

Third Sector Assembly

18th July 2011

Alford Hall, Warrington

Welcome, Introduction and Update

Cllr Mike Hannon

THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIP ASSEMBLY

18 JULY 2011

**JOE BLOTT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NEIGHBOURHOOD & COMMUNITY SERVICES**

NEIGHBOURHOODS

WELLBEING

Neighbourhood & Community Services

Core Purpose

To manage change effectively and efficiently ensuring a sustained focus on high quality commissioning and provision and outcomes for our communities which reduce inequalities across the Borough

Objectives

1

Minimise risk to users and carers and maximise safeguarding approaches to new opportunities whilst maintaining robust systems and processes and sound business practices

2

Ensure we have systems in place to manage the safe and appropriate transfer of functions such as Public Health into the Council

3

Work with health colleagues to understand and support the development the development of the GP Consortia to be the best it can be with all appropriate arrangements in place

4

Ensure change does not adversely impact on the delivery of our strategy securing our legacy of improving the quality and safety of care by maintaining our capacity to deliver our overall objectives

5

With residents, partners and the civil sector ensure our neighbourhoods are health, strong and active

5 Outcomes

1

The quality of commissioning is sustained through the development of an effective and influential GP consortium

2

Both service users and vulnerable people in the wider community feel safer and are confident in what are clear and accessible ways to report safeguarding

3

There are good working relationships between us and local partners, establishing an effective Health and Wellbeing Board and infrastructure

4

We have achieved and sustained financial stability with a credible forward plan

5

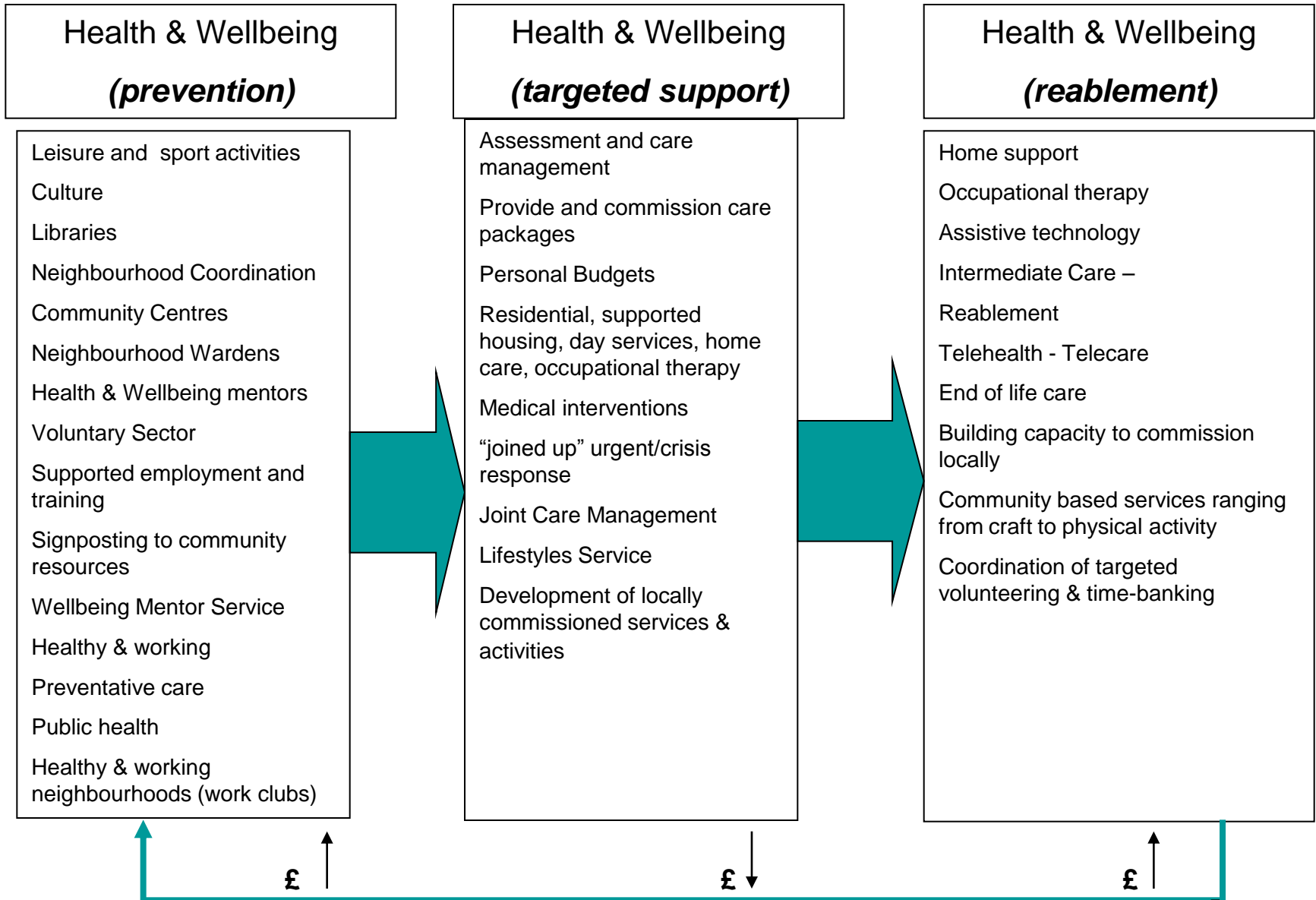
We have developed an ongoing commissioning plan to deliver our strategy in partnership with local people and partners including the Third Sector

6

We have local integrated services in neighbourhoods effectively, focusing on sustainability and reductions for inequalities

SAFEGUARDING

Neighbourhood & Community Services Directorate



Health & Wellbeing
(prevention)

Leisure and sport activities

Culture

LIBRARIES

Neighbourhood Coordination

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Neighbourhood Wardens

Health & Wellbeing mentors

VOLUNTARY SECTOR

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING

SIGNPOSTING TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Wellbeing Mentor Service

Healthy & working

PREVENTATIVE CARE

PUBLIC HEALTH

HEALTHY & WORKING NEIGHBOURHOODS (WORK CLUBS)

Localism – an update from Neighbourhoods and Culture



Jan Souness

Assistant Director, Neighbourhood and
Culture

18th July 2011

Localism – a view from Government

- Public sector reform
 - what the state can do for us?
- Community empowerment
 - what we can do for ourselves?
- Philanthropic action
 - what we can do for others?

Localism – a view from the LGA

- Culture of Responsibility
- Community Spirit
- Local and spontaneous



“Removing the need for publically funded services to build self reliance and reduced dependency”

Localism – a view from the LGA

‘Local Government should create the climate in which individuals families and businesses can work together as communities’



Community Herby Garden

Localism – a view from Warrington

- Good neighbour
- Community Activist
- Voluntary / Third Sector
- Community Led Organisations including
 - SME
 - Charitable Orgs

We do it already



Localism In Warrington – Our Third Sector Contribution

- Our Third Sector is large and diverse: 1,100 organisations, 42% based in local areas
- 24% in children / young people, 13% recreation / arts
- Combined turnover of £40m per year
- 23% of residents had used the VCS
- 97% were satisfied
- Less activity in the ‘inner wards’
- Over 22,000 volunteers
- 34% of residents have volunteered in past year
- Economic impact of volunteers is £29m

Building Localism from the Neighbourhood Up

- Neighbourhood Boards
- Commissioning Working Groups
- Parish and Town Council provision
- Transfer of Community Assets
- Collaborative working with partners



Mee Brow Fun Day

Localism underway in Warrington

- Community Hub Development
- Development of Community Asset Transfer
- Local Integrated Services Pilot
- Cultural Strategy
- Sports Strategy
- Orford Park Project
- Rugby League World Cup 2013 Bid



Neighbourhood & Community Hubs

- They are centres that put support and control back into local communities
- Working with the Development Trust Association to develop Community Management of Community Hubs.
- Supporting community and voluntary organisations to collaborate !



Community Asset Transfer

- Transferring ownership or changing management of publicly owned assets to local third sector orgs may offer opportunities to extend the use of a building or piece of land increasing its social value
- Community-led ownership may offer additional opportunities to secure funding and other resources within a local area and to empower local residents and communities.



Local Integrated Services Pilot

- Long Term Benefit Claimants
- Focused Partnership Delivery Project
- Stronger Together in Warrington Neighbourhood Management Area
- Community budgets commissioning community provision
- Increase commissioning of preventative health wellbeing and employment support services from the Third Sector
- Decrease specialist provision from public sector

Cultural Strategy 2011-14

- Recognising the amount of cultural activity there is happening in Warrington and promoting more effectively
- Grass Roots approach



Culture and Third Sector

- Town centre and Neighbourhood Festivals
- Music and Arts Festivals
- Parr Hall and Pyramid Programmes
- Museum – Exhibitions to history societies
- 2012 Programme
- Residents Carnivals
- 2013 Rugby World Cup programme

Sports & Physical Activity and Third Sector

- Club Development
- Coach and Volunteer Programmes
- Increasing participation / new activities
- Improving access DAD day
- Key events – Half marathon
- Neighbourhood Tournaments for 2012 / 2013
- Wolves Foundation and WDP
- From more sport to more people doing sport!

Orford Park Project



Opening in January 2012, the Orford Park Project aims to regenerate the area using sport, leisure, health, education and lifelong learning, to increase the health, well-being and empowerment of the local community.

Rugby League World Cup 2013

Why Warrington?

- Warrington Wolves –stadium and fans
- University of Chester Campus
- Hotels
- Retail Offer – great Town Centre
- Transport links
- 2012 Olympic Sports and Arts Programme
- Orford Park - Key Legacy Programme outside London



- Thriving Third Sector
- Volunteers
- Local clubs
- 2012 and 2013 Festivals and Carnivals
- Club development programme
- Great local and regional amenities
- Great Partnership working and TRUST

Localism - Supporting our Third Sector

- Supporting community organisations to become viable providers of services by being clear about minimum standard of quality.
- Revised standard contracts terms and conditions to ensure that they are appropriate for community organisations and customers
- Enabling community organisations to use the Council's purchasing power.

Supporting the Third Sector

- Commissioning and contracting training sessions for community organisations to increase their confidence in bidding for tendering opportunities
- Contracts have been reviewed to meet local priorities identified in the Neighbourhood Plans and that they offer value for money.
- Support the community to become providers of preventative services
- Supporting Third Sector organisations to develop new collaborative arrangements

Localism - Lessons so far

- Community strength takes time and tenacity
- Residents want more joined up thinking from government to support them e.g. volunteering
- Complexities of Commissioning
- Public and Third Sector organisational cultures are different
- Myth about the money! (it still needs paying for)
- Shift in skills for the public sector
- From Involved to Responsible Communities

Communities to be at the heart and start of the journey



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Localism and Social Capital

Third Sector Perspective
Steve Cullen



Localism Bill

- For some years now politicians have been talking about the growing dominance of Central Government over the local sphere.
- Arguments were made that bureaucratic micromanagement of public services was not only inefficient, but also undemocratic.
- ***“If central Government is everywhere then local decision making is nowhere. Everything is subject to national politics with nothing left to community leadership”*** (Greg Clarke author of Total Politics)

now the Right Hon. Greg Clarke MP
Minister of State for Decentralisation.



what is meant by decentralisation?

The Prime Minister coined the phrase “**Big Society**” which is what happens whenever people work together for the common good.

The Liberal Democrats talk about “**Community Politics**” or simply just Liberalism.

Both Parties seem committed to the shift of power from a centralised state to local communities.

They say that the best contribution that central Govt. can make is to devolve power, money and knowledge to those best placed to find the best solutions to local needs

These may include;

- Elected local representatives
- Frontline public service professionals
- Social enterprises
- Charities
- Co-operatives
- Community Groups
- Neighbourhoods and individuals



- The coalition says that decentralisation is the biggest thing that government can do to build the Big Society:- giving power back to people and communities

The Localism Bill provides six steps of essential action

1. **Lift the Burden of Bureaucracy**; remove the cost and control of unnecessary red tape and regulation.
2. **Empower Communities**; by creating rights for people to get involved with and direct the development of their communities.
3. **Increase Local Control of Public Finances**; so more decisions over how public money is spent and raised can be taken within communities.

4. **Diversify the Supply of Public Services;** by ending public sector monopolies, ensuring a level playing field for all suppliers - more choice and a better standard of service.
5. **Open up the Govt. to Public Scrutiny;** by releasing information into the public domain so people can know how their money is being spent, how it is used and to what effect.
6. **Strengthen Accountability to Local People;** giving every citizen the power to change the services provided to them through participation, choice or the ballot box.

The bill is substantial and contains many clauses covering other issues such as *buying local assets, council tax veto powers, local referendums, general power of competence for councils, 12 cities having directly elected mayors, scrapping standards boards but creating new criminal offences, publishing rules on the pay of Local Authority and Fire Authority Chief Executives, changes to planning permission, changing the power of the planning inspectorate, changes to social housing waiting lists and the homelessness duty.*

The vision, in my humble opinion a little blurred, is that this will provide the transition from

BIG Government

to



- A further white paper is now out concerning the opening up of public services.
- The Prime Minister has said that he knows what our public services can do and how they are the backbone of this country. But he says that the way they have been run for decades - old fashioned, top down, take what you are given culture, is not working for a lot of people. He wants more freedom, more choice and more local control.
- Consultation and engagement will be taking place over the summer with individuals, communities, public sector staff and providers to ensure that improvements are ambitious and practical.
- ***Are we ready to take part in the consultation ? Is the community and the sector clear about the opportunities or indeed the threats?***
- ***Do the partners - statutory, private sector, 3rd sector, communities and individuals have the structures and trust in each other to achieve any of this?***
- ***Do we have sufficient social capital in Warrington to make it work?***

Social Capital

A growing body of research over many years identifies how social capital can be beneficial to individuals and their communities.

Socially;

in terms of better health and wellbeing, higher educational achievement, lower crime etc., and

Economically;

in terms of sustainable economic development and better employment outcomes.

So where social capital is high individuals and communities tend to be healthier, happier and more productive.

So what is it ?

- Social Capital describes the pattern and the intensity of networks among people and the shared norms and values that arise from those networks. Greater interactions between people naturally create a greater sense of community spirit.
- Definitions of social capital vary but the main aspects include- citizenship, neighbourliness, social networks and civic participation.
- The community development definition is ‘networks together with shared norms values and understanding, that facilitate co-operation within or among groups.
- ***So why does it matter?***

- As previously mentioned research has shown that higher levels of social capital are associated with better health, educational achievement, lower crime, employment outcomes etc.
- Those with extensive networks are more likely to be *'housed, healthy, hired and happy'*
- All of these areas are of concern to both policy makers and community members alike.
- ***So how do you measure it ? (and there are some who say you can't)***



- There are a number of different *aspects* to social capital so measuring the *level* of social capital in communities can be complex. In surveys respondents are often asked a range of questions with a common focus on:-
- **Levels of Trust** - *whether individuals trust their neighbours or whether the neighbourhood is a place where people help each other.*
- **Membership** - *e.g. how many clubs, societies or groups individuals belong to.*
- **Networks** - *how many social contacts individuals have in their lives. Formal or informal networks are central to the concept of social capital. They are defined by the personal relationships which are accumulated when people interact with each other in families, workplaces, neighbourhoods, local associations and a range of formal and informal meeting places.*

- Different types of social capital can be described in terms of different networks.
- **Bonding Social Capital** - *describes closer connections between people - for example strong bonds between family members or the same ethnic group. GOOD FOR GETTING BY IN LIFE ?*
- **Bridging Social Capital** - *more distant connections between people, characterized by weaker more cross cutting ties e.g business associates, acquaintances, friends, different ethnic groups etc, it can bridge communities and promote social cohesion. GOOD FOR GETTING AHEAD IN LIFE ?*
- **Linking Social Capital** - *describes connections with people in positions of power. It is characterized by the relations between those within a hierarchy where there are different levels of power. Different from bonding and bridging as it concerns relations between people who are not on an equal footing. IMPORTANT FOR STRATEGIC OUTCOMES?*

- **More about groups**, which carries a broad definition- they can be geographical such as neighbourhoods, professional such as people in the same occupation, members of a local association or voluntary org. Social groups such as families, faith based groups, groups of friends, political groups, virtual groups- networks created over the internet and any common interest groups or forums. The third sector network hub and of course this assembly meeting today are good examples.
- **Norms and Values** - are the basis for the underlying culture of any group or community. They create the kind of relationships and hence the very networks being developed. Social capital is generated when people work together to make things happen. It is what is generated when people get involved and ask others to get involved.
- **Trust and Reciprocity** - reciprocity occurs when a person or a body gives to someone else, expecting a fair and tangible return at some undefined future date. Reciprocity will often lead to a relationship of trust.

- **Trust** - *think about who you care about, get on with or work best with. Most likely they will be the people you trust most. Trust is at the heart of social capital. **TRUST IS HARD WON AND MORE EASILY LOST!***
- **The highest levels of information and resource exchange takes place in relationships of trust, built on the knowledge of others being trustworthy.**
- **Investing in social capital** *can develop shared common purpose and creates dialogue between different interests and views in the public sphere.*
- *It can increase participation between the community organisations and the structures outside communities.*
- *It gives access to power institutions and decision making processes e.g. local authorities, representation on strategic partnerships and neighbourhood boards etc*

- **Health Warnings:-** *Involvement is not enough, we all need genuine active engagement.*
- Whilst social capital does not happen on its own it also can't be engineered. What can be done - is to help to create the right conditions for it, and that is the responsibility of us all if we want our communities to reap the benefits.
- Local Partnerships need more than just structures. They may well show equal representation of all partners, but they may still fail to engage communities properly.
- Successful partnerships are built on trust and supportive relationships. Without this partnerships will be weak - especially when things get tough.

- Trust between communities and the Council and other statutory partners can take an age to build, but only seconds to destroy. **In deprived areas trust can be fragile - based on long histories of disappointment.**
- **PLANNING FOR TRUST IS THEREFORE ESSENTIAL. NO EMPTY PROMISES**
- Continued investment in social capital is vital. Never more so than in the current economic climate.
- If localism is to succeed it can only do so with a shared common purpose and clearly agreed norms and values across those horizontal and vertical planes. (*shouldn't we be doing this anyway?*)
- We should continue to do what we do better than most other towns and cities. We must continue to build on what we have, to achieve our ambition of ***One Warrington, where everyone matters.***

2011-14 Children and Young People's Plan



Consultation on suggested core themes and priorities

July to September 2011

Background

- No longer a statutory requirement to have a Children and Young People's Trust Board or to produce a Children and Young People's Plan ('CYP Plan').
- Agreed locally to retain the Children and Young People's Partnership and CYP Plan to provide clarity over priorities and the delivery of improved outcomes.
- The 2011-14 CYP Plan marks a re statement of partners commitment to work together to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

Key principal

- C&YP Partnership recognise the importance of a joint statement of priorities that is focussed on those issues where joint action is essential .
- Whilst partners will continue to work for all children and young people, the focus of the 2011-14 CYP Plan will be targeted on those vulnerable to the poorest outcomes.

The Voluntary & Community Sector

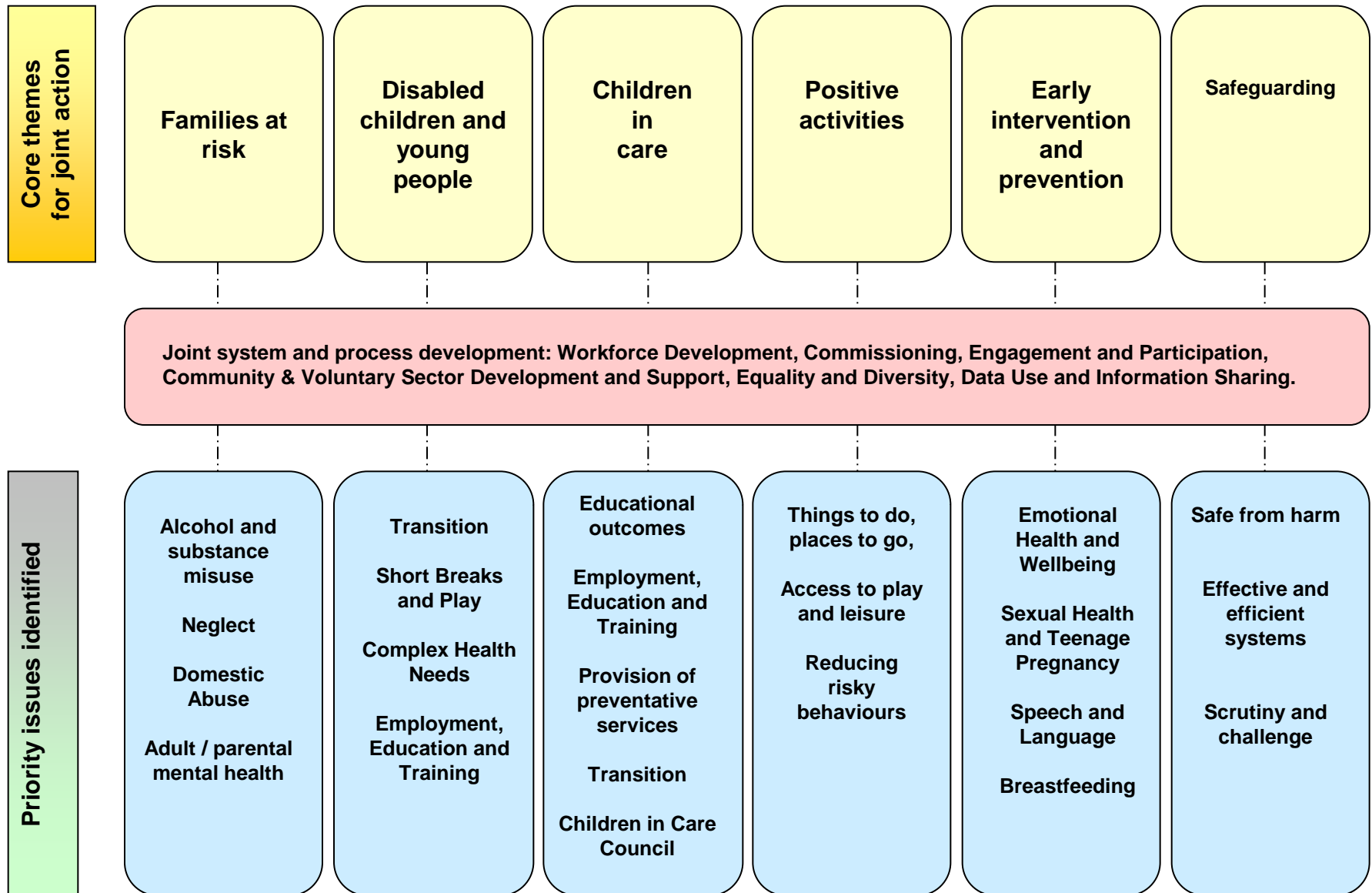
- Partnership working includes not just the statutory agencies but also voluntary and community sector organisations and groups.
- Organisations in the voluntary and community sector work with hundreds of children, young people and their families across Warrington.
- The sector plays an important role in improving outcomes for children and young people and makes a significant contribution to priorities in the CYP Plan.

Purpose of consultation

Your views are important in shaping the content of the final CYP Plan, therefore the purpose of the consultation exercise is to:

- Provide you with explanation of why the core themes and priorities presented have been suggested.
- Provide you with an opportunity to feedback your views and comments.

Recommended core themes and priorities to be presented for wider consultation



What next?

- Respond to the consultation questionnaire in your delegate packs on the suggested core themes and priorities for the CYP Plan.
- Do you agree with the proposed core themes and priorities? Suggest others if you don't.

What else can you do?

- Think about how your organisation or service contributes to the suggested core themes and priorities of the CYP Plan.
- Contribute to ongoing developments through links to Children and Young People's Partnership and its sub-groups – representation at the Partnership via John Chandler

For further information,
please contact:

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Warrington Borough Council

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Due North

'e-tendering – The Chest'

Third Sector Assembly July 2011

What is The Chest?

- It has been written by an organisation called 'Due North';
- An internet based system which manages the tender process;
- Covers the North West – Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester; Lancashire and Merseyside;
- Neighbouring Councils – Halton, Cheshire East and Cheshire West advertise on 'The Chest';

Advantages for tenderers

- Simple, no cost registration process;
- Can be accessed from any PC with internet access – no additional hardware or software required;
- Ability to identify relevant CPV codes or key words, the system will automatically send an alert via e-mail when a suitable tender is advertised;
- Can download and upload documentation;
- Can view current contract notices from those Council's who are 'signed up' to The Chest;
- Can resubmit information which has been used for previous tender exercises (pre qualification questionnaires).

Advantages for the Council

- 'Free' advertising – no need to publish notices in local press or trade journals;
- Automatically published SOJEU contract notices (above £156,442);
- Tender timescales are more closely monitored – 'reminder' e-mails if pre-defined actions are not take by a particular time;
- Registration of interest and despatch of electronic documents can be automated;
- Standardise documentation – templates will be available to view and adapt as necessary;
- Fully auditable 'trail'.

When will this be introduced?

- Intention is that higher value tenders (above £156,442) will be advertised on The Chest in September 2011.
- Intention is that all tenders will be advertised on The Chest by the end of 2011.
- There are some exceptions – where there will be a direct approach.
- Internet address – www.thechest.nwce.gov.uk
- Do I need to wait until September before registering with The Chest?

Question & Answer Session

Workshops

- **1 – Funding**
- **2 – Winning the Business**
- **3 – An Introduction to Commissioning and Getting Ready to be Commissioned**

Lunch

Summary & Close

Cllr Kate Hannon