

CHILD FRIENDLY CITY UPDATE

Cardiff Council – Director of Education & Lifelong Learning

REASON FOR THIS REPORT

1. To provide the board with an overview of the current position in relation to Cardiff's ambition to be globally recognised as a Child Friendly City, through participation in the Unicef UK Child Friendly City and Communities Programme.
2. To seek the approval of the Board to:
 - Implement the proposed governance structure for the programme.
 - Move forward with the proposed areas of work.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Programme outline

3. Cardiff aspires to be a city where all children and young people have an equal chance to be the best that they can be. In 2018 very many children and young people in Cardiff lead safe, happy and active lives and feel listened to and respected by the adults around them. However, there remains much to do in order to make rights a reality for all children and young people in Cardiff.
4. Child Friendly City and Communities is a global programme that brings together Unicef and local government to put children's rights at the heart of communities and public services. It supports Local Authorities and partners in developing a child rights-based approach, when designing, delivering, monitoring and evaluating local services and strategies for children.
5. When local authorities take a child rights based approach children and young people:
 - Know and understand their rights.
 - Know what services are there to support them and are empowered to seek help.
 - Have a say in the design, delivery and evaluation of services.
 - Are recognised as experts of their circumstances and feel ownership of their care.
 - Experience connected, tailored and responsive services, even if their needs are complex.
 - Feel safe, nurtured, prioritised and are treated with dignity.

Programme initiation

6. Unicef provided an initial briefing for Council representatives including Cabinet Members, Senior Managers and members of Cardiff Youth Council in July 2016. A range of scoping events were then held with a broad range of stakeholders to inform the development of an expression of interest to Unicef's Child Rights Programme in December 2016.
7. An invitation to become a formal Unicef programme partner was received in January 2017 and the commitment of Cabinet to proceed was secured in March 2017.
8. Cardiff is one of only 5 UK partners accepted on to the programme. The Unicef partners in the UK are Cardiff, Aberdeen, Derry and Strabane, Newcastle and the London Borough of Barnet.

Strategic alignment

Well-being plan

9. The Child Friendly City Programme aligns to the principles and goals laid out in the city's Well-being Plan by using a child's rights approach to focus on the areas of public service delivery which require partnership working between the city's public and community services, and with the citizens of Cardiff. As stated in the Well-being Objective 4 – Cardiff is a great place to grow up - we will:

'Place the voice and experience of young people at the heart of public services in Cardiff through adopting a Child's Rights approach and becoming a Unicef 'Child Friendly City'.

Capital Ambition

10. By providing a unifying umbrella for a range of local strategies, initiatives, services and agencies focused on improving child well-being, the Child Friendly City programme helps to advance the vision and values set out in the recently launched Capital Ambition programme by addressing poverty and inequality and by delivering the best outcomes for children.
11. The delivery of the Child Friendly City programme is a priority in the current Corporate Plan and will continue to be a key priority in the new Corporate Plan in 2018.

Programme timelines

12. The Child Friendly City programme is a 3 year programme consisting of 3 elements:

Discovery Phase:	November 2017 – April 2018
Implementation Phase:	2018 – 2019
Evaluation Phase:	2020 (Unicef global recognition)

- 13.** Progress will be assessed through self-evaluation and by an independent panel of experts in human rights, child well-being and public services. A successful outcome would lead to global recognition as a Unicef Child Friendly City.

Programme discovery

- 14.** A six month programme ‘Discovery Phase’ has enabled Cardiff to consider the programme, with key stakeholders in the local context. Key activities to to date are:

- Setting up a Children and Young People’s Advisory Board
- Establishing a multi-agency Operational Group
- C&YP Engagement Programme
- C&YP Discovery Day
- Schools Communities of Enquiry Programme
- Creative CFC Programme in primary schools
- Joint Discovery Day with CYPAB and multi-agency adult cohort
- Action Plan Development
- Baseline – surveys and focus groups
- Selection of focused areas of work

Vision and principles for a Child Friendly Cardiff

- 15.** The programme will enable a focus upon improving outcomes in discrete, well defined areas that will enable us to demonstrate change and added value over time. It is proposed that there will be a focus on cultural change – i.e. improving knowledge, awareness and understanding of Child Rights and a specific ‘thematic’ focus on three key areas agreed by stakeholders (including young people):

Four areas of focus:

- Cultural change – knowledge, awareness, understanding and behaviour.
- Education
- Health
- Family & Belonging

Cultural change – the building blocks for a child rights approach

- 16.** The foundational building blocks of communication, leadership and developing a rights respecting culture are key to the programme’s success. The programme must change culture and behaviours across the city, developing a workforce that is knowledgeable and confident in using a rights based approach, where people work together to make the city better for children and young people.
- 17.** It is imperative that information about children’s rights is shared with children, young people and adults in different ways and people know when important

decisions affecting children, young people and families are being made. We have commenced a capacity building programme both with children and young people in schools and a wide range of adults. A rights respecting training programme for all elected members also started in the autumn of 2017.

Education

'Children and young people are able to learn about the world around them in a safe, welcoming and respectful place':

18. Highlighted areas for a child's rights approach in education:

- Children should learn about their rights in schools as this will have long term positive outcomes.
- Children and young people feel that schools need to be a safer place; discrimination and bullying in education settings should be addressed and pupils should be part of designing the solutions.
- Good emotional health and well-being should be better promoted in all schools including coping strategies and how to get support, especially around exam time.
- Improve PSE for all learners so that school prepares you to be an independent, active citizen and not just for employment.
- Improve support for the most vulnerable learners so that they reach their potential.

Health

'Children and young people have good physical, mental and emotional health, are supported if they have any additional needs and know how to stay healthy':

19. Highlighted areas for a child's rights approach in health:

- Better education on how to stay healthy both physically, mentally and emotionally.
- Access to good quality emotional health support and intervention services both in schools and communities.
- A more accessible and improved transport infrastructure that will enhance the environment and improve people's health.

Family and Belonging

'Families are supported to be together; can get help if they are struggling and can enjoy activities and have fun around the city':

20. Highlighted areas for a child's rights approach in family & belonging:

- Provide opportunities for parents / families to learn about children's rights so that they can enable their children to claim their rights.
- Improve outcomes for children who are looked after by the Local Authority by embedding a child's rights approach to the role of Corporate Parenting.

- Families should be involved in the shaping and reviewing of services.
- Make sure family services are working together to improve the lives of families, especially those facing challenges such as poverty, employment and health issues.
- Ensure that younger children have the opportunity to share their views on issues that affect them
- Provide help and support to children who experience trauma in their early years to reduce the impact later in life.

21. The following key principles have also been identified to underpin a Child Friendly Cardiff, and will be observed in all programme activity:

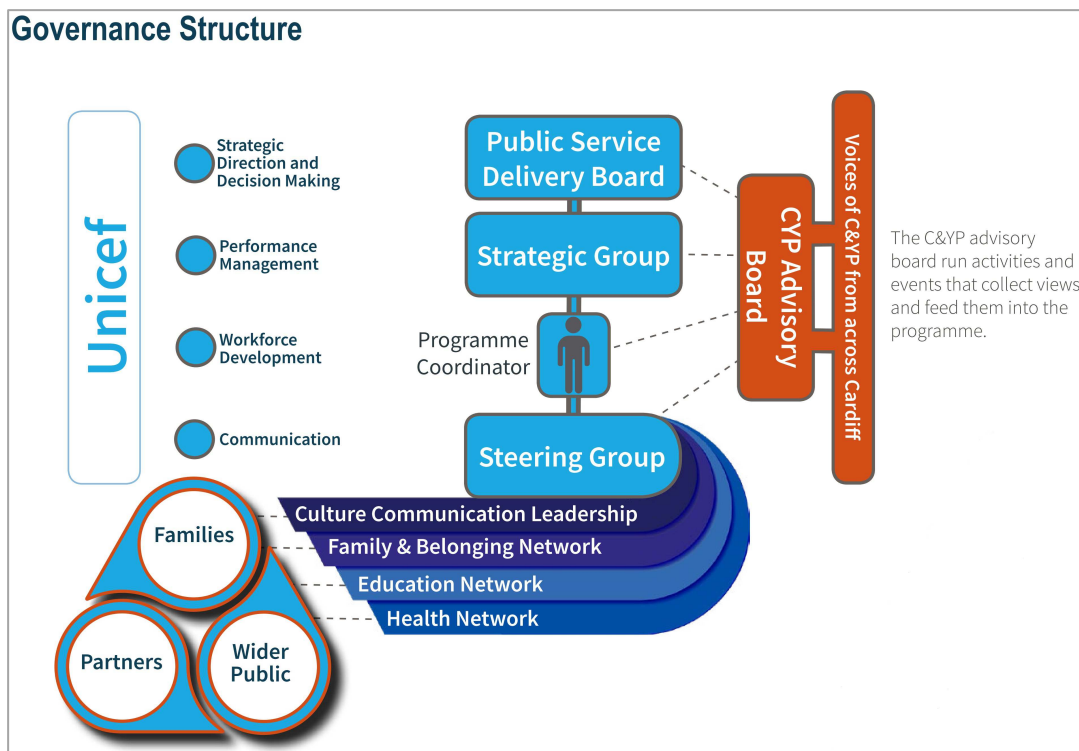
Protection - C&YP are safe and protected from harm.

Participation - C&YP are supported to share their views and influence decisions that affect them.

Dignity - C&YP are treated with respect and dignity. Realising their right to be heard on issues that affect them is fundamentally important.

Equality - C&YP are free from discrimination of all kinds.

Delivering the Programme



22. The Local Authority is the formal partner with Unicef UK but it is essential that the governance arrangements reflect the collaborative partnership involved in the delivery element of the programme (See appendix i).

23. It is proposed that there are five elements within the structure:

1. PSB Delivery Board
 - Overarching authority for the Child Friendly City (CFC) programme in Cardiff.
 - Authorising the scope and strategic remit of the CFC programme.
2. CFC Strategic Group
 - Director of Education Senior representation - Health, Education, Corporate Policy, Police, 3rd Sector.
 - Creating and communicating the vision for the CFC programme.
Providing clear leadership and direction to drive programme delivery and success.
3. CFC Steering Group
 - Network chairs and Programme Coordinator
 - Translating strategic direction and plans into action on the ground
 - Co-ordination of communication and engagement networks
4. Programme Networks
 - Key stakeholders from across the partnership with a vested interest in the action plan.
 - Enable appropriate and meaningful stakeholder engagement
 - Develop and implement the action plan
5. Children and Young People's Advisory Board (CYPAB)
 - Young people from across Cardiff.
 - Advocate for C&YP, co-produce action and act as critical friend to programme.
 - Holding the CFC programme to account, to deliver upon the expectations of C&YP.

Programme Champions

24. Authorities must be able to demonstrate political and strategic commitment to the partnership and willingness to work collaboratively and creatively with Unicef UK, local partners and children and young people. The role of Child Rights Partner Champion is to:

- Raise the profile of the programme across the city
- Champion children's rights
- Support momentum throughout the journey

Programme Champions:

Political Champion – Cllr Sarah Merry, Deputy Leader

Senior Manager Champion – Nick Batchelar, Director of Education

PSB Champion -Maria Battle UHB Chair / PSB Vice Chair

Performance Framework

25. A performance management framework will be developed to enable us to measure the impact of the programme over time. Specific performance measures both quantitative (KPIs) and qualitative through surveys and focus groups will be created, and a baseline will be populated within the coming months. **See Appendix 1.**

Action Plan Development

26. The Discovery phase has provided the opportunity for C&YP to contribute to the Child Friendly City vision for Cardiff. Adult stakeholders have had the opportunity to meet with CYPAB members to listen to the key messages from C&YP engagements events and to co-identify key areas to focus upon over the duration of the programme.
27. C&YP will now join adults from across the partnership in February 2018 to take part in a series of community enquiries to identify the outcomes and activities that will lead to sustainable change and form the basis of the 3 year CFC action plan.
28. The action plan will be submitted for approval in spring 2018.

Programme Delivery

29. A number of programme activities have already been initiated. **See Appendix 2.** These include:

Education:

- iSay Ambassadors Programme - rights based workshops across primary and secondary schools.
- Rights Respecting Schools - multi-tiered training programme and intensive cluster pilot.
- Development of Hate Crime Reporting Guidance for Schools.

Health:

- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service Peer Inspection.
- Peer led website MindHub recommissioned for additional 2 years 2018-2020.

Family and Belonging:

- Parent Ambassadors engagement.
- Childminders UNCRC Training Module.

Workforce Development:

- Phase 1 January – September 2018
- Senior Managers & Elected Members
- Children's Workforce
- Policy Forum

Participation Development

- Primary School Grand Council
- Digital Platform – Pilot Vocaleyes

30. Support required from the Public Services Delivery Board

- To champion programme values and aspirations to embed children's rights throughout communities and organisations
- To complete baseline surveys and focus groups with children, young people, families and the workforce.
- To share relevant data with Unicef relating to the programmes core business where appropriate
- To provide access to skills and resources across organisations to enable the partnership to succeed.

31. Decision required:

To:

- Implement the proposed governance structure for the programme.
- Move forward with the proposed areas of work.

NICK BATCHELAR - Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

16th January 2018

The following appendices are attached:

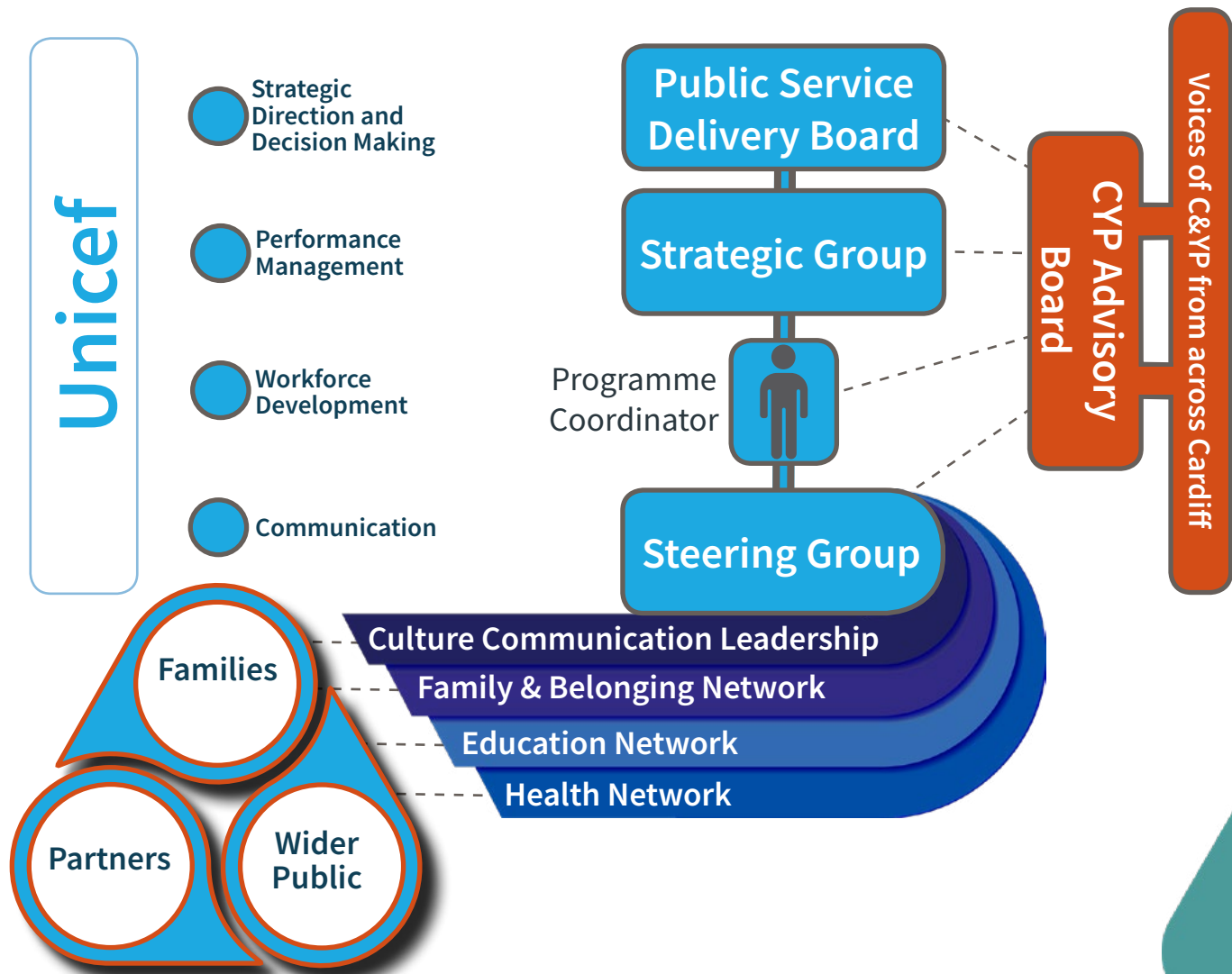
Appendix 1 – CFC Governance and Performance Overview

Appendix 2 – CFC Pre-implementation Activity Template

Cardiff's Proposed Child Friendly City Governance Structure



Governance Structure



The C&YP advisory board run activities and events that collect views and feed them into the programme.



Executive PSB

Chaired by Council Chief Executive

Membership – Executive Officers from public services

Term of reference

- Overarching authority for the Child Friendly City (CFC) programme in Cardiff
- Authorising the scope and strategic remit of the CFC programme
- Approving the key desired outcomes and programme priorities as proposed by the CFC Strategic group
- Influencing partnership buy in and engagement with the programme
- Receiving reports which monitor and evaluate progress
- Approving any strategic change to the programme
- Unblocking any barriers to programme delivery
- Supporting programme resourcing and sustainability
- Agreeing and supporting promotional activity and events.

CFC Strategic Group

Chaired by Director of Education and Lifelong Learning

Membership - Senior representation from Health, Education, Corporate Policy, Police, 3rd Sector & CYPAB

Term of reference

- Creating and communicating the vision for the CFC programme
- Providing clear leadership and direction to drive programme delivery and success
- Proposing the scope and strategic remit of the CFC programme
- Setting the key desired outcomes and programme priorities in collaboration with operational leaders, children and young people
- Approving the programme plan and key milestones over the 3 year period
- Monitoring and evaluating progress throughout against key deliverables and performance measures
- Providing information, advice and guidance to the Programme Manager
- Championing Children's rights in individual organisations – ensuring that key stakeholders are engaged early and at appropriate milestones throughout the programme.

CFC Programme Lead Officer

Role

- Day to day management of the CFC programme
- Planning and designing the programme with partners and proactively monitoring progress
- Identifying resource requirements and working with leadership to secure these
- Resolving issues and taking corrective action – including escalation of issues and risks to the Strategic Group
- Maintaining overall integrity and coherence of the programme
- Key conduit between the programme and Unicef UK
- Overseeing performance management activity and appropriate governance arrangements
- Co-ordinating reports to Strategic Group and Executive PSB
- Co-ordinating links with Children and Young People's Advisory Board (CYPAB)
- Organising and facilitating the CFC Steering Group and associated networks.



CFC Steering Group

Multi-agency steering group chaired by CFC Programme Lead Officer
Membership – Chair of four networks plus Coordinator

Term of reference

- Translating strategic direction and plans into action on the ground
- Coordination of communication and engagement networks
- Collating and sharing of best practice
- Performance management – including operational planning and reporting
- Ongoing consultation and evaluation with key stakeholders
- Reporting to the Strategic Group.

C&YP Advisory Board

Chaired by Member of Youth Parliament
Membership – Young people from across the city with various experience and backgrounds

Terms of reference

- Advocate for C&YP, co-produce action and act as critical friend to programme
- Holding the CFC programme to account, to deliver upon the expectations of CYP.

Programme Network

Chaired by Council Officer or member of partnership organisations
Membership – key stakeholders from across the partnership with a vested interested in the action plan

Terms of reference

- Enable appropriate and meaningful stakeholder engagement
- Develop and implement the action plan
- Performance evaluation and reporting.



Performance Management Framework

Establishing a baseline

1. Children's Rights – 'Knowledge, Attitudes and Behaviours', aligned to the three key programme areas:

- Culture
- Co-operation and Leadership
- Communication.

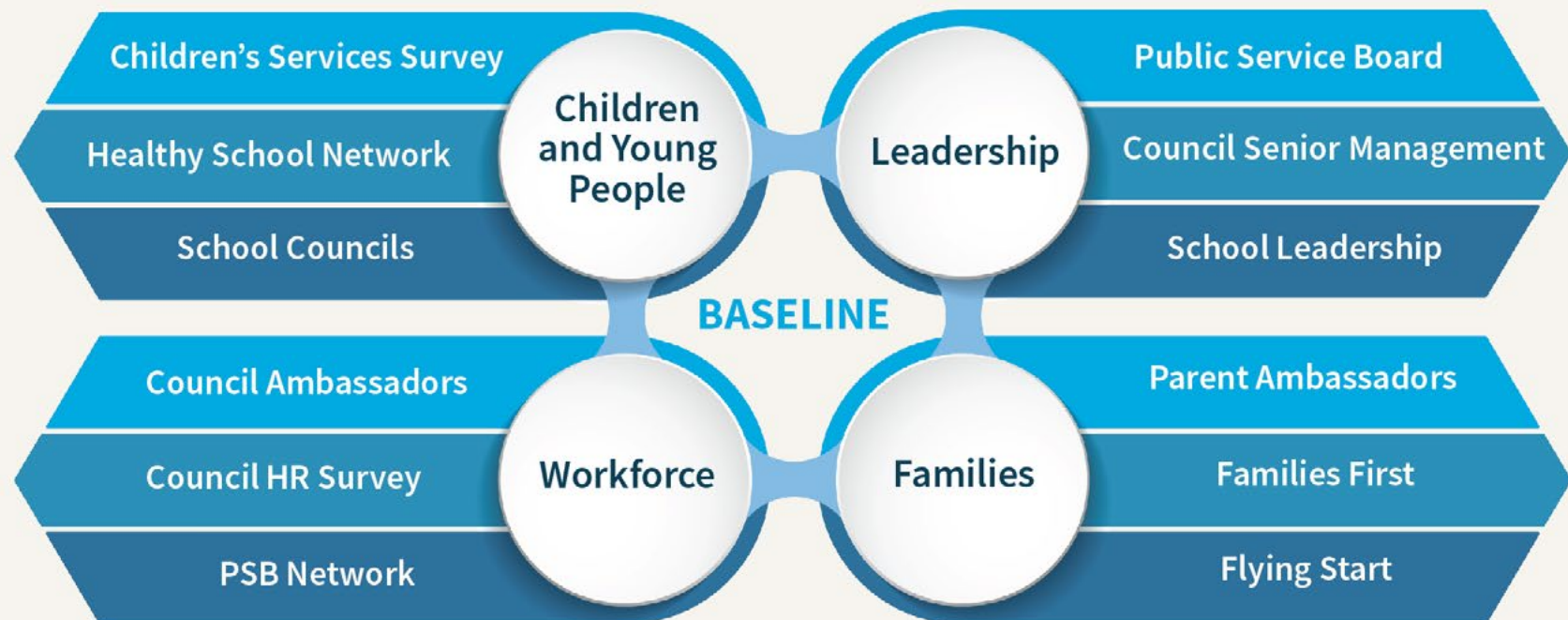
2. Children's Rights – Specific performance measures both quantitative (KPIs) and qualitative through surveys and focus groups to create a framework which will enable a focus upon discrete areas of interest within the three thematic areas. These will be based upon improving outcomes in discrete, well defined areas, that will enable us to demonstrate change and added value over time in those areas that Children and Young People have signposted as 'areas of concern'.

Monitoring performance

Once the baseline is determined, a key suite of measures will be produced, with timelines to indicate when performance will be checked and reviewed. Performance against the agreed measures will be tracked and monitored by the **Steering Group** and reported to the **Strategy Group** and **Executive PSB** at agreed intervals.

Programme evaluation will be in accordance with practice agreed with Unicef UK.

Establishing a baseline January – April 2018



Cardiff Programme Principles

- **Protection** C&YP are safe and protected from harm
- **Dignity** C&YP are respected and treated with dignity
- **Participation** C&YP are supported to share their views and influence decisions that affect them

Equality C&YP are free from discrimination of all kinds

Programme Accelerator Areas		Impact
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • iSay Ambassadors Programme - rights based workshops across primary and secondary schools • Rights Respecting Schools multi-tiered training programme and intensive cluster pilot • Development of Hate Crime Reporting Guidance for Schools • Skills for Life programme development • Vocaleyes Digital Platform Pilot in schools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of C&YP receiving training • Number of school attaining RRS bronze / silver award • Number of incidents reported • Number of YP reporting they feel prepared for independent living • Number of C&YP registered as active users
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service Peer Inspection • Peer led website MindHub recommissioned for additional 2 years 2018-2020 • Peer led emotional health and well-being commissioned project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of C&YP reporting satisfaction with service • Number of website hits • Number of C&YP reporting improved well-being
Family and Belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Ambassadors development • Childminders UNCRC Training Module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of parents engaged in the CFC programme • Number of online modules completed
Workforce Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 January – September • Senior Managers • Elected Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of LA staff who have received child rights training

Child Friendly City Action Plan

Draft

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Workforce • Policy Forum • Health Sector • Phase 2 September – March • Accelerator Area Specific • Elected Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of staff demonstrating change of knowledge, attitudes and practice • Evidence shows long-term positive impact on CYP's lives and experiences
Policy Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Rights Impact Assessment • Child Rights Approach to Scrutiny • Children's Rights Strategy • Annual Rights Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % decisions, policies, acts, services, programmes, procedures and proposal concerning children which demonstrate that the CR have been a primary consideration
Performance Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance Framework • Reporting Protocols • Partnership Functions • Outcomes and KPI's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % CYP and families who report feeling the LA is more child friendly • % increase of children reporting positive experience of local services • Evidence shows long-term positive impact on CYP's lives and experiences
Participation Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary School Grand Council • Digital Platform – Pilot Vocaleyes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of CYP who participated in strategy development/child rights council decisions or other activities, who feel that their views were taken into account. • % staff who report greater awareness of children's issues