

bright new fütüres

For Borders Children and Young People



Eildon: Galashiels Locality Team

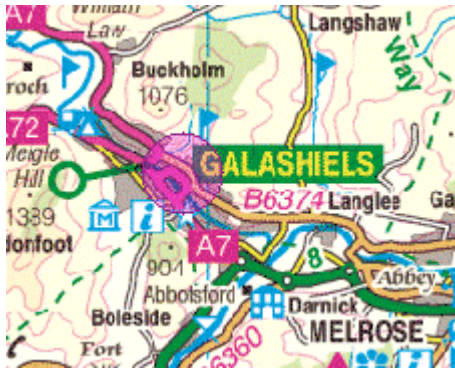
Local Action Plan

Galashiels Locality Action Plan

The Area

The Galashiels Locality Integration Team cover the area that corresponds to the Galashiels Academy catchment and which includes the settlements of Stow, Heriot, Fountainhall, Clovenfords and Tweedbank.

Galashiels is one of the largest urban settlements in Scottish Borders and as such is a centre for employment as well as a wide range of social and leisure amenities. The total population of the town is 16,574 and a high proportion of the inhabitants live in public sector housing developments scattered around the town centre. Galashiels area has a population of 3,691 young people between the ages of 0 to 18 years, 1,119 or 30% are under five years of age.



Although increasing numbers of inhabitants in the satellite villages of Stow, Clovenfords and Heriot commute to Edinburgh for employment Galashiels remains a major centre for economic activity. Both Borders College and Heriot-Watt University are located in the town which as a consequence has the highest numbers of further and higher education students in the borders. Unfortunately many of these students will be forced to leave the area upon graduation in order to find employment. The community is generally economically and socially mixed with areas of relative affluence located close by to pockets of intense deprivation. In some places up to 28% of households are in receipt of key government benefits. In the school age population 11% of children are entitled to claim free school meals and almost 15% are entitled to clothing allowance. In both cases this is around double the regional average. Galashiels also has higher numbers of children on the child protection register than any other district of Scottish Borders. In the year 2003/06 167 referrals were made to the Children's Reporter, more than any other part of the authority and referrals to CAMH's in the same period were also 25% higher than the regional average and higher than any other school catchment area in the authority. During 2002/3 there were 27 births to teenage mothers the highest number of any district in the region. The level of unemployment amongst school leavers stands at 9% which, is considerably higher than the regional average. The proportion of looked after children in the area is slightly lower than the regional average.

Identified Need

The summary of statistical information given above suggests that there are relatively high numbers of vulnerable children in Galashiels when compared with other settlements in Borders. Mapping of vulnerability scores for pre-school age children conducted by the local Health Visitors team has also shown that although vulnerable families are to be found in every part of the town there are particular 'hot-spots' of deprivation in Balmoral, Gala Park, Glendinning and Langlee. This work also identified a clear need amongst young parents in particular who are often socially isolated, have little economic security and may be vulnerable to substance misuse or threat of physical violence. Local discussions have clearly identified the need to strengthen and support vulnerable children and families in an effort to prevent crisis interventions at a later date. To this end the team have prioritised working with children and families who are as yet below the threshold for statutory measures of intervention. This work will emphasise strengthening families, building resilience in children and developing joined-up working across a network of supportive and responsive services. The team also drew heavily on the results of the Gate Youth Project Survey of young people conducted during the summer of 2004. This report emphasised the numbers of young people, under 16 years who are affected by emotional health problems such as mood swings, stress and depression and highlighted concerns around the use of alcohol, illegal drugs and sexual health.

Locality Integration Team discussions have identified a number of key concerns including:

- Support during the early years for vulnerable children and families
- The quality of family life and parenting including; support for families especially lone parents and young mothers
- Support for learning, home/school links and building positive relationships between parents and schools
- Better interagency communication, planning and delivery of services especially for pre-school age children and their families
- Matching services to the needs of young people and involving them in planning and evaluating services
- Alcohol and substance abuse amongst young people and their families
- Numbers of children and young people referred to the Children's Reporters office
- Emotional health of young people and their families.

Existing Resources

Existing human resources include a Locality Integration Manager and Locality Integration Police Officer. The area currently receives Integrated Community Schools funding totalling £117,800 for the period until March 2006. These funds presently support nursery development, family learning, and community library and school liaison group activities at Langlee Primary School and inclusive curriculum and home-link activities at Burgh and Balmoral schools. Langlee area will also benefit from Scottish Executive Regeneration Outcomes Agreement funding of £70,000 per year for a period of three years beginning in the current financial year. In addition there is a further £42,000 spread over three years dedicated to the Community Voices Programme. These funds are targeted at young people aged 14 to 25 years.

There are two community centres in Galashiels and most satellite villages have community halls. The Focus Centre, Langlee Community Centre and a number of local churches operate youth programmes and uniformed organisations are well represented in the town and in some of the satellite villages. The GATE Youth Project are based in Gala town centre and offer a wide-range of centre based and detached youth work services for young people in the town. A number of national and borders-wide agencies have their office bases in Galashiels. These include; Penumbra, Reiver Project, Big River, Borders Young Carers and Gala Youth Project

Priorities and Key Outcome Targets

Priorities for action include:

Integration of Early Years Services

The development of an Early Years Liaison Group. This group will be similar in structure and remit to existing school liaison groups but with a specific focus on joint planning and development of services for pre-school age children and families.

Key tasks for this group will include:

- Collective co-ordination, planning, delivery and resourcing of early years and family support services

- To make available more effective and appropriate supports for young children and families before crisis interventions become necessary
- To investigate co-location of service providers and provision in a children and families centre
- Peer review and support.
- Case review and support.

Tackling under achievement

Piloting good practice responses addressing issues of under achievement and engagement with school affecting vulnerable children and their families. Pilots include the Langlee Community Library Project and The Inclusive Curriculum Project at Burgh and Balmoral schools. These schools will act as 'lead schools' developing good practice models that can be replicated across the cluster school group.

Key tasks:

- Review and evaluate work of Langlee Community Library Project and consider implications for practice in other Gala cluster schools
- Establish, review and evaluate work of the Inclusive Curriculum Project at Burgh and Balmoral schools and seek secure funding for a three-year 'pilot' period. Consider implications for practice in other Gala cluster schools
- Ongoing support for existing family learning and integrated community school initiatives and extension of this approach to other schools in the cluster area.
- Establish better links with 'Learning for All' project and the adult literacies team in an effort to extend support for family learning across the area.

Peer Review and Support

The Locality Integration Team will act as a forum for more effective co-ordination of children's services and as a source of peer review and support where team members can present practice related cases for collective discussion and solutions.

Bright New Futures Key Outcomes

Safe	
1.	Reduce the neglect and abuse of children and young people.
2.	Effective support for the Children's Hearing's system.
3.	Support for children affected by parental substance misuse.
4.	Support for children affected by domestic violence.
5.	Reducing the number of serious and fatal road and other accidents for children and ensuring safer routes to school.

Nurtured	
6.	Ensure integrated package of education, health and care for looked after/accommodated children.
7.	Improve support for adoptive and foster parents.
8.	Enhance support for those leaving care.
9.	Increase support for young carers and children with or affected by disabilities/ illness.
10.	Stronger families and communities.

Healthy	
11.	Improve the physical and emotional health and well being of all children and young people.
12.	Improve mental health services for children and young people.
13.	Provide responsive healthcare services as close to home as possible.
14.	Provide child-centred services, designed to meet the needs of all children.
15.	Improve the sexual health of all children and young people.

Bright New Futures Key Outcomes Cont.

Achieving	
16.	Raised standards of education for all, especially in the core skills of numeracy and literacy.
17.	Enhanced school environments which are more conducive to teaching and learning.
18.	Young people are equipped with the necessary foundation, skills, attitudes and expectations to prosper in a changing society.
19.	Increased levels of creativity and ambition in young people.
20.	Improving children's cognitive, social and emotional development.

Active	
21.	Participation in cultural and sporting activities.

Respected and Responsible	
22.	Increased respect for self and others.
23.	Ensuring children and parents are involved and consulted about key decisions that affect them.
24.	Ensuring young people are meaningfully involved and engaged in decision making and planning processes that affect them.
25.	Combat the anti-social behaviour of a minority of young people and ensure parents act in the best interests of their children.
26.	Reducing the number of persistent young offenders.

Included	
27.	Every child and young person benefits from access to children's services, irrespective of gender, disability, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, religion or belief.
28.	Reduction in Child Poverty.
29.	Flexible, high quality childcare provision accessible to all.
30.	Free part-time pre-school education provision for all 3 and 4 year olds whose parents wish it.
31.	Reduce proportion of 16-19 year olds not in education, employment or training (NEET).

The table that follows details the various elements of the Galashiels Locality Team action plan and relates each initiative to the key outcomes as stated above.

SAFE

<u>ICSP Outcome Targets</u>	Project Description	<u>Stakeholders and Management Arrangements</u>	<u>Time-line</u>	<u>Resource Implications</u>	<u>Measures of Performance</u>	<u>Sustainability</u>
<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 18, 22, 25, 26</p>	<p>Locality Integration Police Constable.</p> <p>To work closely in association with local schools and locality integration teams</p> <p>"Provide educational inputs and support for the school pupils and staff, young peoples organisations and partner agencies within the Locality"</p> <p>"Working as part of the SLG's within the Eildon Area offering appropriate assistance and support and being involved in Restorative Warnings and Early Intervention Schemes within Locality schools."</p> <p>"To work directly with young people and their families"</p>	<p>L&B Police, Integration Teams, Education Authority, Youth Groups, family support Groups</p> <p>The LIPC will be located within the Children's Change Unit and line managed by LBP.</p>	<p>In post May 2005.</p>	<p>2 year funding period until March 2007.</p>		

NURTURED

<u>ICSP Outcome Targets</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Stakeholders and Management Arrangements</u>	<u>Time-line</u>	<u>Resource Implications</u>	<u>Measures of Performance</u>	<u>Sustainability</u>
<p>1, 3, 4, 10, 11, 29</p>	<p>Early Years Liaison Group (ELG) The group will co-ordinate support services for pre-school age children and their families in the Galashiels area.</p> <p>Remit: To consider specific cases, canvas support and advice from other members of the ELG, co-ordinate our response to specific families and allocate resources accordingly.</p> <p>To strengthen relationships between parents, carers, children and their communities.</p> <p>To reduce the numbers of children and families progressing to statutory measures of intervention.</p> <p>To jointly plan services and offer a co-ordinated programme of activities for parents and children including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parental education • Baby massage • Day care • Family support <p>To address strategic issues relating to services for young children and their families in the Galashiels area.</p> <p>To investigate opportunities for joined-up working including co-location of services.</p> <p>Develop interagency training programme to support integrated working.</p>	<p>Social Work Children and Families service, Public Health Nurses Team, Nursery Schools and other agencies as appropriate.</p> <p>Self-regulating group meeting on a regular basis – <i>monthly</i>.</p>	<p>First meeting of the ELG 10th June 2005.</p> <p>Regular programme of meetings established June 2005 to June 2006.</p> <p>Map and review local early year's services completed September 2005.</p> <p>Investigate good practice and opportunities for co-location August to December 2005</p> <p>Stakeholders conference. October 2005</p> <p>Produce integrated development plan for early years Jan/Feb 2006</p> <p>Co-ordinated programme in place April 2006.</p> <p>Interagency training event 2006.</p> <p>Service co-location 2007?</p>	<p>Budget to end March 2006.</p> <p>Support for staff (cover etc.) involved in meetings. £1,000</p> <p>Researcher hours to complete mapping of local early year's provision, prepare report for local stakeholder's conference and assist with draft development plan. £2,000</p> <p>Publishing co-ordinated programme. £1,000</p> <p>Budget beyond March 2006</p> <p>Co-location costs?</p>	<p>Short-term: more targeted support services and higher levels of uptake than at present.</p> <p>Mid-term: reduction in numbers of families and children considered to be vulnerable as measured by children's need model.</p> <p>Long-term: reduction in numbers of children and families on statutory measures.</p>	<p>Build in ELG as an established aspect of individual professionals work plans and reflect this in strategic priorities for the development of early year's services in Galashiels.</p>

HEALTHY

<u>ICSP Outcome Targets</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Stakeholders and Management Arrangements</u>	<u>Time-line</u>	<u>Resource Implications</u>	<u>Measures of Performance</u>	<u>Sustainability</u>
1. 10. 11. 14. 15. 20.	<p>Teenage Parents Project: GAP Worker</p> <p>The project will offer support for teenage mothers and fathers</p> <p>The Gap worker's role will predominantly be focused on the development of Teenage Mum's Groups in partnership with Sure Start midwives and local Public Health Nurses. Developing educational opportunities and facilities for young mum's in Galashiels and across the borders and looking at the possibility of developing a Young Dad's Group and family support alongside.</p> <p>The project will work closely in association with a number of other strands within the locality plan including Langlee ROA, Early Years Liaison Group, The Inclusive Curriculum Project and Discovery Sacks Project.</p> <p>The GAP worker post will be match funded by Rank Foundation GAP scheme project and will provide a regular allowance and training in a recognised qualification in working with young people.</p>	<p>GATE Youth Project, Galashiels Health Visitors Team, Sure Start Midwives.</p>	<p>Project begins September 2005</p> <p>Move to ROA/Rank funding January 2006</p> <p>Consolidate setrvic sbased in Galashiels and Langlee January 2006/7</p> <p>Establish groups across Borders January 2007/8</p>	<p>Funding in initial period September to December 2005 from Gala LIT budget. £5,900</p> <p>ROA and Rank GAP scheme funding for period January 2006 to December 2008</p> <p>January 2006 to December 2007 £18077</p> <p>January 2007 to December 2007 £16,812</p> <p>January 2008 to December 2008 £18,446</p>	<p>Provide service for teenage parents from Galashiels, Hawick and Selkirk.</p> <p>Establish ante-natal and post natal groups and young dad's group.</p> <p>Extend service to other locations in Borders</p>	<p>Initial funding form Gala LIT replaced by ROA Rank funding for three years to December 2008</p> <p>Future Needs Analysis: Review of services for teenage parents in association with Gala Locality Integration Team and Gala Early Years Liaison Group.</p>

ACHIEVING

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17, 18, 20, 11, 10, 3, 4	<p>Inclusive Curriculum Project</p> <p>The project will address the needs of those children who find the greatest difficulty in engaging positively with school and who as a consequence may experience academic failure, behavioural problems or exclusion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building more positive stronger links between parents children and teachers • A flexible and inclusive curriculum designed to meet the needs of the individual child. • Pre-school years support for parents and children in association with Public Health Nurses and Social Work Family Support Service • Home-Link worker support for children and families including support with parenting and home learning. • Better social skills and peer group relations between children. • Opportunities for parents to address their own learning and social needs. 	<p>Burgh Primary School, Balmoral Primary School, Children 1st, Galashiels Public Health Nurse Team, Social Work Family Support Services.</p> <p>A project steering group has been in place since October 2004 and has agreed to form an interagency management group.</p> <p>Management Group consisting of representatives from Schools, Children 1st, Family Support Services, Public Health Nurse Team.</p> <p>DHT in each school with special responsibility for Inclusive curriculum.</p> <p>Children 1st will manage Home-link workers.</p>	<p>Project begins August 2005.</p> <p>Children and families identified June to August 2005.</p> <p>Family Rooms conversion work completed September 2005.</p> <p>Auxiliary staff and Home-link workers in place August 2005.</p> <p>Staff induction and training August-September 2005.</p> <p>Inclusive Curriculum programme begins September 2005.</p>	<p>Budget currently met from ICS for 2005/06 until March 2006.</p> <p>Home Link Worker £25,000</p> <p>Auxiliary Hours £8,000</p> <p>Management Time £8,000</p> <p>Family Room £11,000</p> <p><u>Budget after March 2006</u></p> <p>Each year recurring until end of project.</p> <p>Home Link Worker £25,000</p> <p>Auxiliary Hours £8,000</p> <p>Management Time £8,000</p> <p>Plus any cost of living increases.</p>	<p>Short-term. Increased number of parents engaging positively with school, nursery and health visitor staff.</p> <p>Mid-term. Fewer discipline problems in school. More children achieving national targets.</p> <p>Long-term. Reduction in numbers of children regarded as vulnerable according to the children's need model. Reduction in the numbers of children at risk of exclusion.</p>	<p>Continue initiative funding until 2008. Extend good practice model across the Gala cluster schools and build project into core budgets after 2008.</p>

ACHIEVING

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20, 21, 11	<p>Discovery Sacks Project</p> <p>Supporting the pre-school curriculum through development of outdoor play and learning opportunities. The project will develop, pilot and evaluate the use of teaching materials specifically for use outdoors. Teaching resources will be used in an outdoor classroom area around the school on excursions and field trips.</p> <p>These resources could be further developed for use by parents, family support services, childminders and home link workers.</p> <p>The materials will provide a focus for structured play outdoors and could be used as a framework to support parents and children learning together.</p>	St Peters PS, SBC Ranger Service, SBC Museums, SBC Libraries.	<p>Develop Sacks March 2005.</p> <p>Good Practice Seminar Autumn 2005.</p>	<p>Purchase of materials etc. £1,500</p> <p>Good Practice Seminar £500</p>		Self-sustaining after initial investment.

ACTIVE

<u>ICSP Outcome Targets</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Stakeholders and Management Arrangement</u>	<u>Time-line</u>	<u>Resource Implications</u>	<u>Measures of Performance</u>	<u>Sustainability</u>
21	<p>Summer Activity Programmes</p> <p>To ensure all young people who want to take part in the summer and Easter activity programmes are able to do so.</p> <p>The project will provide staff, transport and other resources as necessary to ensure that the most disadvantaged children are able to participate in these activities.</p>	Active Schools co-ordinators, Sports Development Unit, Locality Integration Team	July 2005	<p>Support for children to include fees, transport equipment etc.</p> <p>£2,000</p>	<p>Greater numbers of children accessing summer programme provision.</p> <p>Greater numbers of vulnerable children and low-income family children accessing the programme.</p>	To be funded from Locality Team devolved budgets.

RESPECTED and RESPONSIBLE

<u>ICSP Outcome Targets</u>	Project Description	<u>Stakeholders and Management Arrangements</u>	<u>Time-line</u>	<u>Resource Implications</u>	<u>Measures of Performance</u>	<u>Sustainability</u>
18, 24	<p>Youth CHEX</p> <p>Young people, for the first time, will be enabled to develop and approve small grants for local young people's 'projects', linking to the Leader+ theme of 'Making best use of natural and cultural resources' and the Children and Young People's Strategy 'Bright New Futures'</p>	Gala Youth Project, Youth CHEX committee, Locality Integration Team	<p>Youth CHEX committee established August 2005</p> <p>Initial project awards. Autumn 2005</p>	<p>Locality Team members time.</p> <p>Match funding appropriate Youth Chex awards.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">£2,000</p>	<p>Good flow of information between Young People and LIT and joint projects identified and supported.</p> <p>Feedback on local supported projects.</p>	Formalise Youth CHEX approach to grant aided work as an established aspect of local planning and delivery of services.

INCLUDED

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<p>28,29,30, 31, 23, 24, 11, 13, 10</p>	<p>Langlee Regeneration Outcomes Agreement</p> <p>Scottish executive funded project focusing on transitions age group young people 14 to 25 years and families.</p> <p>Strategic objectives</p> <p>Improving Health. Getting people back into work and raising educational attainment Engaging young people and building Strong, Safe and Attractive communities. Improving Health and Engaging Young People</p> <p>Key outcomes</p> <p>Parenting Skills e.g. training and counselling sessions for parents.</p> <p>Employment training and advice e.g. additional employment training and advice support.</p> <p>Youth Diversion e.g. support for youth groups.</p> <p>Welfare rights advice e.g. support for debt advice and other advisory services.</p> <p>Health Awareness e.g. additional support to Healthy Living Centre.</p> <p>Engaging Young People e.g. support for youth work projects and additional youth work hours.</p>	<p>Locality Integration Team members on ROA Board.</p>	<p>Baseline information collected Autumn 2005</p>	<p>ROA funding agreed</p>	<p>To be established by ROA Board.</p>	<p>Project funded by Scottish Executive for three years to March 2008.</p>

KEY BORDERS-WIDE PRIORITY:

<u>ICSP Outcome Targets</u>	<u>Project Description</u>	<u>Stakeholders and Management Arrangements</u>	<u>Time-line</u>	<u>Resource Implications</u>	<u>Measures of Performance</u>	<u>Sustainability</u>
Key 4,	<p>Programme of integrated professional development opportunities.</p> <p>To develop a range of interagency training and professional development events including opportunities for work shadowing.</p> <p>Assist training.</p> <p>Solihull Emotional Health Training</p>	Locality Integration Team	<p>Form steering group and/or take advice from SLGs/ELG.</p> <p>Initial programme in place spring 2005.</p>	<p>Course fees, travel expenses etc.</p> <p>£2,000</p>	<p>Joint training events planned and held during the year.</p> <p>Integrate as many CPD events as possible across partner agencies.</p>	Integration of CPD programmes across partner agencies.

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Key 4, 5.	<p>Peer review and support</p> <p>The locality integration team will act as a forum for interagency peer review and support.</p> <p>Members of the LIT will present specific issues, anonymous cases and other difficult to tackle practice related problems to the LIT for constructive criticism, guidance re best practice and collective solutions.</p>	Locality Integration Team	April 2005 onwards.	None.	Locality team evaluation of process.	Self-sustaining.

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Key 4	<p>Children, Young People and Parents Participation.</p> <p>Partners will review in-house arrangements for service user involvement.</p> <p>Good practice will be shared with LIT partners and appropriate structures developed to extend the involvement of children, young people and parents in planning and service delivery at service level and within LIT.</p> <p>The Locality Team will work closely with BVYWF, Youth Chex, Dialogue Youth and Langlee ROA Youth Engagement and Community Voices programmes.</p>	Locality Integration Team, Langlee ROA Board. Youth Chex board and Dialogue Youth	Review good practice. September 2005.	Training.	<p>Service user survey – baseline.</p> <p>Evaluation through service user focus groups ongoing.</p>	Integral to working practice.

