

Slough Borough Council

Report To:	Cabinet
Date:	17 th November 2025
Subject:	Slough Children and Young People's Partnership Plan 25 - 26
Lead Member:	Councillor Puja Bedi – Lead Member for Finance, Children and Lifelong Learning
Chief Officer:	Sue Butcher, Executive Director Children's Services Chief Executive Slough Children First (SCF)
Contact Officer:	Charlotte Littlemore, Public Health Programme Manager (SBC)
Ward(s):	All
Key Decision:	YES
Exempt:	NO
Decision Subject To Call In:	YES
Appendices:	Appendix A - Slough Children and Young People's Partnership Plan Appendix B – Equality Impact Assessment

1. Summary and Recommendations

- 1.1 This report seeks approval from Cabinet of the refreshed Slough Children and Young People's Partnership Plan. The ambition of the plan is to 'Support children and young people in Slough to be Happy, Safe & Loved, Thriving.'
- 1.2 The Children & Young People Partnership Board (CYPPB) is made up of members from a range of local organisations that exist to support the children and young people in Slough, that includes the Thames Valley Police, Together as One, Healthwatch, Resource Production, Youth Engagement Slough, NHS Frimley, Slough Children First, local schools and Slough Borough Council.
- 1.3 The CYPPB is responsible for co-ordinating the development and delivery of programmes of work, set out in the Children and Young People's Plan, and other local and national policy objectives, that deliver the health and wellbeing strategic priorities agreed by the Slough Wellbeing Board, and other national requirements, to meet the needs of children young people and their families resident in Slough.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is recommended to approve the Slough Children and Young People's Partnership plan for 2025-2026.

Reason:

- 1.4 The Children and Young People's Partnership plan is a key strategy setting out priorities and affirming partners' shared ambition for every child and young person in Slough to be healthy, happy, safe and thriving.

Commissioner Review

This report is outside the scope for pre-publication commissioner review; please check the [Commissioners' instruction 5 to CLT to sign off papers](#) for further details.

2. Report**Introductory paragraph**

- 2.1 The Children and Young People's Partnership Plan 2025 – 2026, has identified five key priority areas:
 - 2.1.1 Priority 1 - Children and young people in Slough feel safe, happy, and thriving—supported by a culture of belonging and equality that respects and embraces all protected characteristics, ensuring equal access and inclusion for all.
 - 2.1.2 Priority 2 - Every child can achieve their full learning potential in school & thrive in employment opportunities.
 - 2.1.3 Priority 3 - Empower children and young people to be active and healthy, and to have good mental wellbeing.
 - 2.1.4 Priority 4 - Ensure that the vision and voices of children and young people are central to shaping Slough's direction and play a key role in informing its strategic development.
 - 2.1.5 Priority 5 - Ensure that every child and young person has the right support to access high-quality housing and accommodation that fosters a sense of belonging.
- 2.2 Each priority area includes a set of key actions and success indicators, with a named CYPPB lead assigned responsibility for delivery.
- 2.3 As this plan was developed in 2025, the CYPPB recognises that children, young people and families are facing daily challenges and living with great uncertainty. Inequalities are affecting children and young people in Slough in different ways. These inequalities risk shaping their futures in ways that no child should have to endure, therefore we must ensure that the needs of our youngest and most vulnerable are not overlooked but placed at the very heart of the CYPPB collective response and action.
- 2.4 To achieve this, the CYPPB are committed to:
 - 2.4.1 Deepen their understanding of intersectional inequalities that impact children and young people in Slough.

- 2.4.2 Engage with children and families in decisions, ensuring that their voices are heard and acted upon.
- 2.4.3 Use shared intelligence, data and information to understand our progress and to target our resources to where they are needed most.
- 2.4.4 Prioritise children and families who are vulnerable.

Strategic Alignment

- 2.5 The re-established Children and Young People's Partnership Plan 2025 – 2026 will contribute to achieving the priorities outlined in the SBC Corporate Plan 2023-2027, in particularly supporting the priority to be a borough for children and young to thrive.
- 2.6 The priorities outlined in this plan are also in line with the national strategy 'Giving every child the best start in life 2025', which aims to improve child development.

Options considered

Options	Pros	Cons
Option 1 Refresh the Children and Young People's Partnership Plan Recommended	A clear strategic direction and work programme for the partnership is established.	None.
Option 2 Do not refresh the Children and Young People's Partnership Plan Not recommended	No clear advantages.	A missed opportunity to develop a clear strategic direction and work programme for the partnership.

Option 1 is recommended.

Background

Plan development & design

- 2.7 In December 2024, the CYPPB agreed to review and refresh the Children and Young People Partnership Plan. Following this decision, members of the CYPPB participated in a half-day workshop in January 2025 to begin identifying potential priority areas for the refreshed plan.
- 2.8 By March 2025, a draft set of priorities had been developed. These were shared for consultation throughout April and May with a range of teams, services, and partners across the children and young people's system. Feedback from this engagement helped shape a second draft of the plan, which was completed in June and subsequently circulated for further consultation.
- 2.9 In August 2025, Together as One facilitated a focus group with children and young people to gather their views on the proposed priorities. Their feedback was

instrumental in shaping the final version of the plan, which was formally signed off by the CYPPB in September 2025.

2.10 CYPPB partner organisations will now take the finalised plan through their respective internal governance processes for formal approval and sign-off.

Why a Change is Needed

2.11 The CYPPB plan was re-established to establish a clear strategic direction for the partnership, co-designed by all members over an 11-month development process. This period has also facilitated a good level of consultation with young people in Slough.

Implementation, Oversight and Monitoring

2.12 To ensure transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement the CYPPB will:

2.12.1 Undertake quarterly reviews – progress will be reviewed on a quarterly basis at each CYPPB meetings.

2.12.2 Annual Reporting – the CYPPB will publish annual reports to openly share progress and highlight the Board's activities.

2.12.3 Strategic Review and Reprioritisation – after one year of delivery, the CYPPB will conduct a comprehensive review of progress towards achieving the vision and adjust priorities as needed.

3. Implications of the Recommendation

3.1 *Financial implications*

3.1.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with the refreshed plan or the CYPPB, as there is no dedicated budget for the partnership to deliver the work programme. Instead, delivery is embedded within each partner's business-as-usual activities.

3.2 *Legal implications*

3.2.1 The Council has duties under the Children Act 2004 to cooperate with partner authorities to help, protect and promote the welfare of children. Whilst the statutory duty to prepare and publish a children and young people's plan has been repealed, the Council has overarching duties to protect children and to work with other agencies in order to deliver these duties. The Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance sets out key responsibilities of statutory bodies and other partners both individually and collectively.

3.3 *Risk management implications*

Risks	Mitigations	Residual Risk Assessment
Lack of partnership engagement inhibits delivery of actions	<p>Joint ownership of the CYP plan will be explicit at the outset.</p> <p>Partners are presently undertaking relevant approval processes for the Plan within their respective organisations. Partner commitment will be visible within the plan through inclusion of respective logo's/ signatures.</p>	Low
Ambitions reflected in the plan are unrealistic due to the limited partnership resource to support delivery	<p>Quarterly monitoring will be undertaken to track delivery.</p> <p>Annual Reporting – the CYPPB will publish annual reports to openly share progress and highlight the Board's activities.</p> <p>Strategic Review and Reprioritisation – after one year of delivery, the CYPPBR will conduct a comprehensive review of progress towards achieving the vision and adjust priorities as needed.</p>	Low

3.4 *Environmental implications*

3.4.1 There are no environmental impacts.

3.5 *Equality implications*

3.5.1 The delivery and implementation of the refreshed Children and Young People's Partnership Plan is expected to positively impact children and young people with protected characteristics.

3.5.2 The CYPPB is committed to a coordinated approach in delivering a strategic work programme aimed at improving outcomes for children and young people. This will be achieved by using detailed evidence, data, and insights to better understand and address the needs of those with protected characteristics in Slough—particularly those experiencing the greatest inequalities.

3.5.3 A completed Equality Impact Assessment is available in Appendix B.

3.5.4 The Children and Young People Partnership's plan supports Slough Borough Council statutory equality objectives, most specifically:

- Objective 1 - Improve Outcomes for Children and Young People who are more likely to be disadvantaged based on their protected characteristics, including SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability).
- Objective 2 - Work with partners, including housing providers, to target health inequalities and well-being between those from different protected characteristic groups.
- Objective 3 - Work with partners to improve Community Safety, in particular focusing on violence experienced by women and girls.

3.6 *Corporate Parenting Implications*

3.6.1 Priority 4 – ‘Ensure that the vision and voices of children and young people are central to shaping Slough’s direction and play a key role in informing its strategic development’ directly supports the delivery of Slough’s Corporate Parenting Strategy 2024 – 2027.

4. **Background Papers**

None