of all children and young people through support and challenge to schools and other educational settings where performance is below standard.

Like many local authorities we are experiencing an overall increase in the number of looked after children (children in care). However the number of children entering care in Warwickshire saw a slight decrease during 2012/13 compared to the previous year and the number remaining looked after at 31 March 2013 was less of a marked increase than in previous years. The educational attainment for looked after children remains significantly lower than that achieved by other children, which means that fewer looked after children enter further education, training or employment after the age of sixteen.

The economic situation is affecting both our services and the children and families we serve. We will continue to promote growth in the area and continuously review our services to ensure they are delivered in the best and most efficient way.

There will always be areas we can improve further and over the next year we will strengthen our processes and maximise opportunities within this challenging climate. We will work in partnership with other agencies so that we can have the greatest impact and make the biggest differences together.



Wendy Fabbro
**Strategic Director,
People Group**



Cllr Heather Timms
Portfolio holder



Getting Involved and Being Heard

The views of children, young people and families are extremely important to us. They must be embedded into everything we do to ensure that we are providing the right services to the right people at the right time.

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment

Alongside our partners in the health sector we are required to complete a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA). The JSNA involves in-depth research and consultation in the form of interviews, focus groups and questionnaires. It aims to identify community needs and what services might best meet these needs. This information is key to those making decisions about what services to provide, where, when and to whom.

For example, young people out of work, looked after young people and young parents were asked about the financial challenges they face, what they think of the services that support them and what help they would benefit from that is not currently available. Their views were incorporated into a needs assessment to inform the development of the Child Poverty Strategy.

Annual Pupil Survey

Each year we contribute to conducting a survey of pupils in Warwickshire schools and colleges, asking them for their views in line with our service priorities. The 2013 survey was live between January and March and returned a huge 5,510 responses, across

43 primary, secondary and special schools and colleges. This information is reported to managers within the local authority and partner agencies across the Children's Trust² to help inform their decision-making. Individual summaries are also provided to each school and college so they can address the specific areas raised by the young people attending their institution. This survey remains a key mechanism for ensuring children and young people's voices are heard and recognised in our planning process. The summary report can be viewed at <http://warkobservatory.files.wordpress.com/2013/05/warwickshire-annual-pupil-survey-report-2013.pdf>



²Warwickshire Children's Trust is a partnership of agencies working together to promote the achievement, well-being and safety of all children and young people. The local authority is a key contributor to this partnership. For more information, see <http://warwickshirect.wordpress.com/>



Warwickshire Voice For Youth

Warwickshire Voice For Youth brings together VOX (Warwickshire Youth Council) and members of the Youth Parliament (MYPs). VOX has three representatives from each of Warwickshire's five areas, who act as a voice for young people all over Warwickshire. They promote different ways of influencing decisions in community planning and create networks across the county. Members of the Youth Parliament are our local representatives on the UK Youth Parliament which sits once a year and provides opportunities for 11-18 year-olds to use their voice in creative ways to bring about social change.

For further information about what these groups have been getting involved in, please see their web site: www.warwickshirevoice4youth.org.uk/

Children in Care Council

The Children in Care Council (CICC) consists of young people who are placed with foster carers or in supported lodgings. The CICC is there to represent the views and concerns of all looked after children, to influence decision-making and make a positive difference to their lives. For further information about what they have been getting involved in, please see their web site: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cicc



Getting involved in the Annual Review

In putting together this document, we spoke to representatives of VOX and the CICC. They wanted it to be easy to read and to reflect the things that are important to them. To support the development of this review in the future, we really urge young people and their families to share their views with us, by completing the questionnaire at the back of the document.

Many thanks go to Debbie and her VOX friends as well as Jasmine for their very helpful contributions.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.



Lucas
**Representative
of VOX**



Jasmine
**Representative
of the CICC**

“ In putting together this document, we spoke to representatives of VOX and the CICC. They wanted it to be easy to read and to reflect the things that are important to them.



About the Annual Review

We have developed this annual review of children, young people and family services in Warwickshire as part of our commitment to communicate effectively with those who access our services.

There is no national requirement that we produce an annual review, unlike the expectation to produce such a document for adult social care services. However, we believe it is important that the people of Warwickshire can understand our priorities and the challenges we face and see how well our services are performing against our vision.

Our aim in the future is to produce a joint People Group annual review combining information about all of the services we provide and commission in one document.

This annual review begins with a summary report of our vision, performance, plans and challenges, leading on to a more detailed look at the things we are really focusing on through our four key outcomes.



Annual Summary Report 2012-13

Our vision for children, young people and families is:

That every child and young person, including those who are vulnerable and disadvantaged, has the greatest possible opportunity to be the best they can be.

To help us achieve this vision, we have four key aspirational “outcomes” for children and young people:

- **Achievement** – We want to see raised educational attainment for all children in Warwickshire and for there to be no achievement gaps between vulnerable children and their peers.
- **Health** – We want all children and young people in Warwickshire to be healthy and for there to be no health inequalities across the county.
- **Safeguarding** – We want all children and young people to be safe from harm and to feel safe.
- **Child poverty** – We want the impact of child poverty to be alleviated in Warwickshire by 2020.

These outcomes are explored in more detail later in this document.

Key Facts and Figures

- 63% of pupils achieved 5+A*-C GCSE grades including English & Maths (Key Stage 4).
- 15% of primary school Year 6 pupils are overweight.
- There are 697 looked after children in Warwickshire.
- Over 10% of Warwickshire pupils are eligible for claiming free school meals due to meeting low income thresholds.



The local picture¹

Warwickshire has a **resident population** of approximately 124,700 children and young people aged 0-19 years, who make up just under a quarter of the total population of the county.

There are 263 **schools** in Warwickshire including 22 secondary academies, 9 primary academies, 1 primary free school, 2 special academies, 21 independent schools and 208 local authority maintained schools (182 primary schools, 13 secondary schools, 7 special schools and 6 nurseries). **Post-16** there are 3 further education colleges, 1 sixth form college, 10 foundation learning providers and 171 providers offering apprenticeships, as well as independent specialist providers.

We have responsibility for high quality and inclusive provision to children in their **early years**, including education, childcare, and children’s centre services. These services are provided by us, or in partnership with the private and voluntary sectors. There are also six local authority maintained nurseries and 53 of our schools that deliver early years provision.

There are just over 6,500 children being educated in Warwickshire schools that have a **physical, sensory or learning disability**. Figures show that in August 2012, just over 3,300 children aged between 0-17 resident in Warwickshire were claiming disability living allowance. Not all of these children need support from our services to live independent and happy lives with their families but for those who do we have a countywide team (the Integrated Disability Service - IDS) which brings together Warwickshire County Council and the NHS to support children and their families. IDS supports children to open the door to a range of services at home, school and in other settings.

¹ If you are interested in finding out more about the local picture, please visit the JSNA, Warwickshire Observatory and Children’s Trust web sites:

www.jsna.warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/observatory

www.warwickshirect.wordpress.com



We currently have 697 **looked after children** and have a “**virtual school**” to support the learning and achievement of these children in collaboration with the schools they attend. We also have 551 children who are subject to **child protection** plans. The Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board consists of the main organisations working together in the area providing safeguarding services and has an associate membership scheme which draws in partners more widely.

Every child has the right to family life, and **fostering** provides a positive alternative for a child until they can return home if and when it is safe to do so. Foster carers in Warwickshire are an essential part of the service we provide to children, young people and their families and the contribution made by all our foster carers is greatly valued. There are currently 342 foster care households in Warwickshire, who are supported by our internal foster care service.

During 2012/13, just over 10% of state-maintained school pupils in Warwickshire were eligible for **free school meals** and this figure has continued to increase over the past three years. There is evidence to suggest a strong link between free school meal claimants and children in poverty and disadvantage. However there is also evidence indicating that not all those families eligible to receive free school meals are actually claiming them. Further research needs to be undertaken to fully understand this as well as devising strategies to encourage take-up.

We have a range of targeted services for children that are directly provided or co-ordinated through us, for example **substance misuse services**, and **behaviour and learning support**. However we recognise that we are not alone in working to support children, young people and families and that a co-ordinated approach with other agencies can maximise the impact that we have for those in greatest need.

To this end we play an integral part within **Warwickshire Children’s Trust**, which brings together representatives from Warwickshire County Council, health commissioners and services, Warwickshire Police, Job Centre Plus, representatives of local schools and colleges, district and borough councils and the voluntary sector.



Overall performance

The performance of children’s social care services in Warwickshire continues to be positively endorsed by the findings of Ofsted¹. An inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services which took place in November 2011 stated that:

“The overall effectiveness of the council and its partners in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Warwickshire is good. The strong leadership of elected members and senior managers has contributed to improved safeguarding outcomes for children and young people...”²

The increased pace of the Government’s academy agenda has resulted in the council developing different relationships with schools across the county. The work of our learning and achievement services in supporting and challenging schools continues to yield positive educational results. Levels of attainment in primary and secondary schools continue to rise and the outcomes of school Ofsted inspections remain positive with over two thirds of schools judged to be “good” or “outstanding”.

We will not become complacent however and recognise that there is still more to do in certain areas, including schools that continue to under-perform.

¹The Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) is the main regulator of local authority services for children and families, as well as inspecting schools and other educational settings.

² Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children’s Services (Warwickshire), published by Ofsted 16 December 2011, page 5. www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/local_authority_reports/warwickshire/051_Safeguarding%20and%20looked%20after%20children%20inspection%20as%20pdf.pdf



What do we spend our money on?

For the financial year 2012/13 we spent £128 million to commission and provide services for children, young people and families in Warwickshire¹:

- £52m attributable to schools (predominantly DSG)²
- £24.1m for other school related education functions (mainly support for children with special educational needs)
- £21.2m on operational costs for children's social care
- £16.8m to support looked after children
- £10.1m on other children's and families social care services (including £5.5m on social care services for children with disabilities, £1.5m on early intervention, family and parenting, and £1.7m on children's health services, e.g. Child and Adolescent Mental Health)
- £0.4m for road safety education and safe routes (including school crossing patrols)
- £3.1m providing services to young people (e.g. targeted youth support and the final year of funding for Positive about Young People)

Support through early intervention

Early intervention is at the heart of Warwickshire's ambitions for children, young people and families and this was praised by Ofsted in our last inspection³. It is widely acknowledged that timely intervention, using well-evidenced programmes of support, is not only very good value for money but also increases resilience and independence. Through these interventions, individuals, families and communities are empowered to make informed decisions with confidence and accept responsibility for the choices they make. This underlines our commitment to achieving our goals across all age groups.

¹ All figures provided are gross.

² The DSG Dedicated Schools Grant is the Government's funding allocation in support of school budgets. It is provided to local authorities to spend specifically on schools and related activity.

³ Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children's Services (Warwickshire), published by Ofsted 16 December 2011, page 7. www.ofsted.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/local_authority_reports/warwickshire/051_Safeguarding%20and%20looked%20after%20children%20inspection%20as%20pdf.pdf



Personalisation

Personalisation means designing our services with the individual in mind, fitting services to people not fitting people to services. We want services to be provided closer to home or in the home rather than in institutions. We want to increase choice and control for people, giving advice and support where it is needed. We support families to develop their own solutions when this is what they want, including giving them personal budgets so they can choose and pay for services directly.



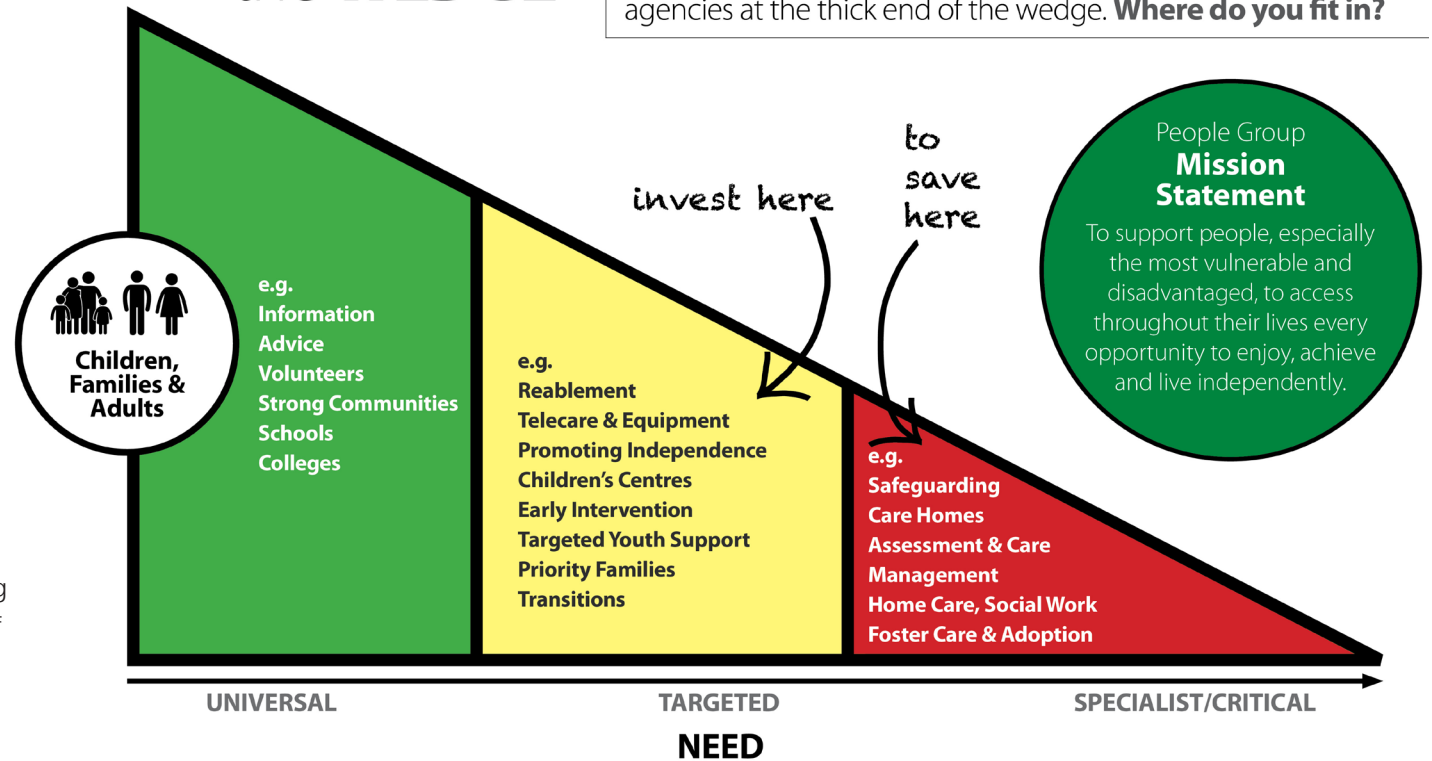
Commissioning challenges

Commissioning is the process by which we plan, deliver and improve services. It is based on assessment of needs and continuous review, to ensure we are making a difference in an efficient way.

In all aspects of our work, as a commissioning-led organisation, we will ensure that we work with the market to meet statutory duties, only delivering services directly where it makes sense to do so. Where we continue to deliver services, we challenge ourselves to ensure they are delivered in the best way. Where we commission and fund services not delivered by us, they are continuously evaluated to ensure they are performing well, efficiently and are meeting needs. This has led to some services being significantly transformed or re-modelled. Over the last year, a number of services have been de-commissioned from the local authority but then re-commissioned as social enterprises or transferred to the voluntary sector to provide them, e.g. Positive About Young People Service.

We recognise the importance of managing and balancing our investment in services to support the varied needs of children, young people and families. We have therefore developed the “wedge” to show how we ensure that children, young people and families are able to access the right services, at the right time and in the right way. We invest our resources at the wider end of the wedge (those that have lower level needs) to reduce the numbers of families reaching crisis point and requiring intensive and expensive support at the thin end.

PEOPLE GROUP delivering within the WEDGE



We're celebrating our first year of bringing People services together, using the 'Wedge' to show how we are all shaping a targeted service. People Services are duty bound to deliver the thin end of the wedge, but we are committed to 'early help' that will prevent our customers reaching crisis. We also rely on other agencies at the thick end of the wedge. **Where do you fit in?**



Outcome 1: Achievement

We want to see raised educational attainment for all children in Warwickshire and for there to be no achievement gaps between vulnerable children and their peers.

In Warwickshire we are working to make sure that we:

- Act as “champion of the learner” in all areas of commissioning and service delivery.
- Support schools and colleges to improve their performance and to challenge poor performance, so that Warwickshire children can all access institutions judged to be “good” or “outstanding”.
- Influence the educational aspirations of children, young people and families to raise attainment levels.
- Support children and young people’s progression into employment and citizenship.
- Target services and support for vulnerable pupils, including children in care, children eligible for free school meals, and those with special educational needs and disabilities, to ensure they have access to high quality provision.
- Have sufficient high quality school places available for an increasing population, using a fair admissions system.
- Invest in early years provision to give children the best start on their educational journey.



What we have achieved and the difference we have made

- We have worked closely with primary schools and used data analysis to identify areas of improvement needed in English and Maths, so that Warwickshire primary schools remain above the national average in terms of attainment.
- We have worked closely with the private and voluntary sector to empower our schools and nurseries to be centres of excellence and undertake outreach work in their locality, e.g. our “virtual learning space” at Lillington.
- Over the past three years we increased the percentage of children who are “school ready”¹ from 62% to 67% for children in the most deprived areas of the county.
- We have worked with schools, colleges and local businesses to increase the proportion of 16 and 17 year olds in education or work-based learning to 90.7% in 2012 – a rise of 2.5% from the previous year.
- Our Pupil Referral Unit for excluded pupils was closed in 2012 following a managed plan. Services for pupils with complex needs have transferred to more localised teams and this is already helping to improve outcomes. For example we have developed inclusion support groups across primary schools to support pupils with high level social and emotional needs to remain in school rather than being excluded. In 2011/12 there were only 3 primary school pupils permanently excluded, down from 11 the previous year.

¹ School readiness is measured via a range of factors assessed at age 5, based on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile – the framework for early years education and development.



case study

Student A had been asked to leave her school due to her behaviour and attendance. Her parents enrolled her at a private school but she continued to have inconsistent attendance and quickly refused to attend school completely.

The school attempted to address the problems but exhausted their internal attendance interventions such as first day calling, phoning and writing to the home, inviting parents for meetings, meetings with pastoral staff, target setting, reviewing timetables and liaising with external agencies.

The school intervention made no impact on student A's attendance so they referred the case to their Education Social Work Service. The Education Casework Officer made an assessment and formed an action plan (including impact measures agreed with the school).

The assessment was initially based on meeting with the young person and her parents, and discussions with the school, but soon involved seeking additional information from other agencies.

The parents stated that student A had mental and physical health issues that prevented her from attending school so the Education Casework Officer sought written consent to approach student A's GP and CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) to ask whether her health issues prevented her from attending school. They confirmed she should be attending school and so the case moved into an enforcement situation. Bespoke support was offered to the parents and by working with them, the school and Student A, barriers were removed and attendance encouraged.

This positive outcome meant that Student A achieved over 90% attendance over the target period and no further action was necessary. The improvement was sustained with attendance no longer being an issue.

A black silhouette illustration of a family walking. On the left, a man and a woman are walking together. In the center, a woman is pushing a stroller. On the right, a child is walking towards the stroller.

Measuring success

We have lots of ways in which we measure performance against our goals. Performance indicators are an important way of showing the public and our regulators how well we are doing our job. Below are our key measures and targets in relation to achievement. They are based on the academic year which runs from September to August; therefore 2012/13 results are not yet available.

| Measure | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | Target 2012/13 | Notes/Comments |
|--|---------|---------|----------------|---|
| % of pupils achieving at least 5 A*-C at GCSE including English and Maths or equivalent | 61% | 63% | 65% | The national average for 2011/12 was 59%. |
| % of Warwickshire schools were judged to be “good” or “outstanding” by Ofsted | 65% | 67% | 68% | The national average for 2011/12 was 70%. The Warwickshire figure as at March 2013 currently stands at 71% |
| % of 16-17 year olds participating in education or work-based learning | 88.2% | 90.7% | 96% | The national average for 2011/12 was 87%. |
| % of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment | 4.5% | 5.2% | 5% | Figures for the end of February 2013 suggest a rate just under 4%. |
| % of 16-18 year olds on an Apprenticeship programme achieving the full Framework. | 77% | 73.7% | 83% | This figure reduced in 2011/12 but we are still performing above the regional and national averages. |
| Number of permanent exclusions | 80 | 31 | 25 | |
| % of young people who were in receipt of free school meals at academic age 15 who attain level 2 qualifications by the age of 19 | 58% | 57% | 64% | The national average for 2011/12 was 69%. |
| % of looked after children achieving level 4 at Key Stage 2 in Maths | 36% | 71% | 71% | Please note, these measures are based on a relatively small population so percentages can fluctuate year on year. However the gap between attainment for this group and that of all young people remains too wide. Targets are based on the particular cohort of children taking exams this year. |
| % of looked after children achieving level 4 at Key Stage 2 in English | 36% | 79% | 75% | |
| % of looked after children achieving 5 A*-Cs at GCSE or equivalent including GCSE English and Maths | 11.1% | 16.3% | 23% | |



In the coming year, we will:

Provide greater clarity around the role and responsibilities of the local authority to deliver our vision as champion of the learner. We will work with schools and other educational settings to clarify this, within the changing political landscape.

Support and challenge schools who have not yet been judged to be “good” or “outstanding” by our external regulators.

Support and challenge schools who have not yet been judged to be “good” or “outstanding” by our external regulators.

Support and challenge schools who have not yet been judged to be “good” or “outstanding” by our external regulators.

Implement the Government’s extended offer for free childcare places for the most disadvantaged two-year-olds. Initially in 2013, this includes those who meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals and children who are looked after.

Work collaboratively with our schools, academies, colleges and training providers to achieve our goals.

Build capacity in schools to provide a “self-sustaining” framework of schools supporting schools.

Ensure a close match between the supply and demand for accessible and high quality early years, school and post-16 provision in response to demographic trends, via a fair and co-ordinated admissions process.

Provide opportunities for children and young people to participate in music and the arts via the new Warwickshire Music Hub

Support early years settings to work together to improve their practice and children’s readiness for school.

Review and re-design services to ensure children, young people and families are being supported in the best way, for example the Integrated Disability Service, early years and targeted youth support services.

Support and challenge schools who have not yet been judged to be “good” or “outstanding” by our external regulators.

Support and challenge schools who have not yet been judged to be “good” or “outstanding” by our external regulators.



Outcome 2: Health

We want all children and young people in Warwickshire to be healthy and for there to be no health inequalities across the county.

In Warwickshire we are working to make sure that we:

- Develop and implement robust strategies to ensure children and young people are physically, mentally, emotionally and sexually healthy.
- Promote and support children and young people's emotional health and well-being through all the services we provide and commission.
- Provide and commission services to support children and young people who are eligible for additional help due to illness or disability, to give them and their families choice and control in their lives and have opportunities to achieve their potential.
- Monitor the health status of the population, and identify health needs.
- Allocate resources into preventing illness and the spread of controllable diseases to reduce the need for hospital or long term healthcare, e.g. through comprehensive immunisation and screening programmes and effective advice and guidance.
- Promote healthy lifestyles so that children, young people and families make positive choices, e.g. choosing not to take illegal drugs.
- Evaluate commissioned healthcare provision for children, young people and families to ensure it is accessible and meeting needs.



What we have achieved and the difference we have made

- A West Midlands project, led by Warwickshire County Council's Respect Yourself Campaign, has been nominated for an "E-Oscar" for work around tackling teenage pregnancy. Warwickshire launched an interactive website and app to enable young people between the ages of 13-19 to explore and access all aspects of relationships and sexual health and well-being information in a safe environment.
- Participation in Warwickshire's National Child Measurement Programme is at an all-time high. 99% of children in Reception participated and 97% in Year 6. This data supports our weight management strategy for reducing child obesity levels across Warwickshire.
- Over 900 families accessed support for overweight and obese children aged 4-13 during 2012. This is 200 extra families than 2011 who accessed services delivered through the school health teams and leisure providers in the north and east of the county.
- We commission Compass Warwickshire to provide one-to-one specialist support services for young people with problematic alcohol and/or drug use. The service has reported 39% of young people leaving the service drug free and 99% that exit their support in a planned way.
- Public Health services in Warwickshire along with George Eliot Hospital and other partners successfully started a pilot maternal obesity pathway during May 2012. This means that overweight and obese mothers are able to access support and interventions which help them achieve healthy weight gain during their pregnancy.
- Through partnership working with health services we have developed an integrated approach to the progress check for 2 year olds. This check is intended to enable earlier identification of a child's development needs. This programme will provide vital information so that services can be targeted to those families most in need.



case study

Parent 1 and Parent 2 treasure their 19-month old son J, born six weeks premature by emergency caesarean weighing just under five pounds. They had previously lost two babies to miscarriage and ectopic pregnancy before J arrived.

Their delight soon turned to frantic worry when just days after his birth it was clear that something was wrong. It took six weeks to get a diagnosis for J who was diagnosed with a very debilitating syndrome, a severe skin condition which leaves his skin constantly falling off and his body red and raw.

The family attended one of our Early Years Centres to meet with a team of health care professionals who helped to plan and provide J with the care that he needed. A Support Worker started to visit the parents regularly to provide on-going support at home where it was needed most.

Parent 2 said: "J's condition was a big shock- it still is. We understand there are fewer than a hundred other sufferers in the country." When the couple finally brought J home, the support services started to kick in. "We began to have regular meetings with the doctors and healthcare workers to plan J's care and our Early Years Centre was the best place to meet," explained parent 1.

Whilst both parents remain upbeat they told us that it is daunting taking J out, as when some people see his severe skin condition, they aren't always very kind, so the Early Years Centre came to the rescue again and arranged for a Support Worker to pay regular visits to the family. "Support worker A is really good and helps me out," said parent 1. Whilst there is not yet a cure for J's illness, the family has been assured that it will improve as he gets older, and thanks to a national TV appearance to help raise awareness of the condition and funds to help find a cure, J has now been referred to a London specialist.



Measuring success

We have lots of ways in which we measure performance against our goals. Performance indicators are an important way of showing the public and our regulators how well we are doing our job. Below are our key measures and targets in relation to health.

| Measure | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | Target 2012/13 | Notes/Comments |
|--|---------|---------|----------------|--|
| % of children in Year 6 with height and weight measurements recorded that identify them as being obese | 14.1 | 15.1 | 13.0 | |
| Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth | 41.9% | 44.6% | 43.8%* | *This is the actual figure for 2012/13, indicating a slight drop. The target for 2013/14 is 45%. |
| Alcohol-related admissions to hospital for those aged under 18 (rate per 10,000 population) | | 65.0 | 62.0 | There is a significant time lag nationally in the reporting of this measure; therefore figures reported are based on a historical three-year average. |
| Average waiting time between referral and commencement of services for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) | | | <14 weeks | Waiting times have been reported in different ways over time so it is not appropriate to compare historical averages. However it is clear that too many young people have to wait more than the target 14 weeks between initial contact with CAMHS and the start of their treatment. |

These measures are also analysed at a lower level of detail to ensure that health inequalities across the county are known and addressed.



In the coming year, we will work with our Health partners to:

Develop our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to ensure that commissioners have the information they need in order to make decisions about the commissioning and development of services. The JSNA will also inform the Health and Well-being Board to ensure that high level strategy is directed by community needs.

Improve awareness of physical, mental and sexual health and well-being so that young people can make informed, positive choices about their health.

Narrow the gap in health inequalities of children and young people across the county through robust analysis and targeted intervention where it is most needed.

Narrow the gap in health inequalities of children and young people across the county through robust analysis and targeted intervention where it is most needed.

Increase the number of children, young people and families using personal budgets, and in particular, direct payments.

Integrate sexual health and teenage pregnancy strategies, focusing on increased prevention and improved needs analysis to ensure intervention is targeted to “hot spot” areas.

Adopt a holistic approach to tackling childhood obesity in collaboration with all professionals and the community, to commission specific health services in areas with the highest levels.

Review and re-model Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) to ensure children and young people have access to support at all levels of mental health need and reduce waiting times for those requiring services.

Commission effective alcohol and substance misuse services to contribute to further reductions in alcohol-related hospital admissions and substance dependency.

Increase the number of health visitors based in children’s centres to promote the health of 0-2 year olds, and work with health colleagues to implement “A Call to Action” – the Government’s health visiting framework.

Ensure appropriate health services are engaged with evidence-based support programmes such as the Family Intervention Project (FIP) and Family Nurse Partnership (FNP).

Increase the uptake of the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccination (sometimes referred to as the “cervical cancer jab) for eligible girls in Warwickshire schools. There has been a 98% uptake but we will continue to promote this further.

Continue to achieve a 98% and above coverage of the National Child Measurement Programme with follow-up advice and support around obesity prevention to families in targeted areas.

Complete our review of services provided to children with disabilities to ensure they are being delivered in the best way.

Develop further our Early Years Health Directory for all early years settings and professionals in Warwickshire.



Outcome 3: Safeguarding

We want all children and young people to be safe from harm and to feel safe.

In Warwickshire we are working to make sure that we:

- Reduce the incidence of abuse and neglect by investing in early intervention services and support families to resolve their own difficulties at an early stage.
- Work collaboratively with all partners across the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) to reduce the numbers of children being subjected to maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation by improving the reach of child protection.
- Promote children and young people's safety and welfare in all aspects of our work.
- Protect children and young people from accidental injury and death by creating safe environments and promoting safe lifestyle choices.
- Provide children and young people with secure, stable and caring environments in which to live, including those who cannot live with their own families for whatever reason.
- Ensure that children and young people in care have access to a full range of services and opportunities that meet their needs and enable them to achieve their potential.
- Empower children and young people to influence decisions about their own lives and well-being, increasing their resilience and ability to protect themselves.



What we have achieved and the difference we have made

- We have been working with Dartington Social Research Unit to help us safely reduce the number of children who need to come into care by investing in evidence-based programmes (such as the Family Intervention Project) to keep children at home. While numbers have continued to rise in line with national trends, we expect to see a reduction as these programmes embed. The numbers of children entering care during the year is decreasing, as is the size of the year-on-year rise in numbers looked after at year end.
- We have implemented the Government's Action Plan for Adoption¹ to ensure that children who need adoptive families can be placed quickly and safely with the right adopters to meet their needs. The introduction of a national "scorecard" saw Warwickshire as a high performing authority in adoption.
- The RELATE project has been extended across the county to include support to children and families who are experiencing relationship difficulties with the aim of preventing family breakdown and escalation to high-dependency services.
- Our National Parenting Early Intervention Programme (PEIP) evaluation was deemed to be performing consistently above the average for other local authorities by our external regulators, in terms of reducing parenting over-reactivity, parental laxness and child conduct disorder.
- In 2012, we were subject to a thematic inspection by Ofsted of children and adult services with a focus upon adult mental ill-health and/or substance misuse. The inspection was not graded but did identify some areas of good practice and some areas for improvement across the services and has underpinned the development of a "Think Family" protocol – a set of key principles to support collaborative working.

1 An Action Plan for Adoption: Tackling Delay. DfE, 2011 <http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/a/an%20action%20plan%20for%20adoption.pdf>

2 Full inspection report available from: www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/publications/inspectorate-reports/hmiprobation/youth-inspection-reports/inspection-of-youth-offending-fjs-sqs/warwickshire-fji.pdf

3 Following Professor Eileen Munro's report into child protection, this was an initiative led by the Children's Improvement Board to support improvement in child protection. www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/CM%208062

- Inspectors examined a number of children's social care case records as part of the multi-agency inspection of Warwickshire Youth Justice Service². This identified some positive joint working and areas for improvement and has led to the development of a policy to support the prevention and management of child sexual exploitation across the multi-agency partnership.
- We were chosen as a Munro Development Demonstrator Site³ to support improvement in child protection services. We undertook a number of internal learning events and showcased good practice to national and regional local authorities.

case study

Student B and her younger siblings have previously been subject to a Child Protection Plan due to concerns around neglect and their mother's partner's drug use. Student B was exposed to domestic abuse from an early age and still recalls some of the experiences.

With support from her Targeted Youth Support Worker, she now attends a martial arts group with funding from a charitable grant to cover the initial membership/joining fee and the monthly subscription for a year. She is undertaking a voluntary work experience placement in a nursery during school holidays and has been supported in updating her CV and searching for part time jobs.

She has been helped to research apprenticeship courses and the placement nursery has indicated that should the placement be successful they may be in a position to offer Student B an apprenticeship place for college.

A referral was received requesting one-to-one mentoring with a view to providing positive life experiences to support her transition to adulthood and this commenced in November 2012.



Measuring success

We have lots of ways in which we measure performance against our goals. Performance indicators are an important way of showing the public and our regulators how well we are doing our job. Below are our key measures and targets in relation to safeguarding. Please note, final validated data for the year ending 31st March 2013 will be available from the end of July. Indicative forecasts are provided in the notes column.

| Measure | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | Target 2012/13 | Notes/Comments |
|--|---------|---------|----------------|---|
| Rate of children who have a child protection plan (per 10,000 population) | 43 | 48 | 47 | We are predicting a further increase to 51 per 10,000 for the year ending 31/03/13, against a national average of 38 and an average for similar councils of 33. High numbers can be undesirable as they indicate a high level of abuse and neglect – however they could also be a positive reflection on good identification and assessment processes. Therefore while we are looking for an overall decrease in this rate, this needs to be done in a safe way so that if children do need to have a child protection plan, they are identified as such. |
| Number of children who are both looked after and subject of a child protection plan | 47 | 68 | 50 | We are predicting only a small decrease in numbers this year due to the continued increase in child protection/looked after cases across Warwickshire so will not hit our target. However the numbers do appear to be slowing so we will continue to focus on our existing projects. |
| % of children who receive an assessment of their need for social care intervention within the required timescale (35 working days) | 88.8% | 84.0% | 92% | We are predicting an increase to 88.8%. While this is a little short of target, it is above the average for England (76%) and similar authorities (69%). |
| % of children who had been subject to a child protection plan for two years or more at the point of the plan's closure | 8.4% | 10.8% | 7% | We are predicting a reduction to 8.4% for the year ending 31/03/13, which is short of target. |
| % of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan for a 2nd or subsequent time | 14.4% | 16.5% | 14% | We are predicting that we will achieve our target for 2012/13, which will bring us in line with the national average and that for similar councils. |



In the coming year, we will:

Continue collaborative working via the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) to ensure children are protected from harm and their welfare is promoted.

Continue work to reduce the numbers of children coming into care and numbers of children subject to child protection plans through continued work with the Dartington Social Research Unit and investment in evidence-based programmes of family support.

Work to improve the effectiveness of child protection plans for those who need them, reducing the length of time children are subject to plans and reducing the need for repeat plans. WSCB will monitor these more closely over the coming year. We will focus on setting better targets within child protection plans so that they are “SMART” (specific, measureable, achievable, realistic and timely).

Focus upon the efficiencies we can make to bring down the costs of services, by reducing duplication and investing in timely early intervention to reduce the need for high-cost services. This includes:

- working across geographical boundaries where it makes sense to do so, e.g. the “City Deal” arrangement with Coventry to support opportunities for some of our most vulnerable citizens;
- refreshing our social care “sufficiency duty” which underpins our family placement services for looked after children, ensuring there are appropriate universal, targeted and specialist services in place, based on a comprehensive analysis of need; and
- establishing more robust contract monitoring and quality assurance of high-cost placements for looked after children (independent schools, independent fostering agencies, children’s homes and out-of-county residential placements).

Continue to implement the recommendations from Professor Eileen Munro’s review of child protection, in accordance with revised Government guidance. This focuses on each child’s “journey” to ensure that systems are seamless and child-centred.

Re-design adoption services to align with revised Government expectations, reduce timescales and improve support for adopters.

Implement an Anti-Bullying Strategy to create an environment in which children and young people to embrace diversity, respect other cultures, and feel safe to report bullying and discrimination.

Work with our regulators and other local authorities to improve all aspects of safeguarding services, through responding to Ofsted inspection requirements and engaging in the “peer review” programme.



Outcome 4: Child Poverty

We want the impact of child poverty to be alleviated in Warwickshire by 2020.

In Warwickshire we are working to make sure that we:

- Ensure Warwickshire has reduced inequality, healthy residents, a vibrant economy offering high quality jobs and is a place where people choose to live and work.
- Encourage work for those who can, helping parents to participate in the labour market to improve household income.
- Assist with the provision of financial support information and advice for families, with additional support for those who need it most, when they need it most, to tackle material deprivation.
- Deliver excellent public services that improve the life chances of children in poverty and help break cycles of deprivation.
- Provide support for parents in their parenting role so that they can confidently guide their children through key life transitions.
- Ensure that universal services are accessible to all, and targeted services are located appropriately.



What we have achieved and the difference we have made

- We have committed to a “Going for Growth”¹ strategy that will focus on creating economic growth and well-being for our citizens. Complementing this we have implemented our Child Poverty Strategy which sets out our aims to reduce poverty, break the poverty cycle, and mitigate the effects of poverty.
- Teams across different areas of Warwickshire County Council have worked together to analyse data to make better, more informed commissioning decisions. For example, these teams have provided data to help identify those families that are eligible for free school meals but that may not take up this opportunity. On-going activity is helping to increase the uptake across the county.
- We have identified our “Priority Families”, in line with the Government’s Troubled Families² programme and started to provide targeted support to the most vulnerable, through programmes such as the Family Intervention Project.
- Through awareness raising and targeted support we have increased the numbers of 3-5 year olds accessing their free childcare entitlement.

¹ Going for Growth sets out Warwickshire’s vision for 2020: <http://tinyurl.com/huvaqua>

² The Troubled Families programme aims to support 120,000 families nationwide to turn their lives around, reduce their impact on the community around them, and reduce the need for high-cost intervention: www.gov.uk/government/policies/helping-troubled-families-turn-their-lives-around



case study

A school nurse contacted the Family Information Service helpline to request support for a family that she was working with whose child had been diagnosed with epilepsy. Parent A was a lone parent and required support in respect of childcare for her two younger children. She was also unable to work due to current health concerns and was on a very limited income.

A number of support avenues were explored relating to help with child minding as well as information and support for parents whose children had epilepsy.

Home visits were carried out to the family and information provided in respect of support groups available.

Parent A was given help to complete the necessary Disability Living Allowance paperwork for her child, which resulted in the claim being accepted and received at the correct rate. Parent A was also advised she would be entitled to receive the disability element of Child Tax Credit and as a result the family income was maximised.

Parent A was very appreciative of all the help and support she received from the different agencies brokered by the Family Information Service: “I had a visit and was given information and continued support, a very good service and also friendly and supportive”.

The intervention and support provided by the brokerage service enabled Parent A to maximise her family income. It allowed for the cost of transport to and from hospital to be funded which in turn meant that this was no longer a financial burden. Parent A’s confidence in accessing services independently increased so that she was able to support her family even more. She was able to interact further with parents of children with disabilities, decreasing the isolation that she previously faced and allowing further opportunities to be explored by this family.



Measuring success

We have lots of ways in which we measure performance against our goals. Performance indicators are an important way of showing the public and our regulators how well we are doing our job. Our strategies for tackling poverty are long-term and wide-ranging so it can be difficult to measure short-term progress. However below are some of the key indicators we use to evaluate the work we are doing in this area.

| Measure | 2010/11 | 2011/12 | Target 2012/13 | Notes/Comments |
|---|---------|---------|----------------|--|
| % of 3-5 year olds accessing free childcare entitlement | | 96% | 100% | We anticipate reporting progress to 98% for 2012/13. Although this is short of target, it brings us in line with similar councils. |
| % of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment | 4.5% | 5.2% | 5% | Figures for the end of February 2013 suggest a rate of just under 4%. |
| Number of individuals undertaking apprenticeships in the Coventry and Warwickshire region supported by the Local Enterprise Partnership | | 6590 | 5800 | As at the end of year December 2012 (Q3) figures are reported as 8340, thus exceeding 2012/13 target. |
| Number of individuals employed in key target growth sectors of the Coventry and Warwickshire regional economy supported by the Local Enterprise Partnership | | 139,200 | 143,000 | We are looking to report an increase to 140,410 for 2012/13. Although the target will not be achieved this still represents an improvement on the previous year which is credible considering the on-going business climate. |



In the coming year, we will:

Implement “Going for Growth” to create economic growth and well-being for Warwickshire citizens. This is not a quick fix to a sustained period of international economic pressure but ensures we have a long-term commitment to making the most of the opportunities available in the area.

Update our 2010 Child Poverty Strategy following welfare reforms, new financial constraints faced by families, and new initiatives to ensure that the new strategy is more purposeful and makes a significant impact.

Maximise income opportunities for families through the Welfare Reform Initiative (Financial Inclusion Project) by identifying vulnerable families and carrying out a benefit health check to encourage the uptake of free school meals (FSM) where appropriate. The advantages are threefold: the children receive meals whilst at school, in most instances families receive additional income and the schools also qualify for additional income as a part of the Pupil Premium funding so that they can support the educational achievement of these pupils.

Identify effective whole family approaches through the Priority Families initiative and children’s centres, supporting families to help themselves and take control over their own circumstances.

Implement the Government’s extended offer for free childcare places for the most disadvantaged two-year-olds. Initially in 2013, this includes those who meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals and children who are looked after.

Review and re-design services for young people and vulnerable adults to increase the focus on family learning, improve their readiness for work and provide better access to the world of work, for example Adult and Community Learning services.

Use data and analysis to identify areas of specific need which will inform the commissioning of targeted services delivered by us and in conjunction with other agencies.

Help to remove barriers to work through promoting economic development and enterprise.



Feedback Questionnaire: What do you think of our Annual Review of Children, Young People & Family Services?

We have developed this annual review of children, young people and family services in Warwickshire as part of our commitment to communicate effectively with those who access the services we provide and commission.

As a result we would really value and welcome your feedback, complimentary or critical, about how effective this document has been in helping you to make a judgement about the quality of our services. Please complete and return this short questionnaire, either by post or electronically by email using the contact details provided.

To what extent do you feel this report gives you an overview of children, young people and family services and the differences that have been made in Warwickshire over the last year?

(Please circle your response - 1 = poor, 5 = excellent)

1 2 3 4 5

How easy have you found this document to read?

1 2 3 4 5

How useful did you find this document?

1 2 3 4 5

Was there enough information in the document for you to understand our services and plans to improve outcomes for children, young people and families?

Too much Not enough Just right

Is there anything we have missed that you would like to see in this report?

Do you have any other comments about this report?

Are you...? *(Please circle all that apply)*

A child/young person Someone working with children
Age _____ *(optional)* young people and families

A parent/carer A member of the public

A WCC employee Other _____

Would you like to be personally involved in helping to put together next year's children, young people and family services annual review?

Yes No

If you would like to get involved please give us your name, address and contact details:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____



Please send your completed questionnaire to:

Lisa Robertson
Warwickshire County Council
Strategic Commissioning
People Group
Saltisford Office Park (Building 2)
Ansell Way
Warwick
CV34 4UL

Or by email to: lisarobertson@warwickshire.gov.uk

Thank you to the children and young people of Warwickshire featured in this document.

For additional information

Please visit:

www.warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshirect.wordpress.com

www.jsna.warwickshire.gov.uk

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/observatory

If you would like to discuss any of the issues raised within this annual review of children, young people and family services 2012 please feel free to contact:

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Programme Manager, Strategic Commissioning

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