

**Nottinghamshire County Council  
Children's Social Care Transformation  
Programme,**

**A new Vision, Focus and Operating Model**

**Safeguarding Children Board 11<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

# Children's Social Care Vision

“To give the **most** vulnerable children and young people in Nottinghamshire the support and **protection** they need to be **safe**, secure, happy and to achieve their full potential”

# Why a new vision and focus? Demand

| <b>Social Care activity measure</b> | <b>June 2008 – June 2009</b> | <b>June 2009- June 2010</b> | <b>June 2010- June 2011*</b> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Contacts                            | 10,031                       | 14,308                      | 17,252                       |
| Referrals                           | 6,164                        | 9,595                       | 9,488                        |
| Initial Assessments                 | 4,866                        | 5,589                       | 8,373                        |
| Core Assessments                    | 728                          | 1,096                       | 2,083                        |
| Child Protection Plans              | 398                          | 727                         | 824                          |
| Looked After Children (LAC) **      | 501                          | 623                         | 716                          |

# Programme background

- The Transformation Programme in Children's Social Care is the key vehicle to continue our improvement journey, following a period of unprecedented pressure and challenge
- The last three years have been very difficult for children's social care, with unprecedented increase in demand for our services and a resulting dip in our performance.
- However as a consequence of the hard work and commitment of front line staff, additional financial support and the development of a clear vision for our service we have over the last 12 months moved from a period of crisis to a period of relative stability
- We need to build on the improvements we have made and transform the service into a sustainable model which delivers not only improved outcomes for children and families, but manageable workloads for our staff and cost-effective services in the challenging economic climate everyone is experiencing

# Aims of the programme

- Success for this programme will mean:
- An embedded new model of children's social care, based on the Children's Social Care vision
- A high-quality service all are confident in and proud of – including the community, politicians, staff, others in the council and all partners
- A service which makes best use of resources and is financially sustainable
- Good timing! This is an ideal time for Nottinghamshire to transform children's social care - we have great support across the board

# How will we achieve this

- Our transformation programme will be looking at all aspects of the services we provide, from entry into the system (and our links with early intervention and prevention), to locality working, care planning, achieving permanence and safely exiting children from the system
- Our transformation will be driven from within, by people currently working in our service who understand the work we do.
- The communication strategy will ensure that colleagues are fully informed and appropriately involved in the various projects being delivered through the transformation programme – this is vital!
- We are also supported in this work by our partner iMPower, whose role is to assist, challenge and guide us through our transformation work using their knowledge and experience of effecting change in the children's social care sector.

# Communication strategy

- To achieve the strategy and business results for the Children's Social Care transformation programme, we must assure timely and effective communication to all of the individuals, teams and sponsors affected by the programme
- From the outset of the programme it is critical that we assure timely and effective communication with those who will be affected by the programme.
- The communication strategy will ensure that we keep all internal and external stakeholders informed about the key issues of the transformation programme
- Communication will be a two-way process between the programme team and the stakeholders and the success of the transformation programme will come from working together and communicating effectively

# How we communicate with you

## ➤ External Communications

- NSCB website + board
- Children's Trust website + board
- NCC Website
- Internal newsletters of partners e.g. police, health, voluntary organisation
- NCC Communications network
- News releases from the press office.
- Nottinghamshire County News
- Public information about services through NCC website, leaflets etc

# Plan forward – next steps

