



Partnerships – changing the way we do things in Lancashire



Lancashire
Children and Young People's
Trust

You can read all the below but if you don't want to/ don't have time then focus on the **green** bits. If you have more time or are interested then there is loads more info here:

<http://www.lancashirechildrenstrust.org.uk/about/?siteid=6006&pageid=44664> or you can email cyp.childrenstrust@lancashire.gov.uk

Partnerships are when different agencies and services who work with and for children, young people and families come together in the hope to improve things for them. It's about working together to achieve better outcomes.

What we know:

In the past we have had lots of partnerships working on many different but often overlapping things to do with children, young people and families. Everyone agreed we could probably make these partnerships work better. Together services and agencies commit quite a lot of cash and time to making these partnerships work but don't always get value for money as they don't have time to play an active role in them all.

People in Lancashire started to discuss how they could change things and hopefully make them better. They agreed that:

1. They wanted to continue to work together but needed to make the partnerships work better;
2. The Children and Young People's plan <http://youtu.be/BHeJOVAILXk> was the thing they all agreed with and signed up to as a set of aims and objectives for children and young people in Lancashire;
3. As Ofsted will inspect us all together (from April 2015) it makes sense to have partnerships that are in place and ready for this;
4. There are lots of staff in Lancashire, 80,000 plus, working with children and young people and they have lots of shared training needs which the partnership should work to develop and deliver;
5. There were some key things that partnerships should do: including; setting priorities, influencing things, making sure that the voice and participation of children and young people is included, monitoring what difference it makes, challenging when things go wrong, sharing information and identifying and learning from what works;
6. Things in Lancashire are different depending where you live- we need to have a local focus not just a Lancashire wide one;
7. We need to build on what works so future partnerships need to reflect this good practice that we have in place;
8. Partnerships should focus on making a difference and proving it.



So, they agreed to **stop a number of partnerships** (District Children and Young People's Trust and Locality Safeguarding groups to name two) and **create less new ones**. There would be **less meetings and more focus on getting it right** for children and young people.

So, they agreed to **set up 5 locality Childrens Partnership Boards (CPB)** in the following areas:



1. Burnley and Pendle
2. Hyndburn, Ribble Valley and Rossendale
3. Preston
4. Chorley, South Ribble and West Lancashire
5. Lancaster, Fylde and Wyre

What is the Children's Partnership Board?

- A way for local agencies and services to come together to ensure effective working in the development and delivery of services to children and their families.
- To drive and deliver effective multi agency working that safeguards and promotes the well-being of children and young people and improves outcome for families.
- A sub-group of the county-wide Lancashire Children and Young People's Trust
- A way for local priorities to be influenced by local people

What will this achieve?

- Improved outcomes for children, young people and families
- Joint (known as multi agency) policy and practice that safeguards and promotes the well-being of children and delivers good outcomes effectively
- Engagement of children young people and families in shaping and influence service design
- Better joint working and use of resources
- Improved sharing of information
- Better understanding of needs, risks and opportunities

What next?

There are still lots of different partnerships and sometimes they focus on the same issues without realising it and because of this we are wasting money and time and not making the difference to children lives that we could be. Some of these partnerships include: Community Safety, Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board, Lancashire Safeguarding Adult Board, Children and Young People's Trust, Road Safety, Corporate parenting Board.

All these partnerships receive lots of reports, set priorities, share information, measure progress, and make decisions about services. We want to make sure that this happens in a more organised way so that more of our time is spent on improving the issues for children and families by removing some of the duplication and being clear which groups will focus on which issues.

