

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S STRATEGY 2013-15**

Report of the Director of Housing & Customer Service

### **1. SUMMARY**

- 1.1 Derby City Council's Children and Young People's Services business plan for the next three years focuses on services that will directly contribute to three of the City's key outcomes.
- 1.2 Derby Homes' strategy has been developed to support Derby City Council in achieving these outcomes.

### **2. RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To approve the strategy as contained in Appendix 1.

### **3. MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 The three key outcomes Children and Young Peoples Strategy will be focussing on are helping people in Derby to enjoy...
  - Achieving their learning potential
  - Good Health and well being
  - Being safe and feeling safe.

- 3.2 As the original Every Child Matters outcomes no longer exist, a complete rewrite of the strategy has been undertaken and the original strategy has not been attached to this report.

### **4. FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

Spend on these activities is contained within existing budgets and applications for funding.

### **5. CONSULTATION IMPLICATIONS**

This strategy will be taken to the existing Junior Wardens and the City Board for comments.

### **6. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

The children and young people who live on many council estates are more likely to live in poverty or deprived circumstances. The strategy takes some steps towards mitigating this inequality.

## **7. HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Before any activity is undertaken by Derby Homes, a full health and safety assessment is carried out.

## **8. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The risk is that Council estates suffer from a lower reputation and popularity because of crime and anti-social behaviour caused by children and young people. The strategy helps to counter negative attitudes towards young people and gives our staff an opportunity to link with them in positive ways.

## **9. POLICY REVIEW**

This is a key policy of Derby Homes and is included in the Key Policy Review Schedule. In accordance with minute 10/51 this policy will be reviewed no later than 3 years from the date of this meeting.

The areas listed below have no implications directly arising from this report:

Legal and Confidentiality  
Council  
Personnel  
Environmental

If Board Members or others would like to discuss this report ahead of the meeting please contact:

Author: Julie Eyre / Performance Manager / 01332 888393 / [julie.eyre@derbyhomes.org](mailto:julie.eyre@derbyhomes.org)

Background Information: None  
Supporting Information: None.

## **DERBY HOMES CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES STRATEGY 2013-15**

Derby Homes has three strategic objectives:

- Great homes
- Great neighbourhoods
- Great services.

Engaging with and developing young people is an important element of our work. As at March 2013 almost 7000 young people, aged 16 years and below were living in properties managed by Derby Homes. Many of these young people will be future tenants.

The Children and Young Peoples Strategy contributes to the delivery of the strategic objectives by engaging and listening to the views of young people on issues connected with the development and delivery of services.

Our work with children and young people ranges from age:

8 - 15 via the Junior Warden scheme  
16 -18 via apprenticeship schemes  
18+ via volunteering schemes.

Derby City Council's Early Intervention and Integrated Services business plan for the next three years focuses on services that will directly contribute to three of the City's key outcomes, helping people in Derby to

- Achieve their learning potential
- Enjoy good health and well being
- Being safe and feel safe.

This strategy supports Derby City Council in achieving these outcomes.

### **Outcome 1- Achieving their learning potential**

We will seek to empower young people living on our estates by developing mechanisms for engagement to influence the types and standards of services we deliver.

We will offer positive support for youth inclusion work on our estates; this will aim to empower young people and encourage pride in their homes and communities and reduce the instances of youth anti-social behaviour on our estates.

We will seek to provide training and employment experience to 16-18 year olds and improve the work readiness of young people by exploring funding streams to assist NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Training) to become work ready, enter education, employment or training.

We will support financial inclusion projects specifically for the under 16's to encourage financial awareness and responsibility.

## **Outcome 2- Good Health and well being**

We will maintain decent homes. Continue to make our homes energy efficient and provide advice to our tenants who are struggling with their energy bills. Our aim is to provide warm homes in a secure environment which in turn will enable our young people to have a better chance of enjoying good health and wellbeing.

We will work with our partners at the City Council to provide joined up advice and signposting to ensure that young people and their families receive the right service at the right time.

We will work with our partners to provide cultural and physical activities which will benefit young people. We will provide financial assistance to enable young people to participate in sports, arts and cultural activity through the 'Helping Hands' bursary which is administered by the Derby Association of Community Partners.

## **Outcome 3- Being safe and feeling safe**

All young people have a right to be safe, and to feel safe in the homes and within the communities that they live.

We will maintain a robust safeguarding procedure and continue to train all our employees in Safeguarding.

We will work with Derby City Council Housing Options team to ensure that young people leaving care and supported housing do so in a managed and planned way to maximise their chances of success within independent living.

We will work with other support providers to seek new and innovative ways to support young people who do not live within the traditional family unit.

We will involve young people in discussions regarding their community, particularly when addressing issues of anti-social behaviour and fear of crime.

The action plan attached at Appendix 1A details specific actions under the three outcomes. These actions have also been embedded within the Derby Homes Delivery Plan; progress will be monitored within this plan.

## Action Plan – Annual

## Appendix 1A

Ref	Action	Deadline	Team	Responsible Officer	Costs – Are the actions.. - No cost/low cost - High cost	Links to the Children and Young Peoples Strategy	Link – to the Council Plan
<b>GH</b>	<b>GREAT HOMES</b>						
GH 2.4	Establish a training academy working in partnership with Derby College for apprentices	Sep 2013	Repairs Team	Head of Repairs	High Cost	<p>More people volunteering by offering work experience to 16-18 year olds through existing channels.</p> <p>Improving work readiness of young people by exploring funding streams to help NEETS become work ready and into education, employment or training.</p> <p>Working in partnership with Working Links project which helps people access training and support to help them become work ready.</p> <p>Offer opportunities for work experience/apprenticeships by providing up to 20 apprenticeships per year.</p>	CP01.2 CP02.1 CP02.3
<b>GN</b>	<b>GREAT NEIGHBOURHOODS</b>						
<b>GN 2</b>	<b><i>Working in partnerships to provide cohesive neighbourhoods</i></b>						
GN 2.2	Explore opportunities for integrated working with Housing Options for improved customer interface and Increased capacity to meet increases in demand for service.	Sept 2013	Housing Management / Housing Options	Head of Housing Management / Head of Housing Options	No Cost	Helping young people leaving care into housing.	CP07.5
GN 2.4	Develop opportunities for children and young people to engage with and contribute to the neighbourhood agenda.	March 2014	Housing Managment	Head of housing management	Low Cost	<p>Develop mechanisms for engagement to influence the types of and standards of service we deliver.</p> <p>We will involve young people in</p>	CP05

Ref	Action	Deadline	Team	Responsible Officer	Costs – Are the actions.. - No cost/low cost - High cost	Links to the Children and Young Peoples Strategy	Link – to the Council Plan
						discussions regarding their community, particularly when addressing issues of anti social behaviour and fear of crime.	
<b>GN 3</b>	<b><i>Invest in the built and physical environment</i></b>						
GN 3.1	Launch a second wave of Estates Pride, with new HRA financing,	September 2013	Planned Maintenance	Contracts Manager, Housing Management	High cost (but some funding in place and more being proposed)	Offer positive support for youth inclusion work on our estates.	CP01.6 CP04.3
<b>GS</b>	<b>GREAT SERVICES</b>						
<b>GS 2</b>	<b><i>Understanding and meeting our customer needs</i></b>						
GS 2.5	Develop multiagency signposting arrangements based on information collected in 2.1 & 2.4 to signpost tenants and young people to appropriate services	March 2014	Housing Management Team	Head of Housing Management	Low Cost	Refer all new families with children up to 16 years of age to the Childrens Centres, providing links to schools and other appropriate services in their area.  More children, young people taking part in cultural and physical activities by sign posting families to activities and services.	CP 05 CP 07.5
<b>GS 3</b>	<b><i>Excellent customer services</i></b>						
GS 3.7	Provide options for tenants to have greater financial responsibility, access to budgeting advice, basic bank account or budgeting account prior to Universal Credit implications. To include financial inclusion advice for young people.	October 2013	Income Management	Arrears Manager	Low cost	Promote the Erewash Credit Union Junior accounts for the under 16s.  Improve the financial literacy of those in poverty by training officers to proactively deliver money management advice to tenants.	CP07.5 CP08.1