

# *Derby City Partnership*



## City for Children and Young People e-bulletin

June / July 2010

### **1. Welcome!**

Hello everyone and welcome to our latest edition of our e-bulletin. I've been in post for a couple of months now and it's been a fast-paced treadmill so far! My thanks must go to those colleagues who have gone the extra mile to make me feel welcome. How we make our colleagues feel welcome always says so much about the culture of an organisation doesn't it? We have a lot of very special people in Derby doing their very best to improve the life chances of our children and young people. I have been spending the first few months getting to know people, getting used to the way things have been in Derby, and seeing at first hand the wonderful opportunities our young people experience with our support and guidance.

It's an interesting time for all of us who are in public settings. We have a new national government to get to know and understand. We have challenges ahead in terms of the economic climate. But to those of us who have worked in the public sector for decades now, it is not an uncommon agenda we face. We have to stay focused on the challenge of delivering improved outcomes for children and their families whilst we ensure their safety and well-being, maintain the quality of what we do, and meet the efficiencies we face. We have to see the opportunities here through. Isn't it time to share our priorities, pool our energies and creativity, to innovate, to lead others and to pool our money? After all, we have to keep children safe, improve standards, and do more for less!

Many of you have joined me in our celebrations through June and July. We launched the third year of our Children and Young People's Plan last week with our children, our babies(!), our young people and staff showing us all just what they can achieve with our challenge and support. Sheila Barker and colleagues ran an excellent Administrators' and Bursars' Conference. We continue to survive our Ofsted inspections. We won runner-up at the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Programme Delivering Chances for the commissioning of Shine children's home for autistic young people. Our Specialist Teaching and Psychology Services colleagues held a magnificent away day where they focused on sharing best practice. We celebrated long-service awards for staff who have served Derby City Council so well and we celebrated some outstanding governors' awards. We had a wonderful Family Learning Celebration Event in the Assembly Rooms, where we shared just how much is available for families to access during the summer around Derby. I was astonished. Thanks to Mat Tarrant and his team, we gave certificates to Family Learning Groups in recognition of their hard work through the year. I have felt privileged to be a part of such successes. Our performance improvements across children's social care are telling us our social workers are going the extra mile every week to help support some of our most vulnerable children and young people and we are attracting high quality, talented people to our teams all the time.

As you go about your work, just remember what Sir Jonathan Sacks said: "Children fill the spaces we create for them. Build them big and they grow tall." We must be ambitious for young people so we raise their aspirations and strive for excellence in everything they do.

Thanks for your continued support.

***Ros Vahey, Chair of the City for Children and Young People***

### 2. Derby Children and Young People's Action Plan 2010-2011

By the time you read this we will be well on the way to publishing our new Children and Young People's Action Plan 2010-2011. This is the third of three annual action plans produced in support of our Children and Young People's Plan 2008-2011. In it we set out the key outcomes, actions, targets and performance measures that support our shared priorities from the 2008-2011 plan.

The plan was formally launched at our Celebration Event on Thursday 1 July at the Darwin Suite, Assembly Rooms, Derby.

We're keen to communicate our work to as wide an audience as possible. As well as the more traditional plan, we've put together an Action Plan leaflet with the help of young people from the Voices in Action Youth Forum and from Spaced Out. The leaflet will be circulated throughout the partnership as well as to schools, youth groups, etc. There'll also be a separate executive summary, as well as an electronic version of the plan – once published, you can find it using the quick link:

[www.derby.gov.uk/CYPActionPlan](http://www.derby.gov.uk/CYPActionPlan)

We look forward to hearing what you think of the plan. Please send us any feedback on what you like and your suggestions for improvement ahead of next year's plan to Simon Matthews at [simon.matthews@derby.gov.uk](mailto:simon.matthews@derby.gov.uk).

And finally, and most importantly, thank you to everyone who's contributed to the plan – it is a real reflection of the outstanding work that goes on every day to build a brighter future for children and young people in Derby.

***If you'd like any additional copies of any of the above, please contact Simon Matthews on 01332 711266, [simon.matthews@derby.gov.uk](mailto:simon.matthews@derby.gov.uk)***

### 3. vschools

**Following on from the success of *vinvolved*, we have recently launched *vschools*, which aims to inspire 14-16 year olds to give their time and get involved in projects and activities that will benefit both the young person and the community.**

Many young people already enjoy giving time to their school or community - learning new skills, gaining experience and most of all having fun. The vschools' programme builds on this enthusiasm by enhancing existing community action opportunities in schools (such as school councils, peer mentoring initiatives and fundraising activities), and by encouraging the creation of new projects to inspire students and to lead to positive change. All this is done through a completely secure interactive digital hub.

Derbyshire vschools team, Liz Ramsay and Charlie Smith, will be providing advice and support to secondary schools, useful web-based resources to promote community action and a national recognition scheme.

**So why should you sign up to the vschools programme?**

- It's completely free and easy to use.

- It can enhance the school's community action outcomes and can be used to raise the school's profile in the local community.
- It's good for students - it records and rewards success, encourages a community ethos, provides opportunities and stimulates positive activities.
- All the data can be easily downloaded - offering fantastic evidence for Ofsted, annual reviews, on the school website and in the local media.

***If you would like more information, or would like to talk to a vschools adviser, please contact:***

- **Charlie Smith: 01332277747 or (mob) 07584 100666**  
email: [Charlie.Smith@vinspired.com](mailto:Charlie.Smith@vinspired.com)
- **Liz Ramsay: 01332 227745 or (mob) 07584 100667**  
email [Liz.Ramsay@vinspired.com](mailto:Liz.Ramsay@vinspired.com) vschools, Community Action, 4 Charnwood Street, Derby DE1 2GT

## 4. European Day on solidarity between generations

Derby City Council celebrated 'European Day on Solidarity between Generations' at the end of April. Voices in Action and the 50 Plus Forum joined up to mark the occasion by taking part in the 1970s classic game of Beetle Drive. The aim of the event was to unite young and old, so they could share experiences and integrate in a fun environment.

The feedback on the event was fantastic and people from all generations commented that they hope a similar event will be staged next year.

### ***Feedback from older and younger people***

- Very friendly, I enjoyed myself.
- Was very enjoyable and had fun making friends and mingling.
- Enjoyed tonight very much, hope the younger ones did too – please let us have more events.
- Very friendly and a good time was had.
- A good idea for mixing – maybe mixed line dancing next?
- Really enjoyed it.
- This has been a very successful evening and I congratulate all involved in the planning. It resulted in positive interaction between the generations.
- Very welcoming and interesting talking to different people.
- Brilliant, more intergenerational evenings please.
- Great afternoon/evening, love the kids.
- A great night.
- It was enjoyable and we enjoyed getting together with the older people – fandabbydosey.
- Very enjoyable evening.
- Most enjoyable evening.
- I feel events like this are good as it allows young and older generations to mix and chat about their views of one another and things around Derby. It is also a fun event that gets people out.
- Thank you for a great evening with the young and older people, many more I hope.
- Very good, see you next time.
- A very happy evening.
- Really good.





**Adele Styles, Young People's Senior Consultation Officer, tel: 01332 256240, email: [adele.styles@derby.gov.uk](mailto:adele.styles@derby.gov.uk)**

## 5. Osmaston On Track

### Some of our term-time interventions

We engaged all our targeted young people on an Anger Management programme. One of the exercises consisted of the young people each adding a bit of the story of a boy called Alex who has negative things happen to him throughout the day and a balloon was passed around the circle. When it finally burst, we discussed the incident that made the balloon burst and what happened to Alex was a minor incident that caused him to lose his temper in the end.

We have also worked in partnership with the Engage Project to deliver an eight-week course to the young people who are in need of the most support with their family and personal relationships. The families worked together, initially playing team games such as who can make the best paper aeroplane and parachute games, as well as creating their own song and video with an aim of improving relationships between the young people and their parents and siblings.



**Wildlife Project** – We took a group of young people to Lakeside Park to undertake a competition to find the most weird and wonderful wildlife. All the young people enjoyed themselves and behaved really well.



**Laina Richardson, Osmaston On Track, Project Co-ordinator, tel: 07799 076 171 – [laina.richardson@btconnect.com](mailto:laina.richardson@btconnect.com)**

## **6. Children and Young People’s Executive and Derby Safeguarding Board meeting**

The Children and Young People’s Executive and Derby Safeguarding Children Board held their annual joint meeting on 10 May. There was lively debate particularly on the future of Children’s Trusts and also on Serious Case Review action plans. For both these items a draft action plan with quick wins and longer-term aims will be taken to the June meetings of both groups for further discussion and decision.

The main issues raised were:

- **Children’s Trust**

Before the change of Government, legislation was passed to make Children’s Trust Boards statutory bodies with direct responsibility for the Children and Young People’s Plan. While the current national coalition could abolish Children’s Trusts, all members expressed their strong and clear commitment to the partnership approach as the way to deliver services that would bring improved outcomes for children and young people in the context of reducing budgets.

- **Inspection of safeguarding and children in care**

This inspection will happen over the next 12 months with a notice period of ten working days. A small group of officers had attended a workshop run by Swindon Borough Council, who received an ‘outstanding’ rating from their recent inspection, and this had given them invaluable information and pointers for what to expect and how to prepare. The inspection is partner-wide and of the intensity of the previous Joint Area Reviews, for example Swindon had to organise 87 separate meetings over the ten-day inspection period including six group sessions with children and young people, six group sessions with parents, 45 focus groups and 20 interviews with senior officers.

This is a critical inspection which will have a significant impact on any future assessment of the Council and its partners. All members of Derby City Partnership need to be responsible for raising awareness within their organisations and, for those relevant partners, of ensuring they engage with the preparation process.

- **Serious case reviews – follow-up action plans**

Safeguarding Boards now have a responsibility to challenge Children’s Trust Boards on their performance on safeguarding children. The most effective way of fulfilling this new role was considered at the meeting and one element was ensuring that all agencies learn from Serious Case Reviews (SCR). Derby has completed two over the last 18 months, after not having had any for four years, and

there is another in progress. One strong emerging theme was the increased understanding of the impact of domestic violence. Data now showed that children who were victims of abuse were more likely to come from families with a history of domestic violence and where there were no strong male role models, rather than where the perpetrator had been a victim of abuse themselves. This evidence needs a strong partnership response with much better intelligence and risk assessment to get support to families and vulnerable women more quickly.

- **Sexual exploitation strategy**

Internationally, police intelligence is showing increasing criminal trends in on/off-line grooming and child exploitation. The cases often have added sensitivities and complexities because of the cross-cultural nature of the crimes and perpetrators. To ensure Derby has a robust and partner-led response to these changes, a multi-agency strategy is being developed based on best practice from other areas and local expertise and experience.

**Verna Bayliss, Co-ordinator - Derby City Partnership, [verna@derbycitypartnership.co.uk](mailto:verna@derbycitypartnership.co.uk) - [www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk](http://www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk)**

## 7. Web advice on talking to teens

In the UK there are over 24 million people who parent – mums, dads, step-parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, other relatives, friends and foster carers are all involved in raising happy, healthy children.

Increasingly, many of these parents are treating the internet as their first port of call when they need information on their family. The growth in the number of parents seeking online support can be witnessed in the huge rise in popularity and prominence of organisations such as Netmums and Parentline Plus.

One website which is growing particularly popular is the 'Got A Teenager' site, an offshoot of Parentline Plus, [www.gotateenager.org.uk](http://www.gotateenager.org.uk) is a social networking and advice site giving parents of teenagers a space to support each other through the challenges and successes of bringing up teens.

Offering information on all aspects of bringing up teenagers, the website includes sections on drugs, alcohol, health and well-being, risky behaviours, school, self-confidence and sex.

In addition to the online support, there is also a free phonenumber and email service where you can talk through any issues with trained professionals, or find out where to access other services.

**Sheila McFarlane, Commissioner for Teenage Pregnancy - [sheila.mcfarlane@derby.gov.uk](mailto:sheila.mcfarlane@derby.gov.uk)**

## 8. Encouraging conversations is something everyone can do ...



Another website which is giving parents advice on how to approach important issues with their young people is the new national site 'Sex: Worth Talking About'.

Research shows that when parents and carers have open discussions about sex and relationships with their children, they have their first sexual experience later and are more likely to use contraception when they do become sexually active.

'Sex: Worth Talking About' aims to help young people talk to their families without feeling uncomfortable, so that they can improve their knowledge and understanding about sexual health and feel more confident to make the choices that are right for them.

The site is part of the on-going national campaign to encourage 16 to 24-year-olds and their parents to have more open and honest discussions about sexual health, relationships, contraception and STIs.

To find out more go at the website [www.nhs.uk/worhtalkingabout](http://www.nhs.uk/worhtalkingabout)

**Sheila McFarlane, Commissioner for Teenage Pregnancy -**  
[sheila.mcfarlane@derby.gov.uk](mailto:sheila.mcfarlane@derby.gov.uk)



## 9. Diva and the International Cancer Screening Network

NHS Cancer Screening Programmes has commissioned the PR agency diva to deliver the International Cancer Screening Network (ICSN) Biennial Meeting at Oxford University. This event will focus on the future of ovary, prostate and lung cancer screening and will share best practice around breast, colorectal and cervical screening for international stakeholders and intermediaries.

For more information on diva's work, visit [www.divacreative.com](http://www.divacreative.com)

**Ros Trinick, Campaign Account Manager, [ros@divacreative.com](mailto:ros@divacreative.com), tel: 0114 221 0378**

## 10. School Food Ambassadors

The School Food Trust works to transform and improve school food and food skills and promote the education and health of children and young people. To help local stakeholders drive improvements and support schools, we have an established 'National Good Practice Network' of School Food Ambassadors.

Through this Network, we aim to build positive working relationships across a range of stakeholders including Local Authorities, Primary Care Trusts and other related organisations. The Network also supports schools to maximise their compliance with the school food standards and increase their take-up of school meals

Being a School Food Ambassador is an opportunity make a difference. School Food Ambassadors work together through sharing good practice, improving communications, developing local networks and supporting local partnerships, and engaging in consultation. From raising the profile of healthy school food to promoting understanding and a joined-up approach between the different services, School Food Ambassadors are equipped with knowledge, information and guidance to drive change locally.

We are encouraging colleagues working across school food services, health, children's services, the voluntary sector, and services promoting the overall well-being of children and young people to become Ambassadors. Our aim is to have a cluster of *at least* four Ambassadors in every Local Authority across the country; there is currently only one in Derby.

We would like to hear anyone working at local level who is actively making a difference to the well-being of children and young people, who want to share their achievements and are champions of school food across wider agendas.

All details including, FAQs and information on how to register, can be found on the School Food Ambassador website: <http://www.schoolfoodtrust.org.uk/partners/national-good-practice-network>.

If you have any queries about this, please contact Siân Hoyle on 01332 716934 or email [sian.hoyle@derby.gov.uk](mailto:sian.hoyle@derby.gov.uk)

Many thanks for your co-operation.

## Stakeholder Events/Workshops

### 11. University of Derby - Conference Development Days

The Early Years Professional Status (EYPS) Team at the University of Derby developed four Conference Development days for all our EYPS candidates and the wider early years sector.

The events were a huge success, attracting a diverse audience of practitioners, managers, local authority advisors and academics.

Conferences already taken place:

- **Managing and Leading the Curriculum**
- **The Every Child Matters Agenda in practice**
- **A Multi-Professional Approach to the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).**

Feedback from delegates:

“Very informative and humorous, made me think about my own practice.”

“Very well delivered and organised.”

“Good range of activities and information relevant to take back and implement in the workplace.”

“Really interesting and informative and the staff made me feel welcome and comfortable.”

“Very useful. Great to network with peer practitioners. “

“Fantastic.”

Our final event is:

- **Effective Communication – The voices within the EYFS.**

This conference is relevant to all practitioners attempting to record voices in order to offer a relevant and individual experience for children and families.

*If you wish to book on our final event, please go to: [www.derby.ac.uk/eyp-futures](http://www.derby.ac.uk/eyp-futures)*

We really hope that you've enjoyed these events and if you are interested in continuing your professional development, please visit [www.derby.ac.uk/children](http://www.derby.ac.uk/children).

**Louise Harvey, Senior Admin Assistant EYPS, 01332 590500 ext: 3025, email: [l.harvey@derby.ac.uk](mailto:l.harvey@derby.ac.uk), Web: [www.derby.ac.uk/eyps](http://www.derby.ac.uk/eyps)**

### 12. Sustainable Communities Strategy

To help us involve a large number of local people in shaping the future of Derby, we are holding a big consultation during July. We are asking people to think what they would like life to be like in 15 years' time and tell us their three wishes:

- one for themselves
- one for their neighbourhood

- one for Derby.

We are sending all households a 'wish card' to write their three wishes on and all over the city we will be promoting the three wishes using the star motif. We will also be asking local groups to run workshops with some of their members to help us find out what they would like for Derby's future.

We are also asking schools in the city to help us encourage young people in Derby to make their three wishes!

From September people will be able to visit [www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk](http://www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk) to find out what wishes people have made and what sorts of things Derby City Partnership will be planning to do to achieve them and will write to all school councils letting you know what the types of things you have wished for.

We would like you to encourage your School Council to become involved in the three wishes campaign and will be writing to each of them telling them how they can help shape the future of Derby. We will be asking them to make one big wish for the young people of Derby.

**Christine Collingwood, Consultation and Engagement Manager, tel: 01332 258406.**

## Training Courses

### 13. CAMHS Partnership and Workforce Development around Children and Young People's Mental Health

Over the last five years the CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) Partnership has made a strong commitment to workforce development within universal services. They have achieved this by supporting a broad programme of training, developed and delivered by a mix of specialist CAMHS staff and staff working in Children and Young People's services. So far about 700 professionals have attended the training.

The training is open to all workers who would like to gain a general understanding on child and adolescent mental health, whether they work directly with children and young people or support the service.

Forthcoming dates are:

- **Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 September 2010**
- **Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 November 2010**
- **Tuesday 1 and Wednesday 2 February 2010.**

**All training will be delivered at YMCA, London Road, Derby.**

The attached booklet gives details of the two-day training, and there is a booking form for professionals to complete.

#### Contact

If you would like further information, please **contact Arshie Mushtaq on 01332 711268 or [arshie.mushtaq@derby.gov.uk](mailto:arshie.mushtaq@derby.gov.uk).**

**For information about the City for Children and Young People e-bulletin, please contact: Maris Stratulis, 01332 716834, [maris.stratulis@derby.gov.uk](mailto:maris.stratulis@derby.gov.uk) or Sue Leyland, 01332 711243, [sue.leyland@derby.gov.uk](mailto:sue.leyland@derby.gov.uk)**