

Preferred Activities

In December 2008 the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership approved an outline proposal to allocate FSF funding of £1.923m to provide:

- a culture/systems change programme
- support for the consolidation of proven early intervention services
- commissioned innovation.

Initially the focus will be on the culture change programme with more detailed proposals on consolidation and innovation funding being developed.

An essential element of successful early intervention is capacity building within universal services in order that issues and concerns are picked up in time for lower level support to make a difference

Possible priorities for community based activity are therefore likely to be those which can clearly be linked to the early recognition and intervention in the priority areas already described:

- Parenting and family support
- Assistance with basic literacy skills
- Befriending and mentoring to build resilience among young people
- Early referral of alcohol and drug problems to specialist agencies
- Encourage structured recreation for young people

If we are to change interagency practice to focus on early intervention support in high risk areas we first of all need to engage with key practitioners, managers and elected members to confirm shared values and agree a process for the improvement and/or redesign of current processes and support services at the end of this period of time.

This culture change and development requires a comprehensive approach, wholehearted commitment and leadership.

To achieve this a leadership development programme across all sectors is proposed and as part of this process key practitioners will be identified to act as 'champions' and support the delivery of a successful systems, culture and practice change programme in the identified areas of activity

The culture/systems change and development programme aims are:

- to build a professional and political understanding of a GIRFEC based and early intervention approach to the planning and delivery of universal and additional support services
- to map and analyse current processes
- to identify improvements and associated redesign requirements
- to agree a targeted approach informed by an analysis of risk indicators on a geographical basis
- to focus of establishing more effective early intervention actions in relation to the identified priority areas