

North Yorkshire Children's Trust Board
18th January 2010
Integrated Youth Support (IYS)

1.0 Key points.

- 1.1 This report is focusing on the
- target for young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) and
 - the development of IYS within the context of the wider integrated services strategy.
- 1.2 Although North Yorkshire has made good progress in lowering NEETs in the current climate it is likely that these will not be significantly improved and it is anticipated that the Local Area Agreement (LAA) NEET target will not be achieved.
- 1.3 Since the introduction of IYS there has been positive progress made to increase the numbers of practitioners working collaboratively to assess need, plan and deliver services to young people.
- 1.4 The co-ordination and development of the six IYS hubs has been undertaken by hub co-ordinators. A recent evaluation of the role identified the pressures placed on the co-ordinators and a review of the management requirements for IYS generally, and specifically for the individual hubs, will be undertaken as part of a wider review of the integrated services.
- 1.5 IYS has implemented integrated processes including common assessment as part of Targeted Youth Support (TYS). Work is being undertaken to align the monitoring system of TYS with that of the CAF to improve the reporting and analysis of practice for vulnerable children and young people.

2.0 Recommendations.

- 2.1 The Board acknowledges the work done to reduce NEETs and the fact that the LAA target will not be achieved.
- 2.2 The Board supports the proposal to undertake a Post Implementation Review of IYS with the objective of establishing improved integration with the youth service as stated within the Children and Young People's Plan (6.1), and ensuring that these services are themselves well-integrated within the structures and strategies established by the Trust for integrated working at locality level.

3.0 General Information

- 3.1 IYS takes a lead or contributes to the attainment of the National Indicator (NI) targets covered by the Public Sector Agreement (PAS) 14. These include:
- Reducing the numbers of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)
 - Reduce the teenage pregnancies
 - Reduce substance misuse amongst young people
 - Reduce first time entrants to the youth criminal justice system
 - Increase the numbers of young people participating in positive activities.
- 3.2 In order to meet these objectives IYS has a number of delivery priorities of which the contribution to the wider integrated services strategy and the implementation of integrated processes is key. This requires that IYS regularly reviews progress not only in relation to performance against the NI but also in relation to the relevance, effectiveness and standard of service provision.

- 3.3 This report is focusing specifically on two areas of activity that are of current relevance. Firstly performance in relation to the attainment of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) target for NEETs and secondly the development of IYS as identified within the Children and Young People's Plan (section 6.1).
- 4.0 Performance relating to young people who are NEET.**
- 4.1 The reduction of young people who are NEET is a North Yorkshire LAA stretch target. The target is 3.6% as an average for the months November 2009, December 2009 and January 2010. There is also a requirement for the 'not knowns' which are young people who are recorded on the Management Information system as having no contact within a defined time period, as below 3%.
- 4.2 Although North Yorkshire has not suffered as greatly as other areas as a result of the economic downturn there has been some impact, in particular with fewer training and employment opportunities. As anticipated a larger number of young people have chosen to remain in education but whether this is the best career choice for the young person and whether this will result in greater numbers dropping out of courses or only undertaking one year courses which will only delay the impact on NEET is yet to be identified.
- 4.3 At the end of December there were 4.3% NEET and 1.1% not knowns with 82.9% of young people in learning. These are exceptionally good figures in the current climate but it is likely that these will not be significantly improved over January and therefore the LAA NEET target will not be achieved.
- 4.4 The Government has recently introduced a requirement for Local Authorities through their Connexions service to monitor and report on offers of learning to young people who are NEET in January. This is being referred to as the January Guarantee. There is some indication nationally that additional funding will be made available to support provision but as yet the details of this are not confirmed.
- 4.5 The Connexions workforce and partners have devised and implemented local NEET action plans. IYS is working closely with colleagues from the LSC and contributing to 14-19 developments, including foundation learning, to ensure that information on NEETs is shared and the needs of this target group are addressed.
- 5.0 Developing IYS as part of integrated services.**
- 5.1 Since the establishment of IYS in April 2008 there have been ongoing reviews of performance, not only against the performance targets but against service planning objectives including workforce development and integration of service provision. There are some aspects of IYS that have developed well and others where challenges and obstacles remain. To address the priority as identified within the Children and Young People's Plan to *'increase the integration of services for teenagers with IYS, particularly Youth Service and CAMHS* it has been agreed with the Director of CYPS and the Assistant Director responsible for IYS to conduct a full Post Implementation Review (PIR) of IYS, in the first instance with particular attention being made to how best to further integrate IYS across the CYPS.
- 5.2 The PIR will also consider the future delivery model for the IYS hubs. There are six IYS hubs all of which have developed to reflect the needs of young people and practitioners in their localities. Since the introduction of IYS there has been positive progress made to increase the numbers of practitioners working collaboratively to assess need, plan and deliver services to young people. This can be evidenced in the low numbers of young people who are not known to IYS resulting from effective sharing of information.

- 5.3 The co-ordination and development of the hubs has been undertaken by hub co-ordinators. These are not defined jobs and the role has been carried out by colleagues from different service areas within and external to CYPS. As part of the PIR the management requirements for IYS generally and specifically for the individual hubs will be addressed.
- 5.4 Whilst IYS supports predominantly young people from the age of 11+ it sits within the wider integrated services delivery model for North Yorkshire. The PIR will consider how to strengthen the integrated processes and management arrangements to ensure that there is a coherent pathway of care for children and young people 0-19.

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