

For General Release

REPORT TO:	Cabinet 19 March 2012
AGENDA ITEM:	8
SUBJECT:	Children and Young People's Plan
LEAD OFFICER:	Paul Greenhalgh, Executive Director of Children, Families & Learning
CABINET MEMBER:	Councillor Tim Pollard, Deputy Leader (Regeneration and Economic Development) and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Learners
WARDS:	All
CORPORATE PRIORITY/POLICY CONTEXT: Children and Families	
FINANCIAL IMPACT: There are no revenue or capital consequences resulting from accepting the recommendations of this report.	
FORWARD PLAN KEY DECISION REFERENCE NO.: This is not an executive key decision – this is reserved to the full Council for decision as part of the policy framework	

The Leader of the Council has delegated to the Cabinet the power to make the decisions set out in the recommendations below

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is asked to recommend that the Council agrees the Croydon Children and Young People's plan for 2012-13 (circulated separately to Cabinet & Shadow Cabinet members. The plan can be viewed on the Council website agenda for this meeting: www.croydon.gov.uk/agenda

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2.1 The Children and Young People Plan is the umbrella plan for work with children and young people in Croydon over the next year. Whilst the plan is no longer a statutory requirement, Croydon Children and Families Partnership has chosen to continue to have a Children and Young People Plan as a way

of ensuring that all agencies are jointly focussed on achieving our high aspirations for the children and young people of Croydon.

3 DETAIL

- 3.1 This plan was developed by the Croydon Children and Families Partnership. Members of the Partnership include Croydon Council, Health agencies, the Police, the Voluntary Sector, the Fire Service, Croydon early years centres, schools and colleges and the Croydon Youth Council. It was informed by a comprehensive needs analysis which was used by the Partnership sub groups to identify priorities for 2012-13. This needs analysis forms part of the plan, and sits alongside Croydon's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).
- 3.2 The needs analysis resulted in the identification of priorities for the next year, which are summarised in section 4 of the plan. The priorities are set out for each of the partnership sub-groups. The sub-groups are arranged in line with the Every Child Matters outcomes areas, in addition to some more cross-cutting groups. Section 5 of the plan sets out the action plan for each of the sub-groups of the partnership. The Youth Council has arranged its business using the Every Child Matters sub-groups, which therefore parallel the sub-group arrangements for the Children and Family Partnership, thus facilitating young people's involvement in the further development and delivery of the action plans.
- 3.3 The revised Croydon Children and Young People's plan for 2012-13 is appended.
- 3.4 Other agencies that make up the Children and Families Partnership have been asked to take the plan through the governance arrangements for their agency, to ensure that all agencies have adopted and demonstrated commitment to the plan.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 All agencies involved in the Children and Families Partnership were consulted and involved in the development of the plan. The Croydon Youth Council were consulted on the priorities for 2012-13 and their views have informed the final set. The page at section 4 of the plan which shows the summary of priorities indicates in italic the priorities that the Youth Council identified.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS

1 Revenue and Capital consequences of report recommendations

There are no revenue or capital consequences resulting from accepting the recommendations of this report.

- 2 (Approved by: Katharine Eberhart, Head of Finance – CFL)

6. COMMENTS OF THE COUNCIL SOLICITOR AND MONITORING OFFICER

6.1 There are no legal implications of this report.

6.2 Approved by: J. Harris-Baker, Head of social care and education law, on behalf of the Council Solicitor & Director of Democratic & Legal Services.

7. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPACT

7.1 There are no human resources implications of this report (Approved by: Chris Baldwin on behalf of the Director of Workforce, Equality & Community Relations)

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.1 This plan and the accompanying needs analysis contribute to the Council meeting its statutory duties in relation to the Equality Act.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

None identified.

10. CRIME AND DISORDER REDUCTION IMPACT

None identified.

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BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS *None*



**Appendix to item 8
Cabinet 19 March 2012**

Croydon Children and Young People's Plan 2012-2015

Excellent Outcomes for Children and Young People

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Foreword

There could not be a more appropriate time to champion, strengthen and reinforce partnership working for children's services in Croydon. While the challenges our children and families face are increasing, resources available across agencies which provide services to support children and families in Croydon are tightening. Working together is an essential part of maximising our impact on improving life chances for children and families.

A number of positive developments put in place in 2011 will improve working in partnership in Croydon, for example, with the launch of the multi-agency Family Resilience Service which supports those families whose lives have already started to spiral out of control in taking positive steps towards overcoming their challenges; we have doubled the number of children who are supported through the Common Assessment Framework; and we have put in place an improved multi-agency approach to children with SEN/LDD.

In 2011, we redeveloped the strategic partnership for children and families (previously known as the Croydon Children's Trust) to increase its reach, impact and effectiveness and renamed it the Croydon Children and Families Partnership. The Partnership brings together all the agencies which provide services for children and families in Croydon including the council, the health service, the police, probation services, schools and colleges and the voluntary sector. We continued to show improvements in outcomes, for example:

- Continuation of the reducing trend in teenage conceptions;
- Further improvements in school readiness for all groups of children (Early Years Foundation Stage outcomes);
- Further significant improvements in exam attainment for 16 year-olds, such that young people in Croydon do better than in similar areas.
- Continuing reduction in first time entrants into the youth justice system.

There is still more we need to do. The Children and Young People's plan presented here describes the findings of a wide ranging needs analysis commissioned by the Croydon Children and Families Partnership at the end of 2011. The priorities emerging from the needs analysis were developed in discussion with the Croydon Youth Council and some of the partnership priorities are shared with the Youth Council. This plan then sets out the intentions of the Partnership in planning, commissioning and delivering services to address these priorities.

The Partnership has agreed that a cross-cutting priority for all services must be listening more to what children and families are telling us and working with them to develop and improve services.

It will be the responsibility of the Croydon Children and Families Partnership to make sure that the actions identified in this plan are delivered and make a difference to the life chances of children and families in Croydon.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Children and Families Partnership brings together all those working in organisations responsible for services for children, young people and families. The Croydon Children and Families Partnership Board and its Executive includes representatives and senior officers from those organisations to provide high level governance arrangements for our Partnership.

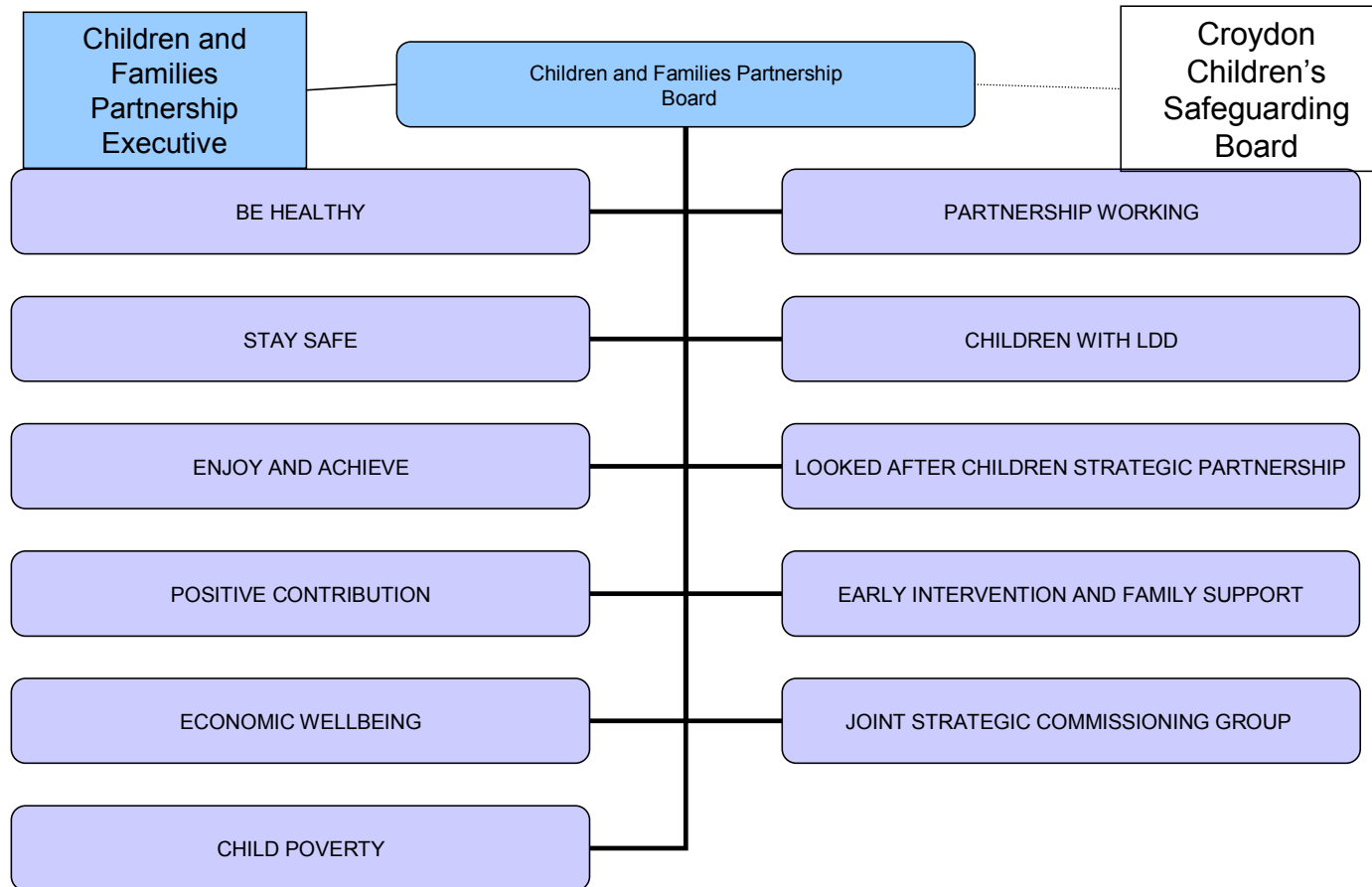
1.2 The Board and its Executive, supported by its sub-groups, are responsible for the delivery of actions and improved outcomes against our priorities. The structure of the Partnership is shown in figure 1 below. Further information about the Partnership is available at www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/ccfpartnership

1.3 Croydon Children and Families Partnership is one of a family of Partnerships within the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). We work closely with our colleagues across the LSP. We work closely with our colleagues across the LSP, particularly the Safer Croydon Partnership and the Health and Well Being Board, to ensure that we all contribute to shared priorities.

1.4 Croydon Youth Council brings together a range of groups of young people who want to ensure that young people are involved in decision making and setting the strategic direction for Croydon. The Partnership works closely with the Youth Council and its sub-groups to ensure that our decisions and actions are informed by the views of children and young people. Further information about the Youth Council is available at <http://www.croydonyps.org.uk/croydon-youth-council>.

1.5 The Croydon Safeguarding Children Board (CSCB) is responsible for scrutinising safeguarding arrangements across the borough. The CSCB is an independent body and challenges and holds to account the organisations working with children and young people in Croydon. The Children and Families Partnership and the CSCB work together to ensure that children and young people in Croydon are safe. Further information about the CSCB is available at <http://www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/childprotsafe/>

Children and Families Partnership Structure 2012



1.6 This Croydon Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) is the strategic overarching plan for all services affecting children and young people in Croydon. It identifies our priorities and what we are going to do to improve outcomes.

1.7 Our priorities are set out in Section 4 and the action plans to deliver improvements for our priorities are at Section 5.

2. Vision

Our vision for the Partnership is:

- 2.1 **For children and young people to have high aspirations and excellent outcomes:** We want all children and young people to be safe and the 'best they can be'. By 'excellent outcomes' we aspire for Croydon children and young people to achieve high outcomes compared to similar areas and vulnerable groups to achieve in line with their peers.
- 2.2 **For families to build resilience and transform life chances:** We want to work with families to enable them to achieve strengthened and sustainable protective factors.
- 2.3 **The test for our services:** We want our services to be able to articulate how they enable children and young people to make progress in the following dimensions:
- Security:** am I safe?
 - Identity:** who am I?
 - Community:** where am I sheltered and what do I give back?
 - Destiny:** who will I become?
- 2.4 **Our drivers of excellence:** We consider that the following are the markers of the excellent practice that we want to see:
- Children, young people and families influencing provision**
- The views of children, young people and families are routinely sought and taken seriously
 - All teams make operational improvements based on user/customer feedback
 - Feedback impacts on service planning and review.
- Excellent leadership**
- Leadership is ambitious and generates high aspirations
 - Leaders model the expected behaviours and values
 - Leadership inspires others, for example through contagious positivity
 - Leadership is distributed throughout all levels of the organisation.
- Successful multi-agency and integrated working**
- Partners consider the whole child in the whole system
 - All partners demonstrate shared ownership of and commitment to the vision
 - The partnership has a relentless focus on children's needs, meeting needs at the earliest possible stage
 - The partnership which is collaborative, mutually supportive and mutually challenging.

Our processes support excellence by:

- Promoting aspiration and ambition
- Celebrating success and achievement
- Being client-centred
- Being creative and innovative
- Being solution-focussed
- Facilitate the workforce to be skilled, empowered, responsive and accountable
- Managing demand, securing efficiencies and achieving value for money

2.5 The partnership has a key role to play in contributing to achieving the vision for Croydon for 2040 which is as:

- **an enterprising city** – a place renowned for its enterprise and innovation with a highly adaptable and skilled workforce and diverse and responsive economy
- **a learning city** – a place that unleashes and nurtures local talent, is recognised for its culture of lifelong learning and ambitions for children and young people
- **a creative and healthy city** – a place noted for its health, culture and creativity – one of the best incubators of new artistic and sporting talent in the country
- **a connected city** – a place defined by its connectivity and permeability; with one of the best digital, communications and transport networks in the country
- **a sustainable city** – a place that sets the pace amongst London boroughs on promoting environmental sustainability and where the natural environment forms the arteries and veins of the city
- **a compassionate city** – a place noted for its safety, openness and community spirit where all people are welcome to live and work and where individuals and communities feel empowered to deliver solutions for themselves.

2.6 We Are Croydon is available at

www.croydon.gov.uk/contents/departments/democracy/pdf/croydons-new-vision.

3. Needs Analysis

3.1 Purpose of the needs analysis

- 3.1.1. This needs analysis for children and young people in Croydon was carried out by the Croydon Children and Family Partnership as part of the commissioning cycle. The purpose of the needs analysis is to inform the review of Croydon's Children and Young People's Plan for the three years from April 2012 to March 2015.
- 3.1.2. In the 2011/12, the priorities of the Partnership were identified as shown in the paragraphs below, in relation to each Every Child Matters domains and the Partnership's sub-groups developed action plans to address these priorities.
- 3.1.3. Within the Being healthy domain, current priorities are:
- Reducing obesity
 - Reducing teenage pregnancy
 - Infant mortality
 - Emotional health and well being
- 3.1.4. Within the Staying safe domain, current priorities are:
- Multi-agency participation in child protection process (Croydon Safeguarding Children Board lead)
 - Missing children (Croydon Safeguarding Children Board lead)
 - Anti-bullying
- 3.1.5. Within the Enjoy and Achieve domain, current priorities are:
- Narrowing the gap: vulnerable groups and between schools
 - Provision for children with special educational needs
- 3.1.6. Within the Make a positive contribution domain, current priorities are:
- Children and young people influence provision
 - Youth crime and disorder (Safer Croydon Partnership lead)
- 3.1.7. Within the Economic well-being domain, current priorities are:
- Improving NEET
 - Suitable accommodation for vulnerable groups
- 3.1.8. Across the Partnership and Every Child Matters domains, current priorities overseen by the Partnership Working sub-group are:
- Preparation for GP commissioning and links to health and well-being board
 - Improved performance management
 - Whole-system of staged intervention and the Common Assessment Framework
 - Early intervention and use of community budgets

- Equalities

3.1.9. This needs analysis tests whether these priorities are addressing the most evident needs of children and young people in Croydon or whether there are emerging needs which need to be considered in the refreshed Children and Young People's Plan.

Structure of this needs analysis

3.1.10. The following section of this reports provides a profile of the children and young people in Croydon

3.1.11. The further sections of this report are organised by Every Child Matters domains. In each section, the evidence in relation to the needs of Croydon children and young people is set out in relation to that domain. The needs are described in general terms and where information exists on needs in relation to specific vulnerable sub-groups or particular localities. Gaps in information have also been flagged.

3.1.12. Engagement of children and young people in service development is a key cross-cutting priority of the Partnership. The views of children and young people are included in each section where this is known and gaps in this have also been identified.

3.1.13. Finally each section concludes with a summary of the most pronounced needs both in general terms and in relation to vulnerable population sub-groups and localities where this information is known.

Partnership Working

3.1.14. Croydon is committed to supporting all children, young people and families who live, work and play in the borough so that they are able to enjoy equality of opportunity and realise their full potential. In order to achieve this, all practitioners supporting children, young people and their families must work together effectively. All agencies in Croydon are committed to developing integrated working and local practitioners are constantly improving the way in which they work together, share information and deliver services. Working with children, young people and families, and identifying their needs, requires a shared awareness and understanding of different levels of need as well as the most appropriate support and services. Croydon is committed to early intervention – at any point in a child or young person's life - to tackle emerging problems for babies, children, young people and their families, as soon as possible, to prevent their situations becoming more serious.

3.1.15. All practitioners working with, and on behalf of, children, young people and families must take responsibility for ensuring everything possible is done to prevent the unnecessary escalation of issues or problems. Our guiding principles are:

- *The views of the child/young person/family are paramount*
- *When assessing need, the views of the child/young person/family must be sought and considered and they should be fully involved in any assessment process*
- *Early intervention and prevention is a shared responsibility that will achieve better outcomes for children, young people and families*
- *All agencies/services should work together and understand/appreciate each other's roles and responsibilities*
- *"Early intervention may occur at any point in a child's life" (C4EO)*
- *Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility*
- *All assessment of need should be strength-based*
- *Action plans should be inclusive, Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Timely (SMART)*

Equalities

- 3.1.16. The Equality Duty requires that all public bodies, with the exception of schools, publish equality information by 31 Jan 2012 and then annually from that point onwards. This needs analysis meets the requirement for the Croydon Children and Families Partnership to publish equality information.

3.2. Borough profile

Croydon's demography

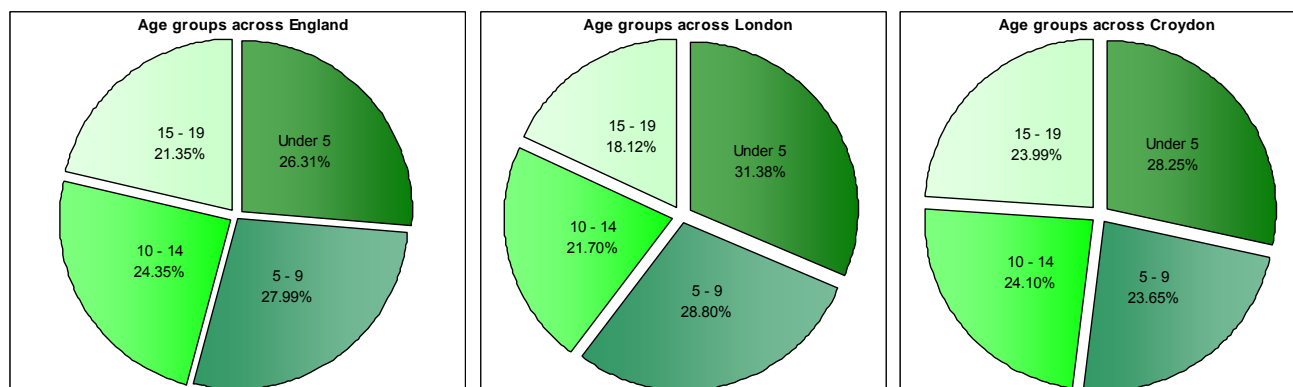
3.2.1. Croydon's population is estimated at 345,600 (2010 mid-year ONS estimates), up by 2,700 people from 2009, one of the higher increases across London boroughs. The local population is weighted towards those in their late 20s – 50 with fewer people in their teens and early twenties. There is also a higher population around age 65.

3.2.2. The total number of children and young people in the borough aged 0-19 years is 89,200 (25.8% of the total population), which is broadly in line with proportions for London and England.

3.2.3. The total population of 0-19 year olds broken down by age group is:

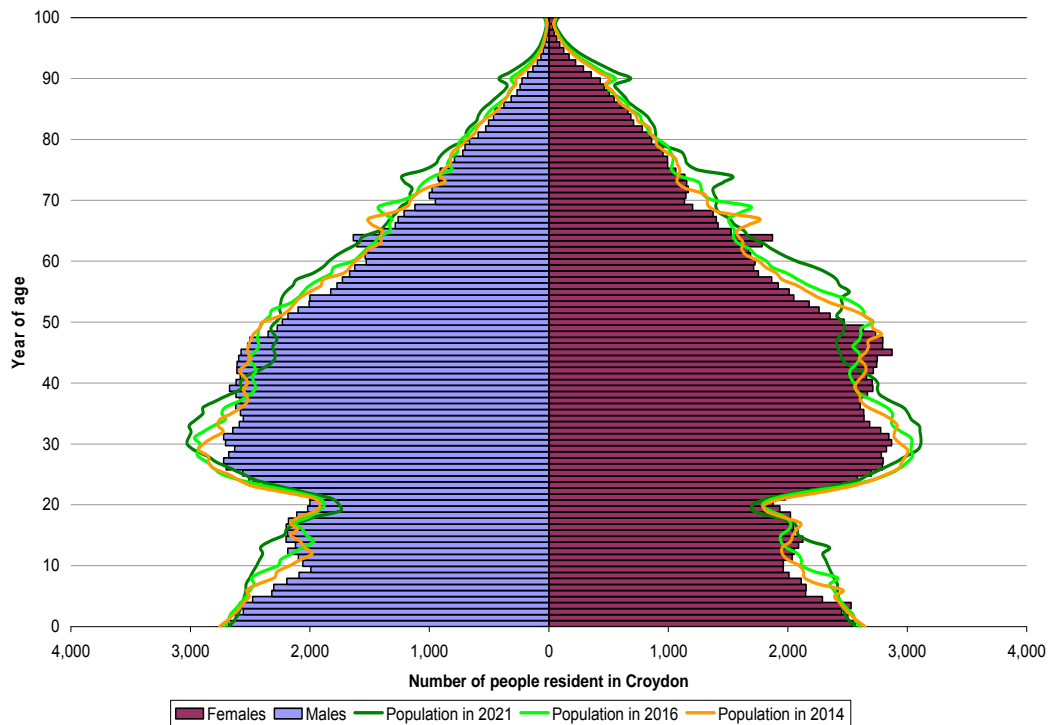
Under 5's	25,200
5 – 9 year olds	21,100
10-14 year olds	21,500
15-19 year olds	21,400

3.2.4. The following diagram shows the local population profile of children and young people compared with London and England.



3.2.5. Croydon's population is estimated to grow to 377,100 by 2031 (London Plan estimates). In particular, there are expected to be increases in the under 15 and the 25 to 40 age groups (see following chart).

Projected population change, Croydon 2011-2021



Source: Greater London Authority Population Projections: 2010 Round for London Plan

Croydon's school population

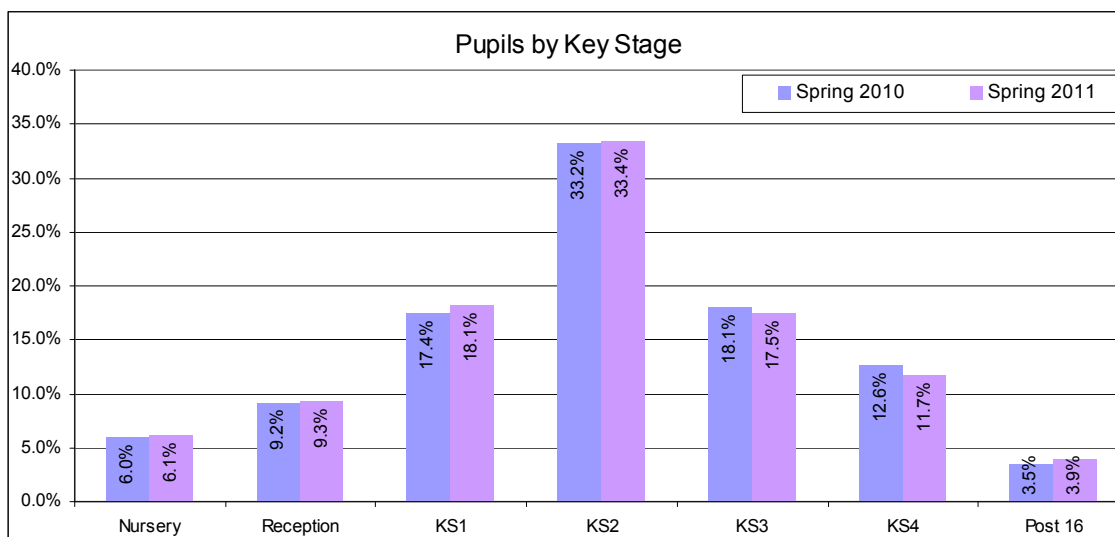
Numbers and age profile

3.2.6. According to the ONS 2010 mid year estimates there are approximately 51,400 5 – 16 year olds (children of school age).

3.2.7. The school population engaged in state funded education provision is 45,898 (school census 2011). Pupil numbers have increased by 179 in 2011 compared to the previous year. The following table shows the school population broken down by key stages, the highest proportion of pupils are in KS2 for both 2010 and 2011 years at 33%.

		Spring 2010	%	Spring 2011	%
School population	Nursery	2,742	6%	2,799	6%
	Reception	4,209	9%	4,272	9%
	KS1 (Years 1-2)	7,969	17%	8,325	18%
	KS2 (Years 3-6)	15,178	33%	15,309	33%
	KS3 (Years 7-9)	8,273	18%	8,027	17%
	KS4 (Years 10-11)	5,741	13%	5,374	12%
	Post 16 (Years 12-14)	1,607	4%	1,792	4%
		45,719		45,898	

Source – school census 2011 report

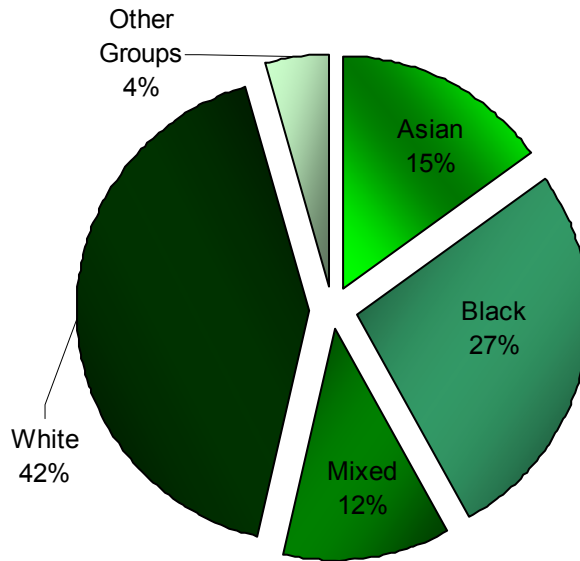


Ethnic background

3.2.8. 'White' pupils make up the highest proportion of pupils with 41.9% followed by 'Black' 27.1%, 'Asian' 15% 'Mixed' 11.6% and 'Other' groups 4.4%. Black pupils showed the greatest percentage point increase (0.58pp) when comparing with White pupils which showed the greatest decrease (1.59pp). The table below shows the detailed breakdown.

	Spring 2010	%	Spring 2011	%
All Pupils	45,719		45,898	
Bangladeshi	449	1.0%	453	1.0%
Indian	2,265	5.0%	2,343	5.1%
Pakastani	1,712	3.7%	1,808	3.9%
Any Other Asian	2,178	4.8%	2,248	4.9%
Asian	6,604	14.4%	6,852	15%
Caribbean	5,072	11.1%	5,135	11.2%
Black Afriacn	5,856	12.8%	6,092	13.3%
Any Other Black	1,217	2.7%	1,234	2.7%
Black	12,145	26.6%	12,461	27.1%
White / Asian	718	1.6%	762	1.7%
White / Black African	535	1.2%	599	1.3%
White / Black Caribbean	1,982	4.3%	2,023	4.4%
Any Other Mixed	1,853	4.1%	1,938	4.2%
Mixed	5,088	11.1%	5,322	11.6%
White British	17,264	37.8%	16,513	36.0%
White Irish	282	0.6%	267	0.6%
White Other	2,354	5.1%	2,466	5.4%
White	19,900	43.5%	19,246	41.9%
Chinese	216	0.5%	239	0.5%
Any Other Ethnic Group	772	1.7%	755	1.6%
Unknown	994	2.2%	1,023	2.2%
Other Groups	1,982	4.3%	2,017	4.4%

Spring 2011 - Pupil Ethnicity



Languages

3.2.9. The data in the table below represents the 2008 Annual School Census and shows the distribution of different languages spoken in Croydon. This is the first year of available data for state funded education provision.

3.2.10. Latest data shows that of the 50,400 pupil population in 2008, 38,220 (75.9%) speak English as a first language and the remaining 12,180 (24.1%) have a different first language. The most common ten languages are detailed in the following table.

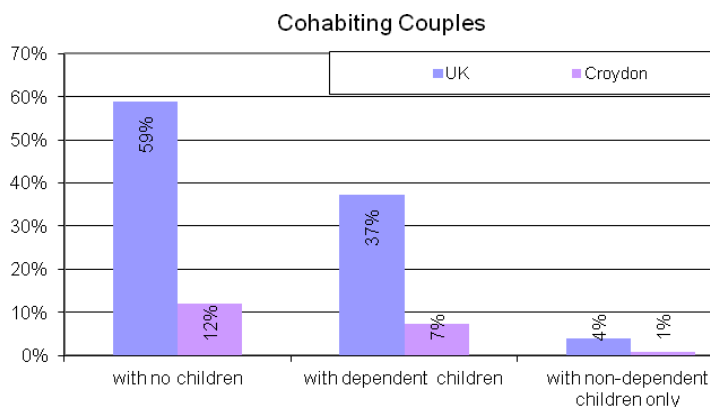
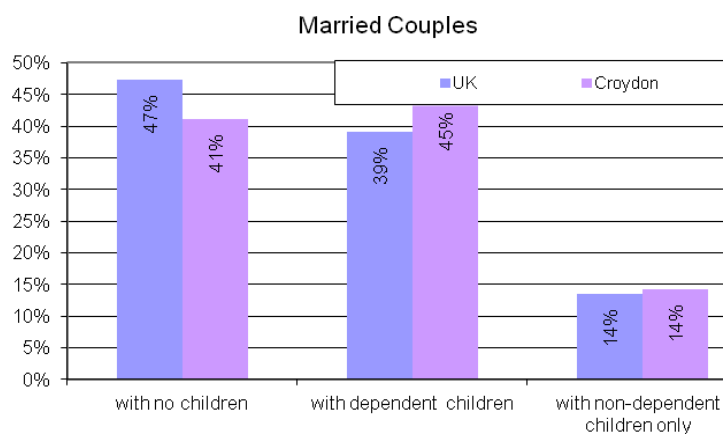
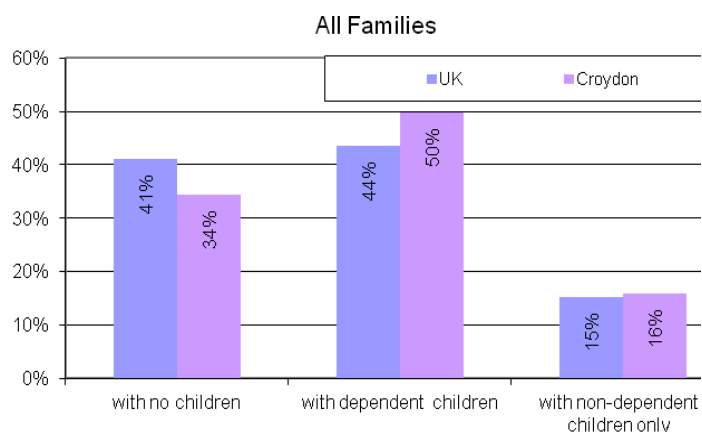
Language	Croydon	Croydon %
Total	50,400	
English	38,220	75.90%
Urdu	1,000	2.00%
Tamil	890	1.80%
French	640	1.30%
Gujarati	570	1.10%
Akan	570	1.10%
Bengali	380	0.80%
Somali	380	0.80%
Malayalam	370	0.70%
Turkish	350	0.70%
Portuguese	340	0.70%
Unknown - Refused	240	0.50%

Source – school census 2008 report – data.gov.uk

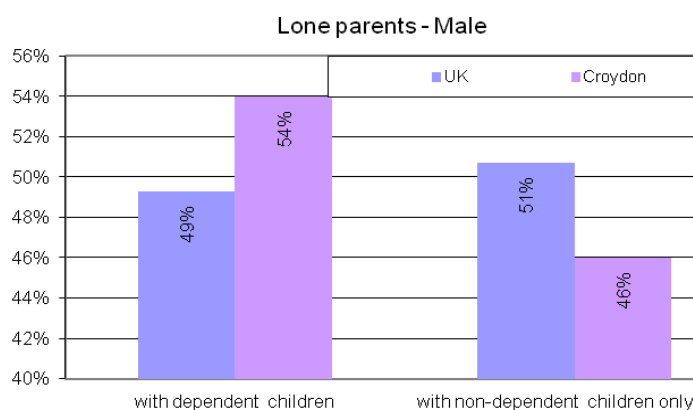
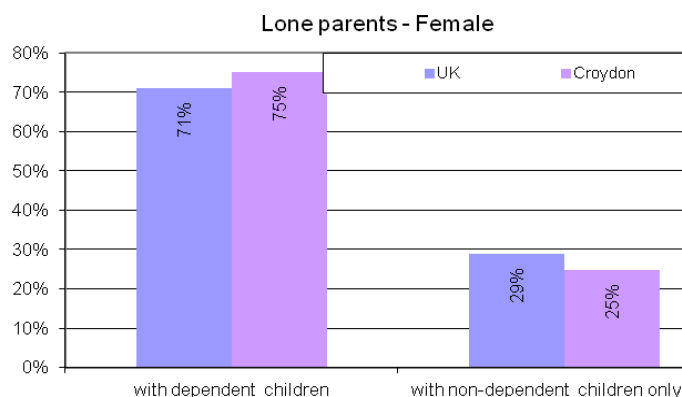
Croydon families

Family structure

3.2.11. There are 89,632 families in Croydon and 44,679 (50%) families have dependent children in comparison with 44% of UK families. The following diagrams show types of families and proportions within the family type with dependent and non-dependent children. Forty-five per cent of married couples in Croydon have dependent children, compared with 7% of co-habiting couples.



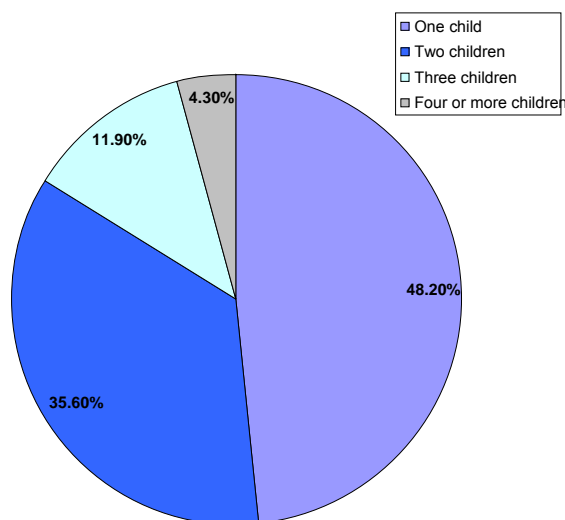
3.2.12. Data shows that 75% of female lone parents in Croydon have dependent children, compared with 54% of male lone parents.



Families receiving child benefit

3.2.13. Data for August 2010 shows that the total number of families receiving child benefit in Croydon is 49,350. The highest proportion of claimants have one child 48.2% or 23,800 families (see following chart).

Size profile of families in receipt of child benefit



Deprivation

Index of multiple deprivation

3.2.14. On 24 March 2011 the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) published the English Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010. They combine a number of indicators covering a range of economic, social and housing issues, into a single deprivation score for each small area in England, known as Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). The Indices are used to:

- Analyse patterns of deprivation;
- Identify areas that would benefit from special initiatives;
- Determine eligibility for specific funding streams.

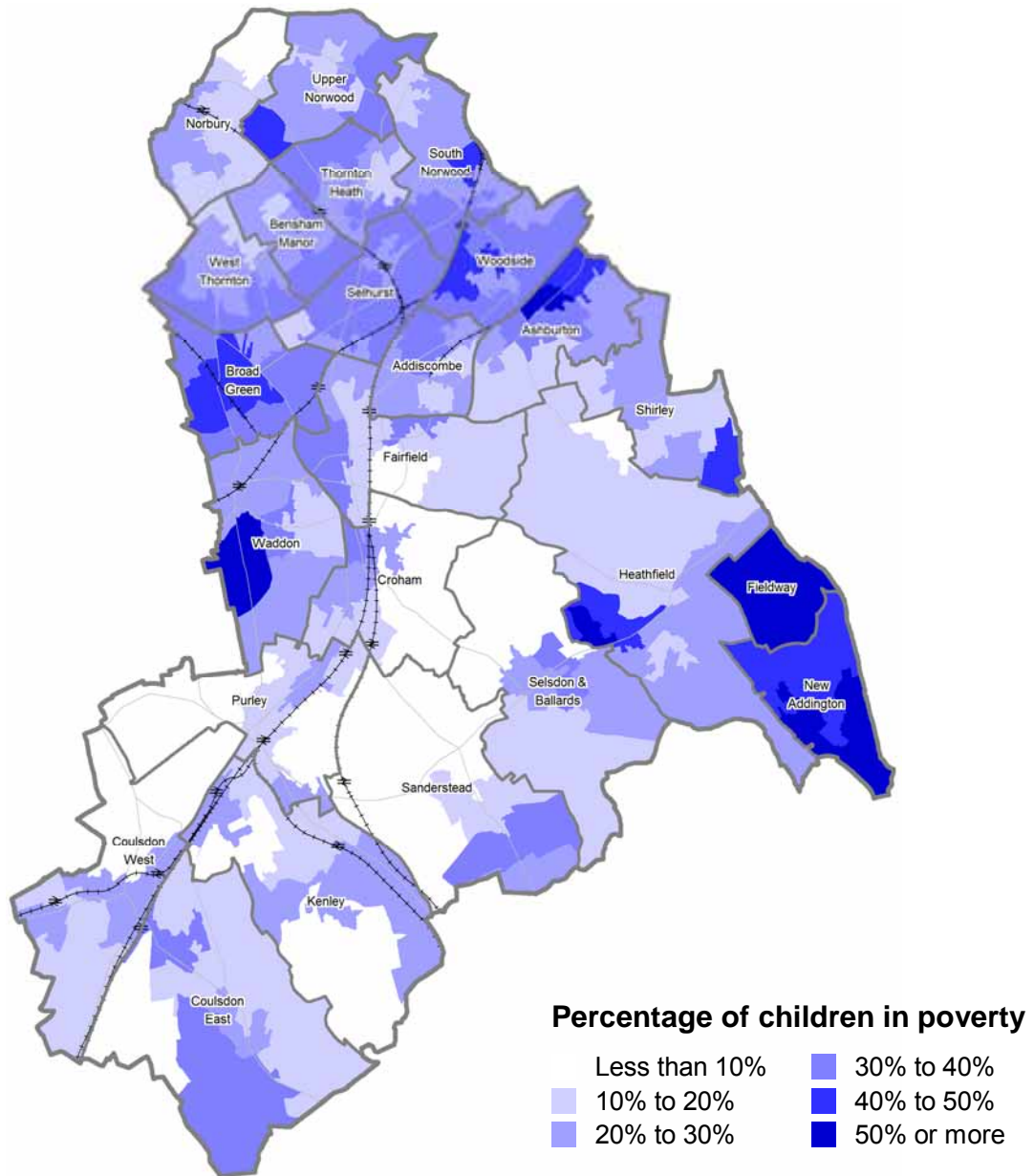
3.2.15. IMD data released for 2010 shows Croydon as ranked the 19th most deprived London borough (out of 32 London boroughs) and is the 107th (out of 326 local authorities) most deprived local authority in England. Croydon has also become relatively more deprived between 2004 and 2010, having been ranked 140th (out of 354 local authorities) in 2004.

3.2.16. Within the borough the north of Croydon is generally more deprived than the south, being more characteristic of Inner London. Fieldway and New Addington wards in the east of Croydon also have high levels of deprivation with Fieldway being the most deprived ward in Croydon. The most deprived LSOA in Croydon is in New Addington.

Education deprivation

3.2.17. This is based on Education, Skills and Training Deprivation Domain of the IMD which measures the extent of deprivation in terms of education, skills and training in an area.

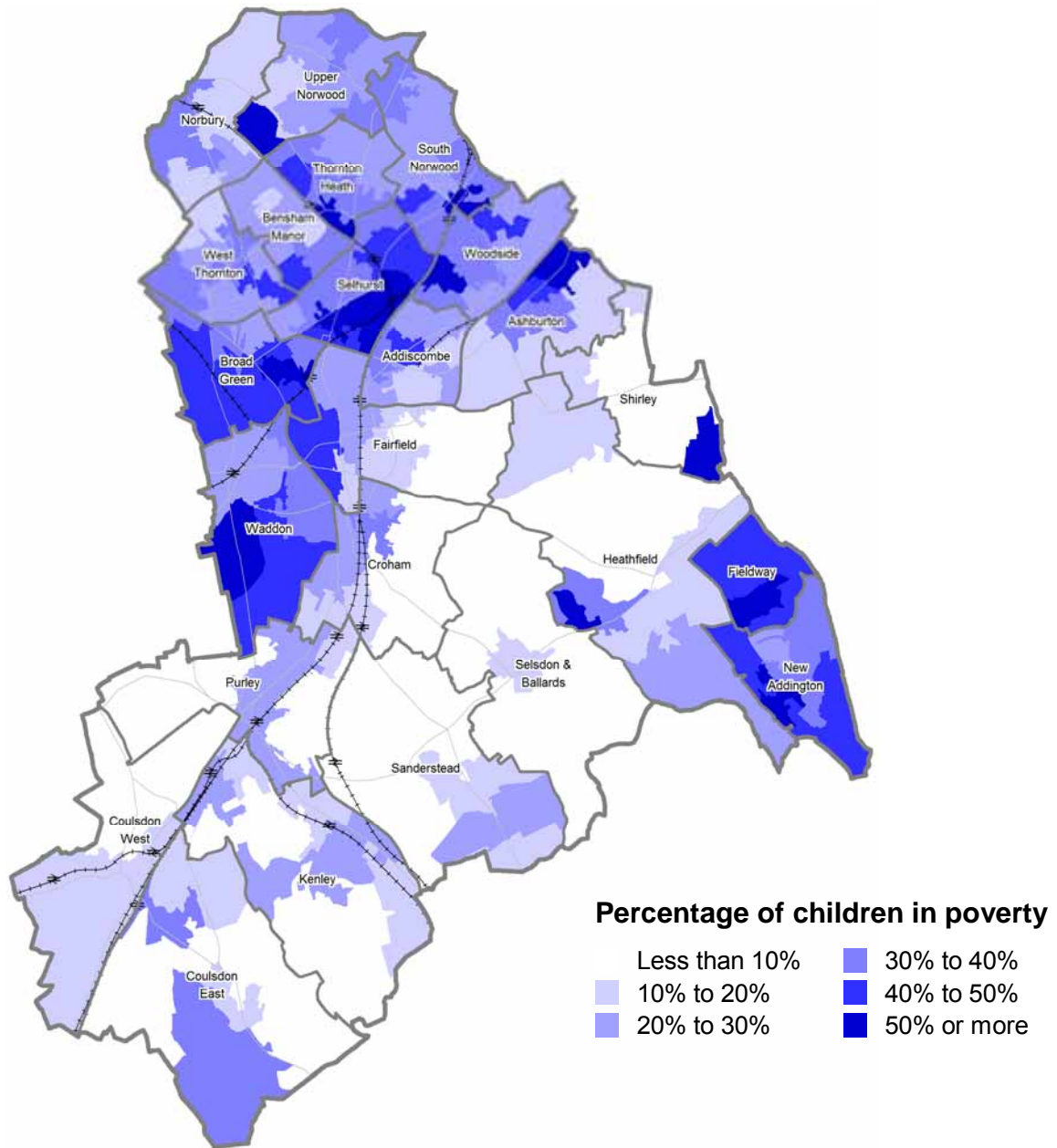
3.2.18. The following map shows levels of education deprivation across the borough. Most deprived areas are in New Addington, Fieldway, Ashburton and Waddon.



Deprivation - Child poverty

3.2.19. The proportion of children in poverty in Croydon has been increasing over the past 3 years, and is significantly higher than the England average. With 27% of children in Croydon living in poverty, the borough is amongst the lowest 25% of local authorities. This is based on HMRC data 2009 on the percentage of children aged under 16 living in families in receipt of out of work benefits and tax credits where their reported income is less than 60% median income.

3.2.20. Data from the IMD 2010 on income deprivation affecting children shows lower super output areas with the highest proportion of children in poverty are primarily in the north of the borough, but also in New Addington, Fieldway, Shirley and Heathfield.



3.2.21. A more detailed needs analysis on child poverty is being undertaken within the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and will underpin the development of a child poverty strategy.

Deprivation - Children eligible for free school meals

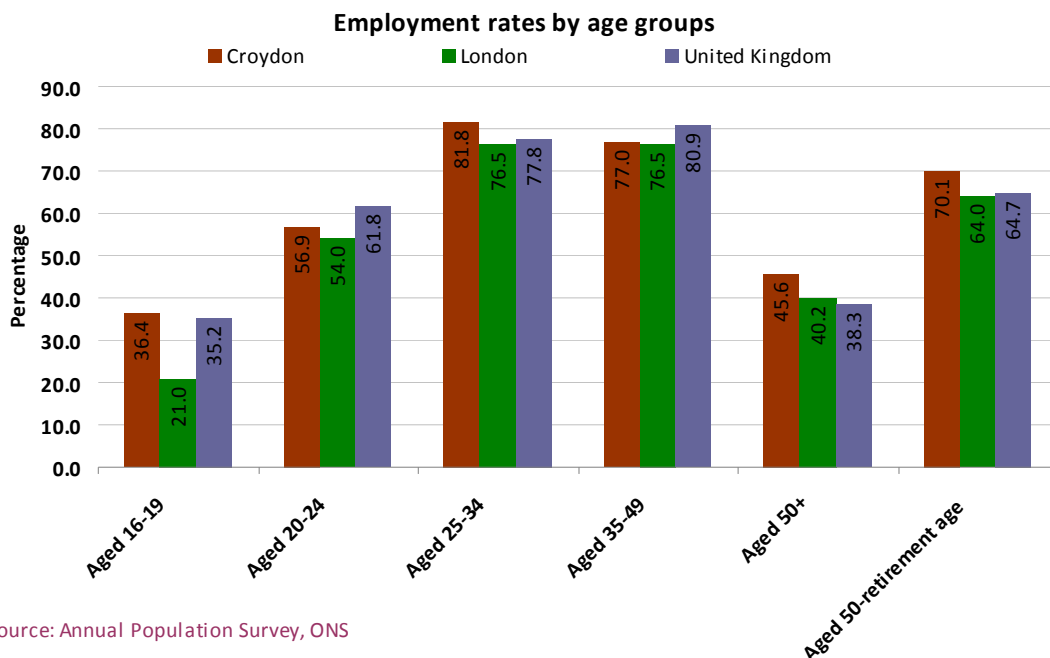
3.2.22. The spring 2011 school census showed that 9,125 pupils were eligible for FSM which equated to 19.9% of all pupils, an increase compared with 2010 (8,896 or 19.5% of total pupils).

	Spring 2010	%	Spring 2011	%
All Pupils	45,719		45,898	
FSM Eligible	8,896	19.5%	9,125	19.9%
Not Eligible	36,823	80.5%	36,773	80.1%

Deprivation - Employment and young people

3.2.23. Latest national data shows that the employment rate in Croydon had increased over the previous six months in comparison with the national and regional rates which have remained relatively stable. Data just released for April 2010-March 2011 shows the employment rate in Croydon at 78.4% which is above the rates for London 74.8% and Great Britain 76.2%.

3.2.24. This data can be disaggregated by age groups. Locally age groups with the lowest employment rate are 16-19yrs (36.4%), 20-24yrs (56.9%) and 50+ (45.6%) although this age group includes residents who have retired.



Source: Annual Population Survey, ONS

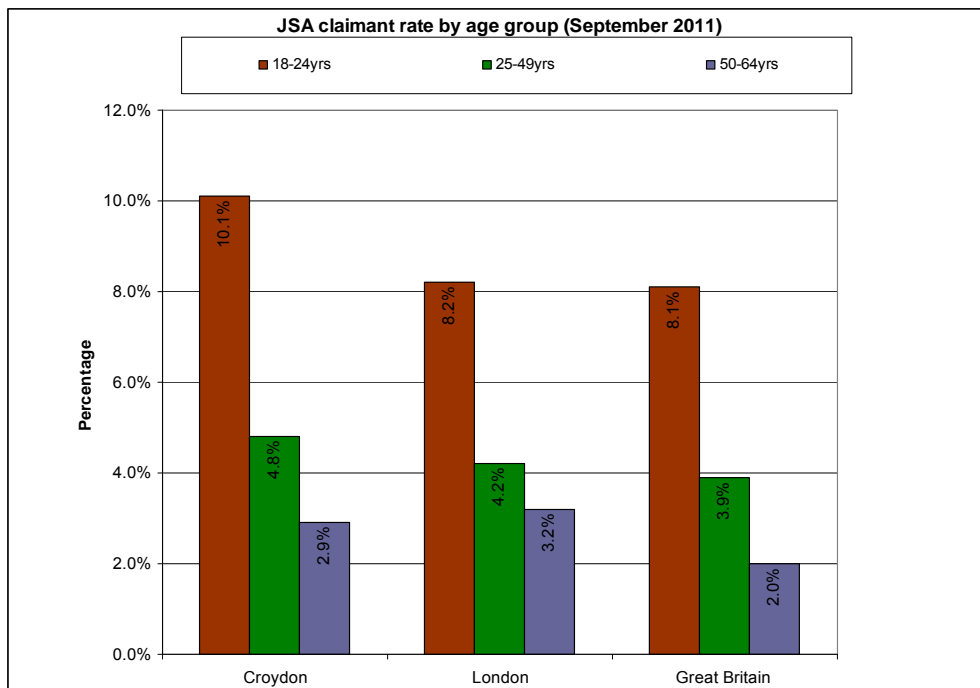
3.2.25. The latest data released by ONS at a national level shows an increase in unemployment but this data has not yet been disaggregated at borough level. It is anticipated that the next data set released will show the impact of this rise on employment/unemployment rate local rates.

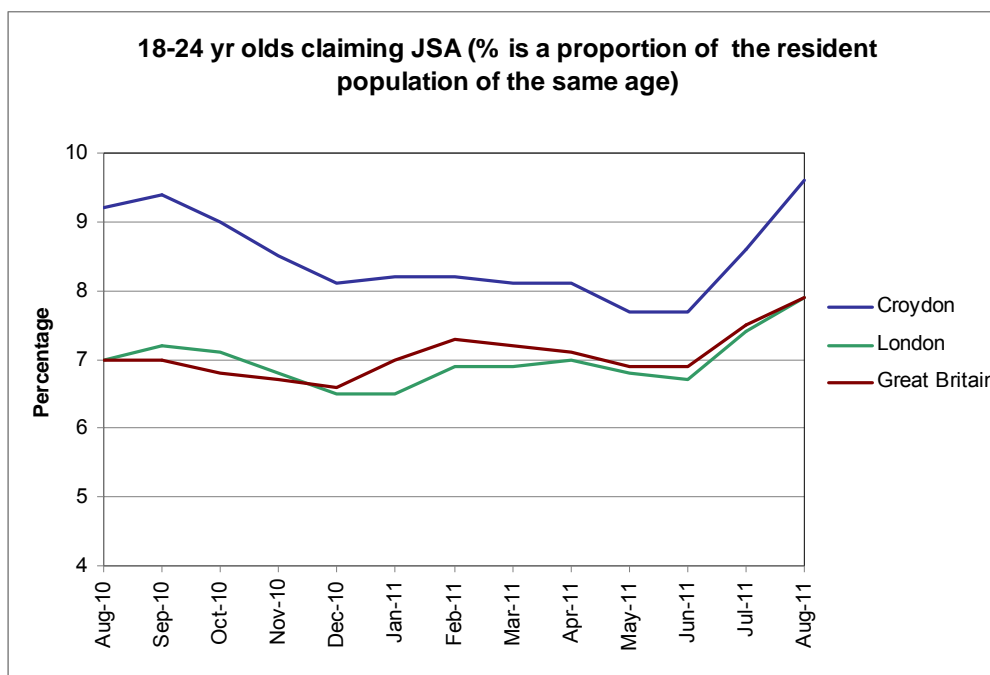
Deprivation – young people claiming benefits

3.2.26. In Croydon there are approximately 30,000 people in receipt of key out of work benefits, unevenly distributed across the borough. An average of 12.8% of working age residents receive out of work benefits, but in some wards this is below 5% (4.6% Selsdon and Ballards) and over 20% in deprived areas of the borough (22.3% Fieldway).

3.2.27. The Job Seekers allowance (JSA) claimant rate in Croydon has been steadily rising between February and August 2011, in line with regional trends. The 18-24 year old age group makes up 10.1% of JSA claimants in Croydon which is significantly higher than age groups 25-49 years and 50-64 years. There was a significant increase in claimants in the 18-24 age group between June and August 2011.

3.2.28. The Croydon Skills and Employment Strategy sets out priorities for Croydon in terms of raising the skills levels within the borough's communities, creating sustainable employment opportunities and increasing the overall borough employment rate. The strategy identifies issues in relation targeting employability and skills programmes at key groups, with a particular focus on young people.





Vulnerable population sub-groups

Vulnerable groups - Children with special education needs

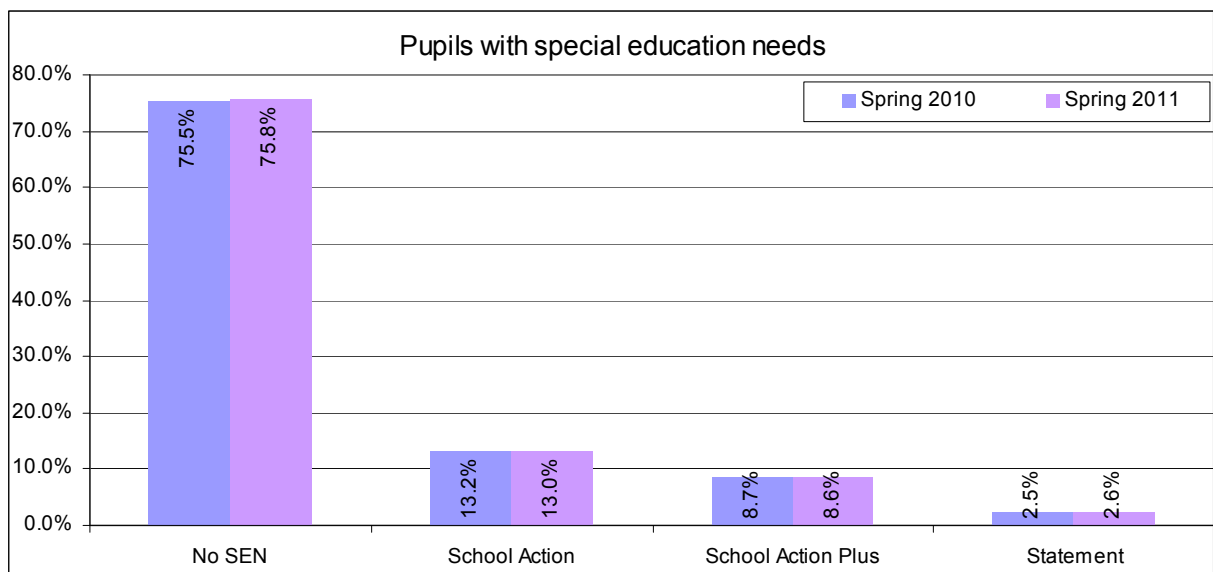
3.2.29. There are three categories of special educational needs (SEN) in schools:

- **School Action** is established when a child is identified as needing interventions that are additional to or different from those provided as part of the school's usual differentiated curriculum and strategies.
- **School Action Plus** is established when the child's needs are such that the school needs to seek advice and support from external support services. These may be provided by the local Education Authority (LEA) or outside agencies.
- A statement of special needs is a formal document detailing a child's learning difficulties and the special additional help that will be given. A child is said to be "**Statemented**" when he/she has received such a document.

3.2.30. In the Spring 2011 school census 75.8% of pupils were classified as without SEN, while 24.2% of pupils have some form of support. This equates to a 0.3 percentage point change in comparison with 2010.

	Spring 2010	%	Spring 2011	%
All Pupils	45,719		45,898	
No SEN	34,518	75.5%	34,785	75.8%
School Action	6,055	13.2%	5,982	13.0%
School Action Plus	3,986	8.7%	3,952	8.6%
Statement	1,160	2.5%	1,179	2.6%
Any SEN	11,201	24.5%	11,113	24.2%

Source – school census 2011 report



Vulnerable groups - Looked After Children

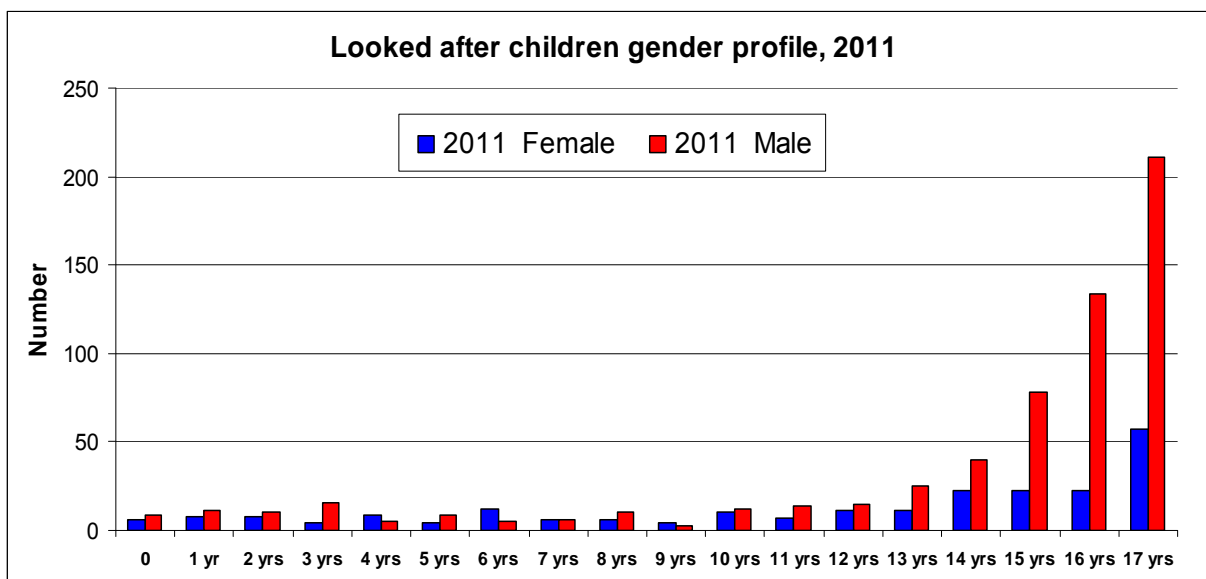
3.2.31. March 2011 data show that there are 845 looked after children (LAC) in Croydon of which 425 were indigenous Croydon children and 579 were unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC). Numbers of UASC in care have fallen every year from a peak of 696 at the end of March 2009.

3.2.32. For indigenous looked after children, there is a broad spread of ages with the highest numbers falling in the 16 to 17 age groups and the majority are from a White British background. In comparison, the unaccompanied asylum seeking children population is almost wholly aged 12 and over, with the vast majority in the 16 and 17 age groups.

3.2.33. There are fewer girls than boys in care in Croydon and beyond the age of nine, boys outnumber girls by around three to one. These differences are even greater for unaccompanied asylum seeking children where the ratio is closer to eight to one

3.2.34. The average length of care for looked after children was 740 days in 2010 compared with 816 days in 2011.

3.2.35. In 2011 50.1% of all children looked after with Croydon LAC and UASC combined were male and aged 15-17 years. The females across all ages only accounted for 27.5% of the total of children looked after in 2011.



Source: Department for Education 903 Return “Children Looked After”

3.2.36. Based on the broader ethnic origin classification, the largest proportion of looked after children in 2010 were “White” (34%). In 2011, this has dropped to 22%. In 2011, the largest proportion of looked after children were “Asian” at 40%. This compared to the 30% in the previous year. For both 2010 and 2011, the “Black” looked after children have maintained a similar percentage of all looked after children (25% in 2010 compared to 26% in 2011). Black Africans accounted for 16% in 2010 and 17% in 2011.

Broader Classifications	2010	2011
All Asian	30%	40.0%
All Black	25%	26%
Chinese	1%	1%
Mixed	9%	9%
All White	34%	22%

Data source: Department for Education 903 Return “Children Looked After”

Vulnerable sub-groups – pupils referred to Pupil Referral Units

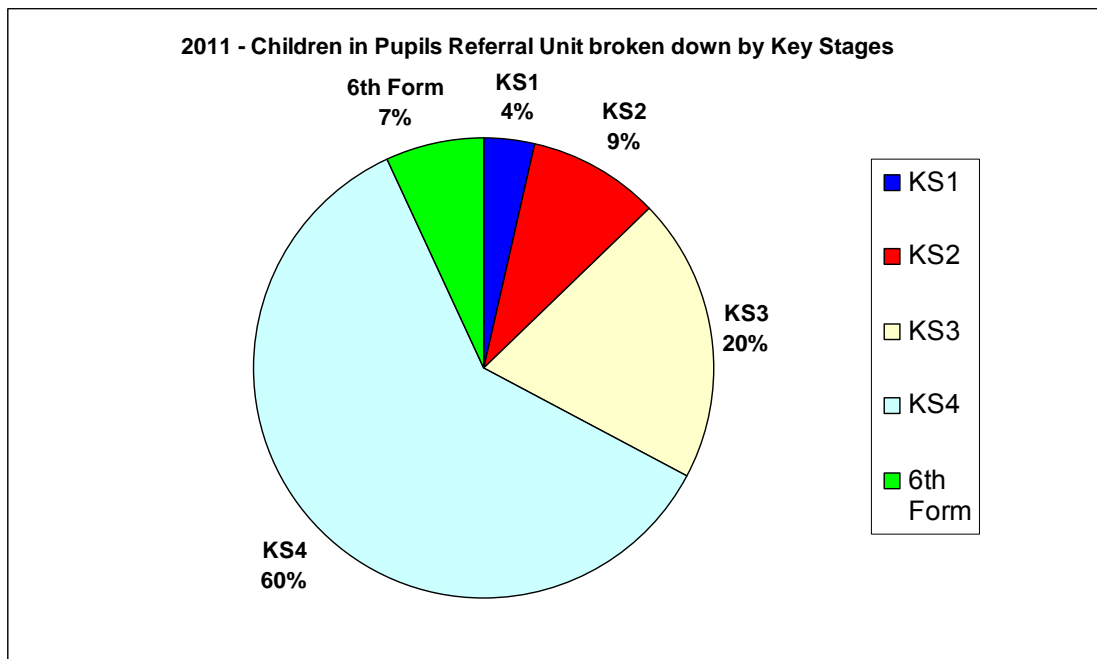
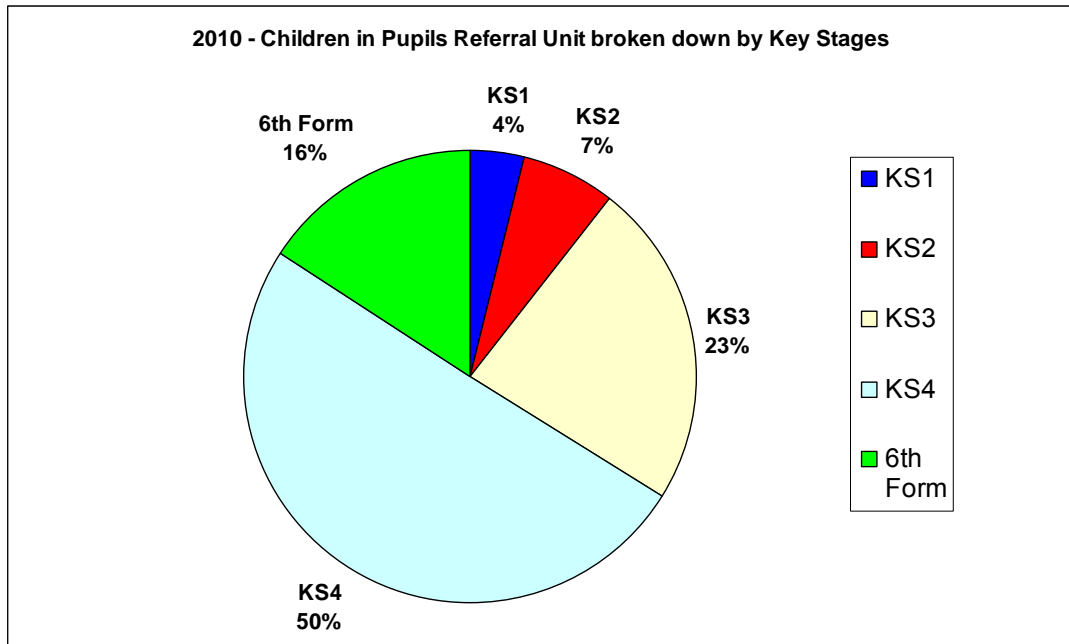
3.2.37. In 2011 there were 398 pupils referred to PRUs, an increase of 38 pupils on the previous academic year.

3.2.38. In 2010, the numbers of males to females was similar (181 compared with 179). In 2011, more males than females were referred (218 compared with 180).

3.2.39. In 2010, 64% of the children referred were in the 15-18 years age band. This compares with 75% in 2011.

3.2.40. In 2010, 2 in 3 (66%) of the children in the Pupils Referral Unit (PRU) were at the Keystage 4 or beyond so the age range was between 14-15 and 19-20 years.

3.2.41. In 2011, a very similar percentage (67%) of the children in the Pupil Referral Units (PRU) were at the same educational stages : the main difference being that, one year on, 10% more pupils are at Keystage 4 level and those in 6th Forms has reduced.



3.2.42. In 2010, 46% of the children in the Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) were of a “White” self-classification. This compares with 38% in 2011. Of all the children in PRUs, 17% were self-classified as “Black Caribbean” in 2011 compared with 21% in the previous year. ‘Black Caribbean’ combined with ‘Mixed White and Black Caribbean’ groups accounted for 32% of all children in the PRU in 2010. This reduced to 27% in 2011.

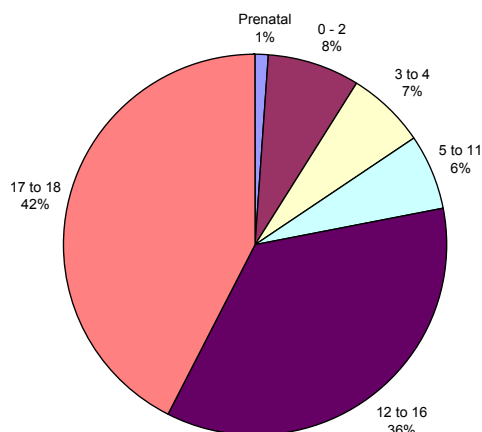
Common Assessment

3.2.43. The common assessment framework is a multi-agency approach to assessing children with additional needs, agreeing actions and monitoring actions to address those needs. Between April 2011 and Oct 2011, 205 common assessments were opened on the secure National electronic CAF database (eCAF).

3.2.44. Common assessments for girls / young women accounted for 49% (100) of the total and 51% (104) for boys / young men¹. This represents a narrowing of the gap in comparison with data from the end of June 2011 when males represented 55% and females represented 45%.

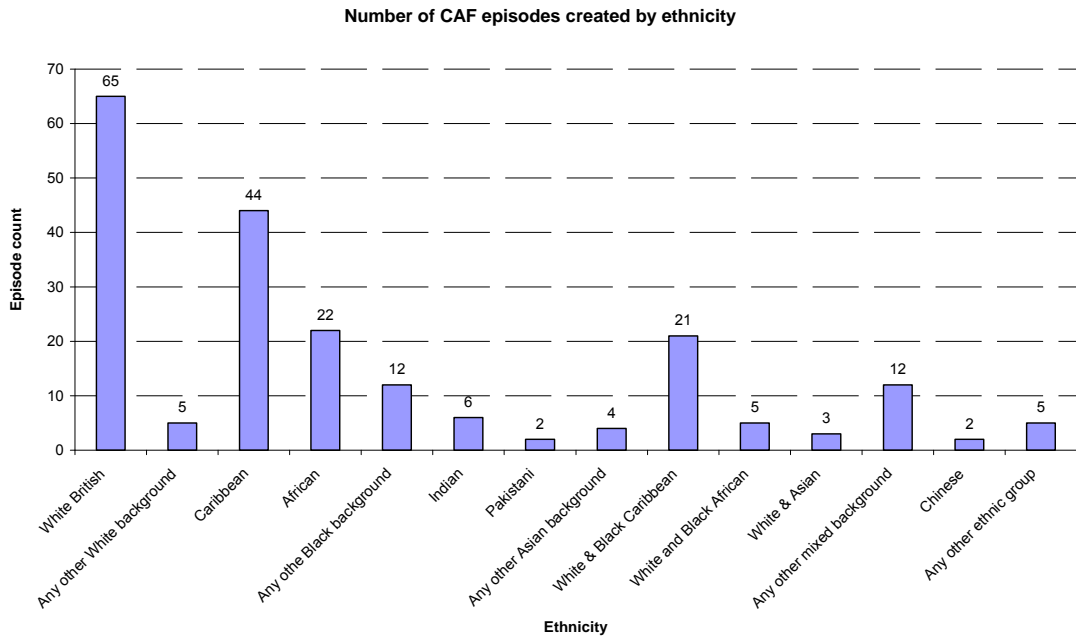
3.2.45. The age profile of children for whom common assessments were carried out shows that 78% were for young people aged 12 years or over (see following figure) but this is likely to be an artifact of rolling out eCAF initially to services working with this age group. Since June 2011 the proportion for younger age groups has increased with 22% compared with 10% reported earlier.

Number of CAF episodes by age band (years)



3.2.46. During the reporting period, 31% common assessments were opened for children whose background is White British, with 37% being of Black or Black British heritage (Caribbean 21%; African 10%; Any other black background 6%) (see following chart for a detailed breakdown).

¹ One common assessment was completed for an unborn child, where the gender was not known.



3.2.47. Within National eCAF, practitioners identify which Every Child Matters aim and outcome is being supported by each of the actions listed in the agreed Common Assessment plan. The breakdown for across all plans and actions is shown in the following chart and in the table on the following page.

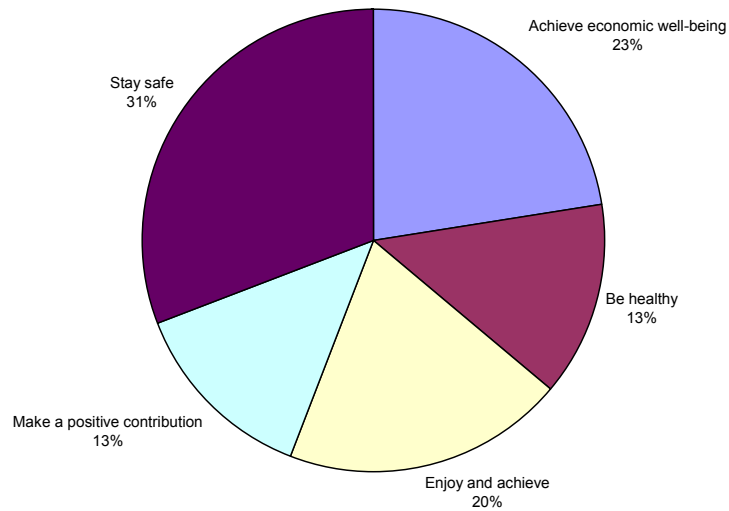


Table showing number of CAF episodes created supporting each ECM outcome between 01/03/2011 and 31/10/2011

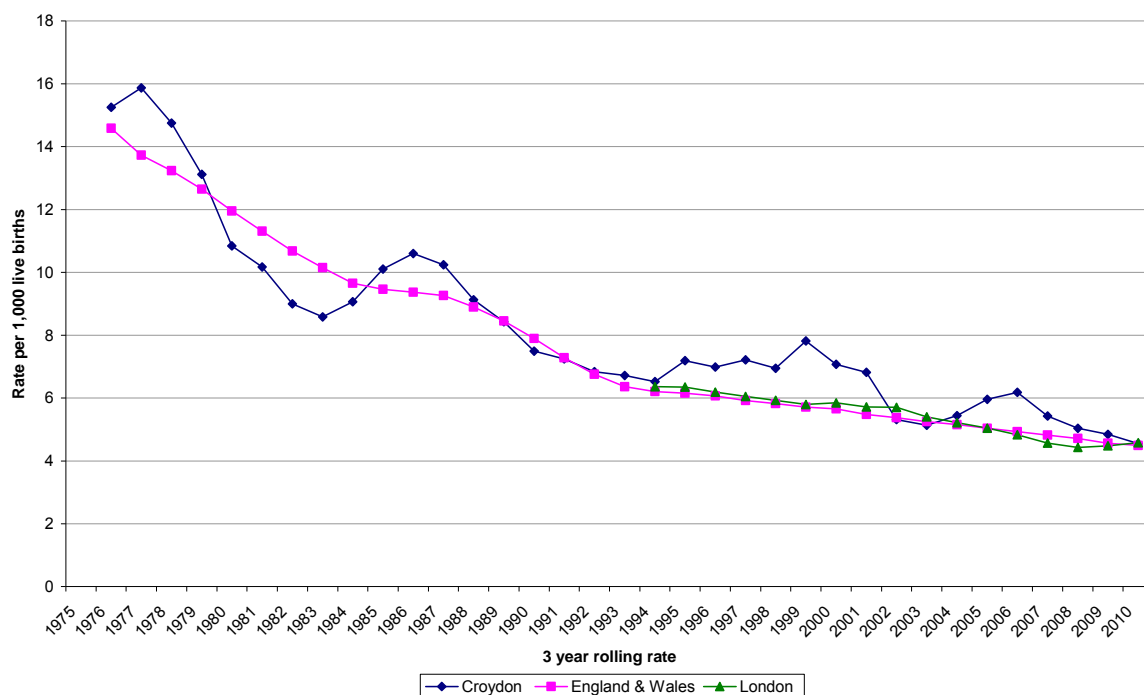
ECM aims and outcomes		Total	%
Achieve economic well-being	Access to transport and material goods	5	2
	Engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school	18	6
	Live in decent homes and sustainable communities	39	12
	Live in households free from low income	5	2
	Ready for employment	7	2
	Sub total	74	23
Be healthy	Choose not to take illegal drugs	4	1
	Healthy lifestyles	8	2
	Mentally and emotionally healthy	18	6
	Physically healthy	12	4
	Sexually healthy	2	1
	Sub total	44	13
Enjoy and achieve	Achieve personal and social development and enjoy recreation	23	7
	Achieve stretching national educational standards at secondary school.	9	3
	Attend and enjoy school	23	7
	Ready for school	10	3
	Sub total	65	20
Make a positive contribution	Develop positive relationships and choose not to bully and discriminate	6	2
	Develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges	21	6
	Engage in decision-making and support the community and environment	3	1
	Engage in law-abiding and positive behaviour in and out of school	14	4
	Sub total	44	13
Stay safe	Have security, stability and are cared for	81	25
	Safe from accidental injury and death	1	-
	Safe from crime and anti-social behaviour in and out of school	4	1
	Safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation	15	5
	Sub total	101	31
Total		328	

3.3 Improving health outcomes for children and young people

Early health

Infant mortality

3.3.1. The infant mortality rate (up to 12 months of age) for Croydon for 2007-2009 was 5 deaths of children aged under one year per 1,000 live births. This was higher than the rate for London and England.



3.3.2. For babies born in Croydon in 2009, 8.5% were born weighing less than 2,500g, compared with 7.5% of babies born in London and 7.2% of babies born in England.

3.3.3. National research shows that prematurity and low birth weight are the biggest risk factors in infant mortality. Other groups at higher risk include babies born to:

- mothers with multiple births (twins, triplets or more)
- mothers from Black ethnic groups
- mothers not born in the UK
- single mothers and mothers who register their baby alone
- families in routine and manual socio economic groups
- mothers aged less than 20
- mothers who smoke
- mothers who are obese
- mothers from deprived backgrounds.

3.3.4. The Croydon infant mortality strategy working group have prioritised themes against which the action plan to reduce infant mortality is focused. These are based on interventions which are likely to have the most impact for the maternal and infant population of Croydon and include: breast feeding promotion, smoking cessation and dietary services, together with specialist services for vulnerable groups and those with complex social needs (as listed above). The strategy will also include actions which aim to improve experiences for women and their families when accessing services specifically before and during pregnancy and up to their child's first birthday. These are aimed at equipping women and their families to make healthier life choices for the physical, social and emotional wellbeing of their futures.

Breastfeeding

3.3.5. Statistics for 2010/2011 show that the Croydon 6-8 week prevalence for breastfeeding, which includes total and partial breastfeeding, was 69.7% for Q4 (January – March 2011). This is 4.7% above the Department of Health target of 65%. This is also an increase of 5.9% from Q4 2009/2010.

Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks - actual		
	2008/9	2009/10
Croydon	65.5%	63.8%
National	45.6%	45.4%

Total and Partial Breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks - actual		
	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon	63.8%	69.7%
London	65.0%	Not available
National	45.2%	45.2%

3.3.6. There is a strong association between mother's age and breastfeeding rates with older mothers more likely to breastfeed compared to younger mothers.

3.3.7. Breastfeeding rates in Croydon vary strongly by locality. At birth, the proportion of mothers reported to be exclusively breastfeeding is highest in Purley (84.2%) and lowest in New Addington (53.5%) and Fieldway (52%). At 6-8 weeks almost half of all babies born in these two areas are bottle fed. Breastfeeding rates are also particularly low in parts of Waddon, Shirley and Heathfield.

- 3.3.8. Breastfeeding rates are lower in White British mothers, mixed feeding (total and partial breastfeeding) is more common in women of Black ethnicity. Mothers who are live in least deprived or most deprived areas are least likely to breastfeed.
- 3.3.9. A multi-faceted approach for supporting breastfeeding is delivered by a Community Specialist Breastfeeding programme team, who provide a sustainable, comprehensive, intensive, high quality, accessible, breastfeeding support to families within Croydon and complement the support already given within Croydon Community Health Services by the Children's Universal Services teams. This builds on the support already given to mothers and infants by the midwives in hospital and the community.
- 3.3.10. This specialist team are implementing the UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative with the aim of achieving Baby Friendly Accreditation, providing a Peer Support Programme in areas of health inequalities - New Addington and Fieldway and Waddon with a third area, Shrublands, being rolled out in the near future. In addition, five Baby cafes have been established in Croydon with other baby clinics and Children's Centres providing breastfeeding support throughout Croydon. There is a robust training and supervision programme together with and rigorous systems of data collection, monitoring and reporting.
- 3.3.11. Increased Support for breastfeeding should be available for all mothers in Croydon. However, to reduce inequalities, Croydon Children and Families Partnership should take action to reach mothers least likely to breastfeed – those living in New Addington, Fieldway, Waddon, Shirley and Heathfield, young mothers, white British mothers and those of Black ethnicity with a culture of mixed feeding from birth.
- 3.3.12. A breastfeeding strategy for Croydon is in development to support the initiation and sustainment of breastfeeding within Croydon.

Childhood immunisation

- 3.3.13. Coverage rates for Croydon for the year 2010-11 were as follows:
- 91.0% of children aged one were immunised for diphtheria, tetanus, polio, pertussis and Hib
 - 81.0% children aged two were immunised for pneumococcal infection
 - 85.9% of children aged two were immunised for meningitis and Hib
 - 82.1% of children aged two were immunised for measles mumps and rubella (MMR)
 - 76.5% of children aged 5 were immunised for diphtheria, tetanus, polio and pertussis
 - 75.1% of children aged five were immunised for MMR.
- 3.3.14. These rates are in line with the average for London, although coverage for London is below the national average.

3.3.15. The Immunisation Steering Groups is current reviewing local uptake by GP practice. There is good engagement from local GP's and work is currently being undertaken to improve data quality. It is recommended that the Immunisation Steering Group develop ways of mapping unimmunised children by locality in 2012-13

3.3.16. There is also on-going work to target babies at risk and those with no or 'unknown' GP. The Immunisation Steering Group is currently developing an Immunisation Action Plan for Croydon, informed by NICE Guidance on hard to reach groups.

Obesity

3.3.17. In England almost two thirds of adults and one third of children are overweight or obese (defined by a body mass index or BMI of 30 or more). The prevalence of overweight and obesity in adults and children is expected to continue to rise.

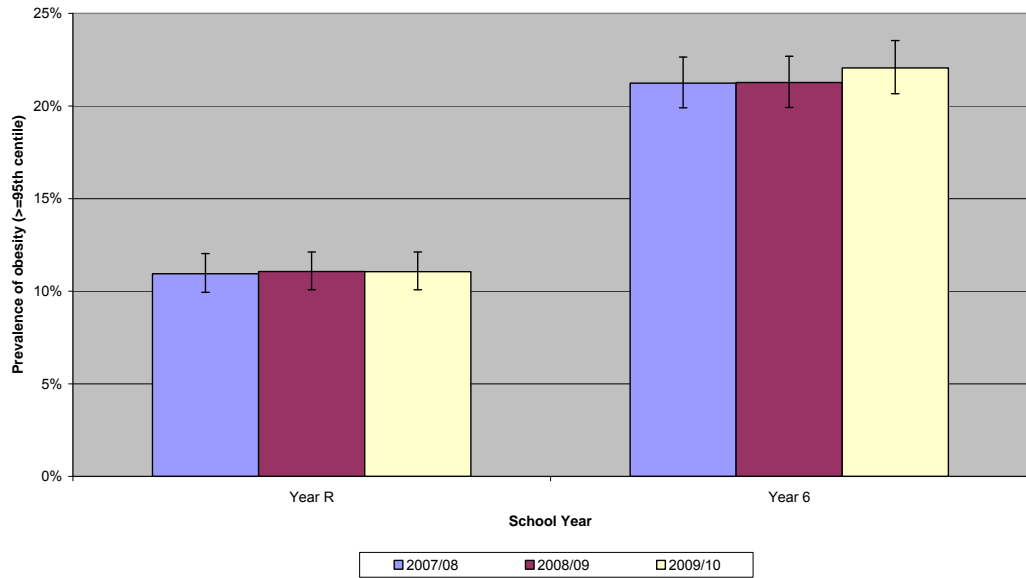
3.3.18. It is estimated that over 12,000 children living in Croydon are obese. By the age of one, around 750 children were already defined as obese, with 1,000 fifteen year olds defined as obese. Figures from the national child measurement programme (NCMP) show that the prevalence of childhood obesity in Croydon is similar to that of London overall, which in turn, is higher than for England.

3.3.19. The percentage of children who are obese is increased in Croydon between 2008/9 and 2009/10 (which is the latest NCMP data available), as it is nationally.

Obesity in reception children - actual		
	2008/9	2009/10
Croydon	10.9%	11.1%
London	10.8%	11.9%

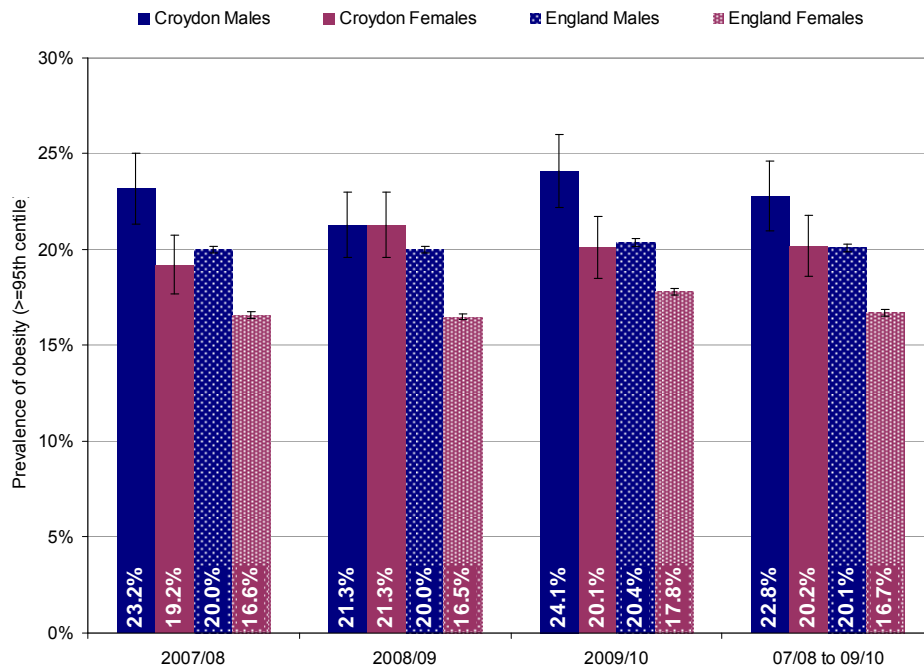
3.3.20. The trend chart 2007/8- 2009/10 shows obesity prevalence for reception age children remaining steady over the period while for Year 6 children obesity prevalence increased slightly in 2009/10.

Trend in prevalence of obesity for school years R and 6, Croydon, 2007/08-2009/10



3.3.21. While school children in the borough have higher than the national average levels of obesity, 51% of children participate in more than 3 hours of sport a week, more than the England average.

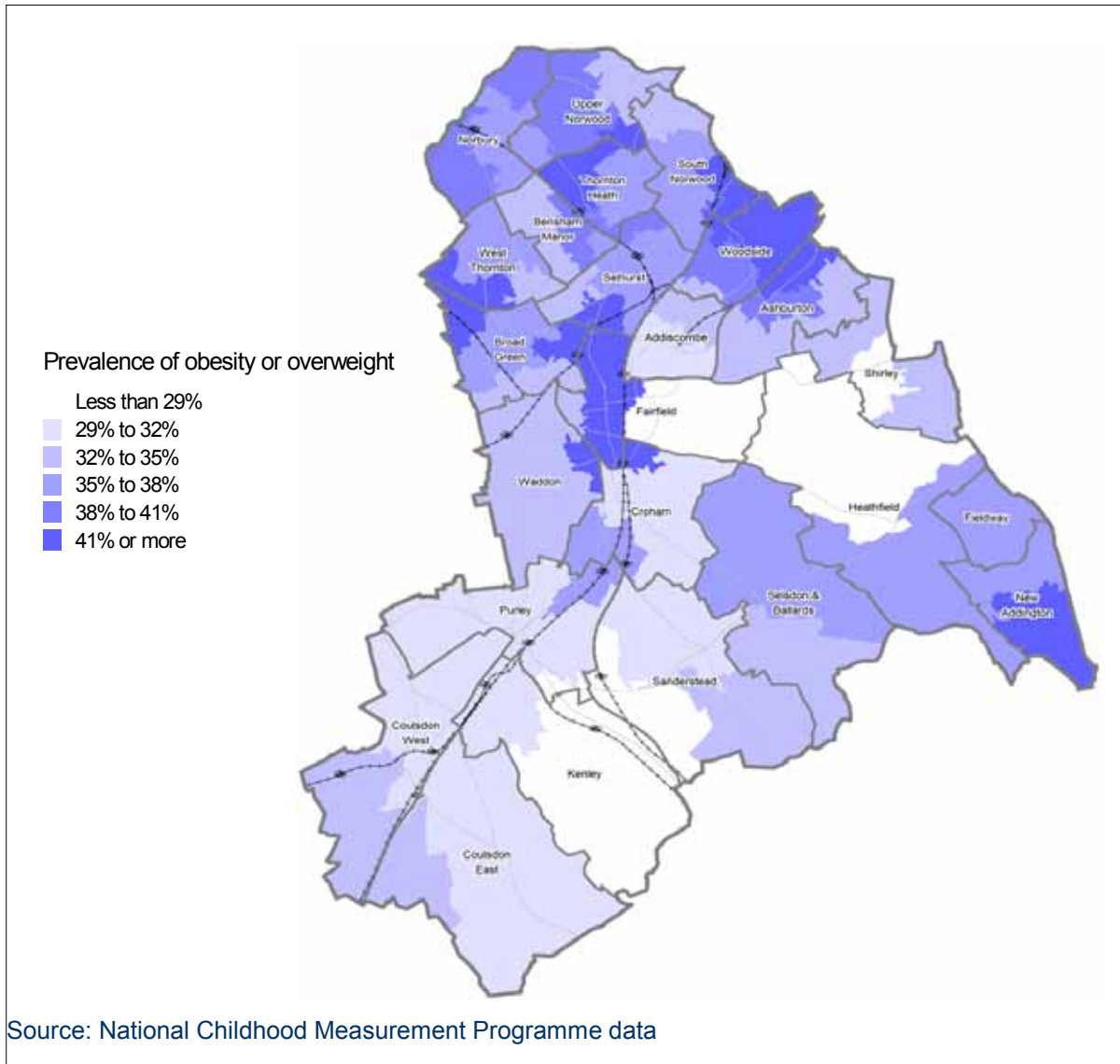
3.3.22. The following chart shows that there is a higher prevalence rate among boys compared with girls both in Croydon and nationally.



3.3.23. Further analysis of obesity data over 3 years shows that there is a significantly higher proportion of black children from a Black ethnic background that are obese (16% reception and 26% in year 6) compared

with other groups and white children have the lowest levels of obesity. This corresponds with higher levels of obesity in some central north wards in reception year (Broad Green, Selhurst Bensham Manor and West Thornton) although this pattern changes and is more widespread by year 6 to include other northern wards in Croydon, New Addington and Fairfield.

Prevalence of obesity or overweight in Year 6, Croydon middle super output areas, 2007-8 to 2009-10



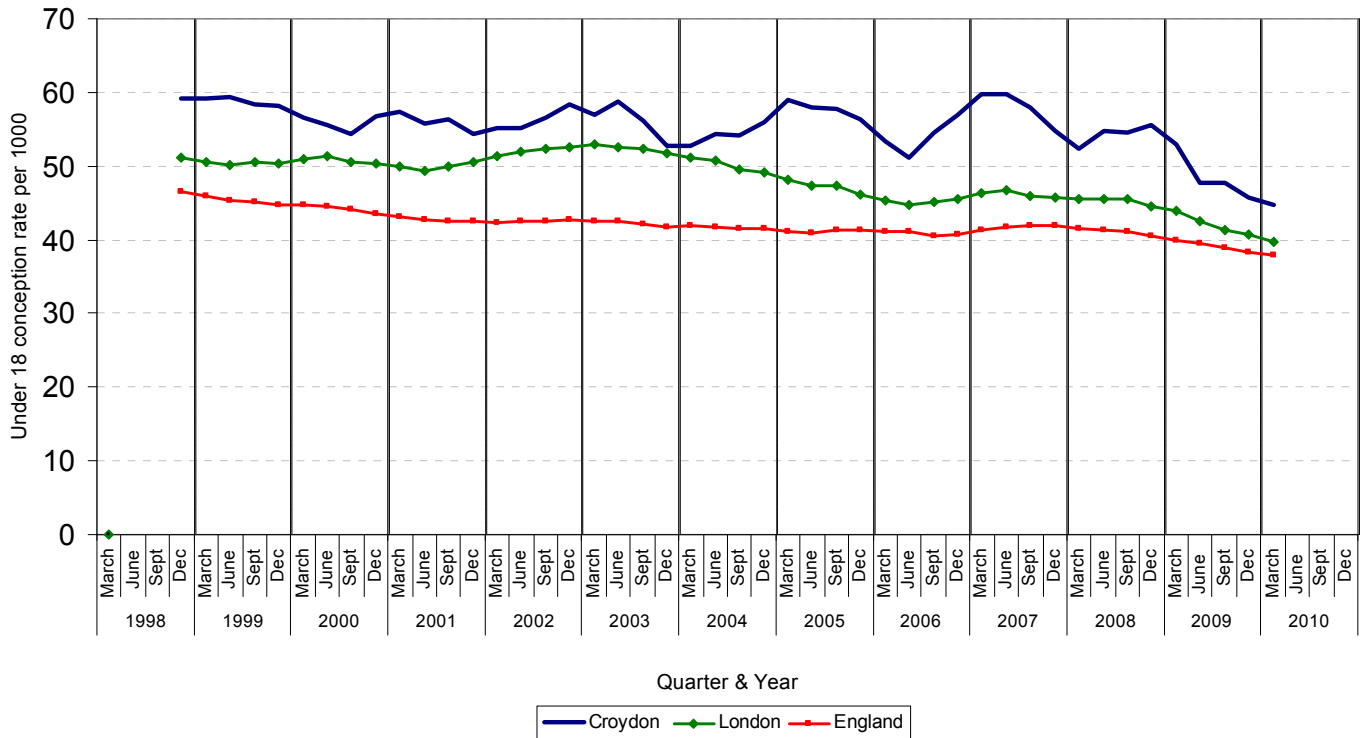
3.3.24. Use of the BMI as a measurement tool with a single threshold for overweight or obese can be problematic as the relationship between BMI and body fat varies between ethnic groups. In addition and particular ethnic minority groups, for example south Asian groups, have been shown to have a greater genetic susceptibility to developing the adverse health consequences associated with obesity and therefore at risk at lower BMIs. This will need to be considered when targeting interventions.

- 3.3.25. The equality impact assessment for the 'Healthy Weight, Healthy Lives' obesity strategy reports that obesity is more common in people with learning difficulties, with rates for people with learning disabilities around 35 per cent compared with 22 per cent for the general population.
- 3.3.26. The Information Centre for Health and Social Care reported that research showing that girls in households where the mother was overweight (including obese) and the father was normal weight were 2.6 times more likely to be obese than normal weight households. Girls in households where both natural parents or a lone natural parent were overweight were 3.4 times more likely to be obese than normal weight households. On the other hand there was no significant statistical relationship found between obesity in boys and parents' body mass index.
- 3.3.27. Some mapping work has been undertaken by the Healthy Schools and Colleges Team in relation to Free School Meals (FSM) uptake and National Child Measurement Programme information for primary schools in Croydon. Analysis of whether schools are involved in the Food for Life programme have also been assessed alongside this. These has helped to develop a crude tool for prioritising which schools to target and support further around development of additional school based interventions and education in relation to healthy eating and physical activity. Stronger links have also been made with associated colleagues leading on School Travel Plans and other agencies that provide physical activity work in schools.
- 3.3.28. In addition, schools already on the Food For Life programme are being encouraged to work towards achieving their Bronze status, and those schools that are not on the Food For Life programme but either have an FSM uptake of greater than 20%, and/or higher than average figures for Reception and Year 6 will also be specifically encouraged to join the programme.

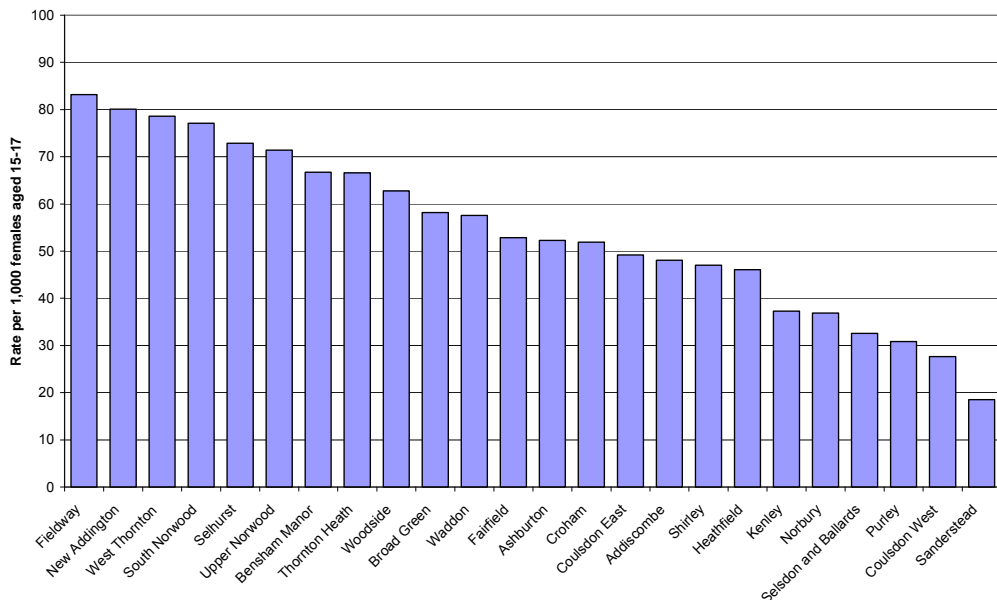
Under 18 conception rate

- 3.3.29. Croydon has seen its under 18 conception rate drop from 55.4 per 1000 15-17 year old women during 2008 to 45.7 per 1000 during 2009. This equates to just 295 conceptions during 2009, a drop of 71 conceptions from 2008. The overall percentage of conceptions leading to termination was 54% which is a decrease from the 2008 figure of 59%. Croydon's under 18 conception rate from the 1998 baseline shows a 23% reduction and is greater than the reduction shown by England and Wales and London.

Under 18 conception rate, Croydon, London, England 1998-2010 (rolling quarterly averages)



3.3.30. Detailed analysis of local data shows that the largest proportion of teenage pregnancies are for ‘White British’ girls (41%) with a rate per 1,000 of 47.9. Wards with conception rates above 70 per 1,000 are Fieldway, New Addington, West Thornton, South Norwood, Selhurst and Upper Norwood.



3.3.31. A review of Croydon’s Teenage Pregnancy Strategy was undertaken in 2010 to inform the development of the 2011-12 Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan. The subsequent development of key priorities and objectives

have been based on local needs analysis and in line with national guidance and best practice to ensure the achievement of a successful reduction in under 18 conception rates. Teenage Pregnancy preventative and education objectives and actions have been particularly prioritised and targeted work with at risk groups of young people and work in high rate wards remains a key priority.

- 3.3.32. Croydon's Teenage Pregnancy Strategy 2011-12 recognises the importance of ensuring universal prevention and education initiatives in relation to young people's sexual health and awareness. However, particular emphasis continues to be placed on those young people known to be at risk of teenage conception including young people in high rate wards; vulnerable groups of young people such as NEET young people; LAC and care leavers; specific BME groups; refugee and asylum seekers; young offenders; teenage parents; 14-16 year olds in colleges; 16-18 year olds in colleges; young people in PRUs and targeted secondary schools.
- 3.3.33. Analysis continues to be made on the make up of those groups of young people who have had an under-18 conception. As a consequence, specific wards, ethnic groups and particular vulnerable groups of young people are targeted for the delivery of teenage pregnancy prevention programmes (TP3). During 2010-11, 440 vulnerable young people underwent these 6-8 week TP3 programmes.
- 3.3.34. Certain schools and targeted settings are also being prioritised for the delivery of additional services and support. The eight additional sexual health drop-in clinics developed in 2009-10, continue to be commissioned for delivery where there is a high –level of need such as in local colleges, the Turnaround Centre and local youth centres in high-rate wards. Additional services have also been commissioned in 2011 to target specific areas and groups of young people e.g. the Croydon Talkbus has been commissioned to deliver targeted outreach services in high-rate wards.
- 3.3.35. Considerable priority has also been placed not only on improving and enhancing the range of sexual health services available to young people, but also to ensure that young people are familiar with and feel confident in using these services. Evidence is available that as a consequence of the increase and improved quality of SRE being delivered in local schools, colleges and non-school settings increases are subsequently being seen in the numbers of young people attending sexual health services locally.
- 3.3.36. Croydon Teenage Pregnancy Strategy has also prioritised the development and uptake of targeted contraceptive provision for vulnerable young people aged under 25, though increased priority is being placed on those young women discharged from termination services who do not have a contraceptive plan and pregnant teenagers and young parents aged 19 and under. Recruitment of a domiciliary contraceptive nurse post was made in November 2010, whose role is to provide an outreach based contraceptive service.

3.3.37. Additionally, training around targeted prevention and education of young people has been delivered to local practitioners through a variety of ways, including the delivery of themed seminars and a wide variety of SRE and teenage pregnancy related training courses. Attendance to these training events remain popular with on average 150 delegates attending the regular seminars and an average of 12-20 practitioners attending the training programmes that are run regularly throughout the year.

3.3.38. Research undertaken in relation to the investigating the factors that influence the level of repeat terminations amongst teenage women in London was published in 2010 and has been reviewed to ensure any relevant recommendations are considered and implemented where possible in Croydon. In addition, some additional local needs analysis has been undertaken in 2011 as part of Croydon's broader Sexual Health and HIV Strategy.

3.3.39. The provision of support to pregnant teenagers and teenage parents is also an important concern for NHS SWL –Croydon Borough Team and Croydon Council in terms of their strategic commissioning Plans. Teenage parents and pregnant teenagers are a prioritised group for Croydon's Children and Families Partnership and included in the planning and development of the early intervention and family support strategy. A range of provision for teenage parents is delivered by Croydon Health Services.

Drug and alcohol misuse

3.3.40. A number of data sources support the monitoring of the substance misuse work carried out in the borough. These include:

- Returns made to the National Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) which is managed by the National Treatment Agency (NTA)
- Admissions data

Drug and alcohol misuse data – treatment data

3.3.41. The data provided does not provide information about the hotspot drug use areas in the borough. When considering the borough of residence of young people currently in treatment, it is not currently possible to identify hot spot areas.

3.3.42. Data collected through the National Treatment Agency's systems presented here is provided by the NDTMS (it is the 2010/11 frozen dataset and is for Tier3/Tier 4 activity). It is intended to provide an analysis of the numbers and case mix of clients that are entering into and exiting services. The following table shows all young people who started treatment in 2010/2011 and their referral source.

Young People entering treatment in Croydon 2010/11

SERVICE	NUMBER OF YP REFERRED
Children & Family Services (excl LAC)	12
Looked After Children (LAC)	2
Health & Mental Health Services	2
Substance Misuse Services	2
Criminal Justice (excluding Youth Offending team)	0
Youth Offending Team	62
Family & Friends	4
Other	0
TOTAL	84

3.3.43. It can be seen that in terms of young people entering treatment, referrals from Children and Families Services and LAC are low, despite having a specialist substance misuse worker for Looked After Children. Work is currently being undertaken to improve this through working more closely with individual teams, improving the skills of workers, embedding substance misuse screening protocols in to Departmental Procedures and working closely with the Independent Reviewing Officers.

3.3.44. Of the 84 young people in treatment during 2010/2011, 3 were using class A substances, 11 other stimulants, 7 cannabis and alcohol, 57 cannabis only and 6 alcohol only.

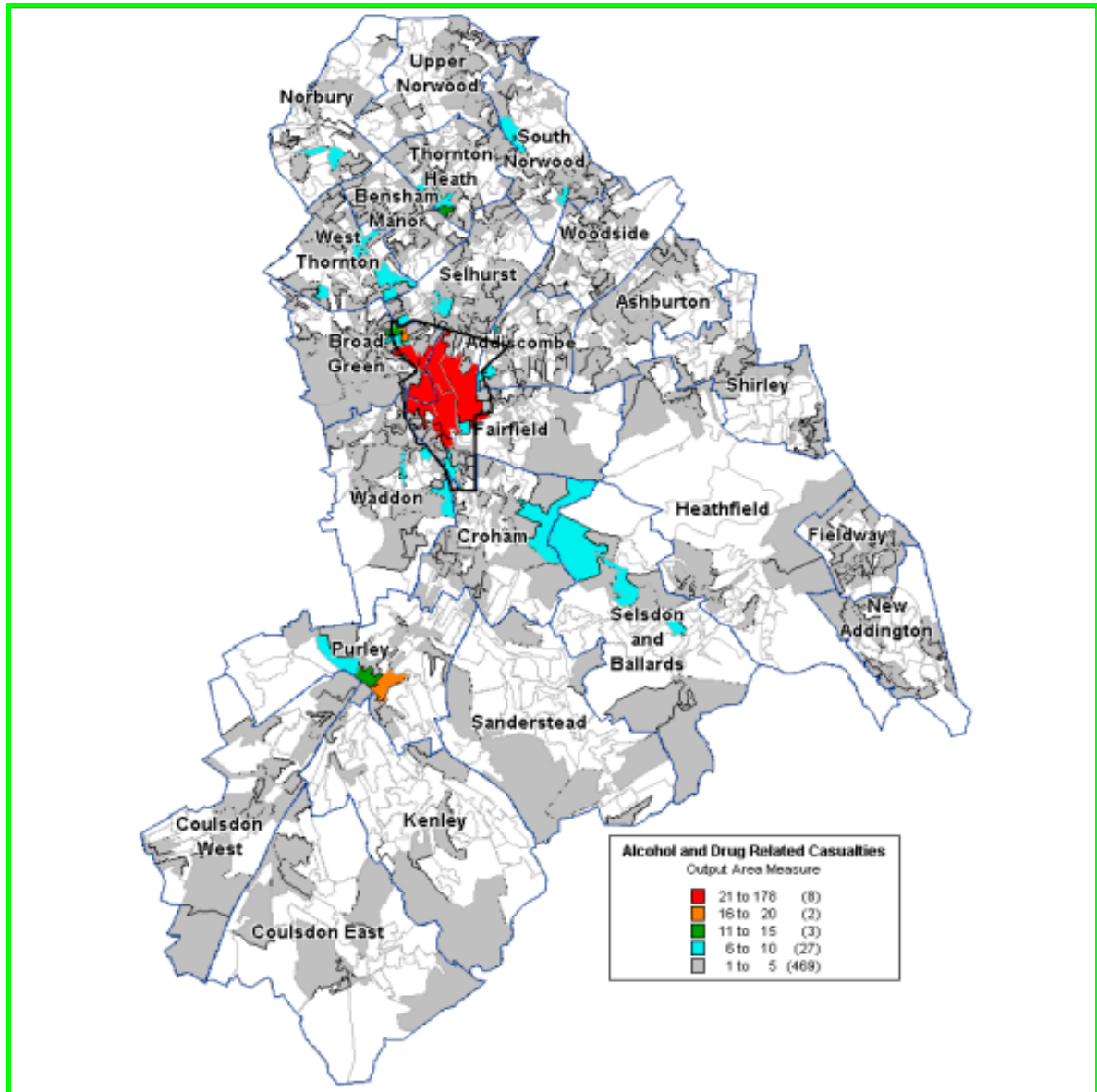
3.3.45. The majority of young people received psychosocial interventions as treatment for their substance misuse problems in the form of one to one counselling. Other interventions included harm reduction information, family work, substitute prescribing (1 young person) and residential treatment (2 young people).

3.3.46. Of the 80 young people that left the treatment system before 1st April 2011, 11 were drug free, 37 had reduced their use, 2 were transferred out of the borough, 2 were in custody and 26 left in an unplanned and unknown manner.

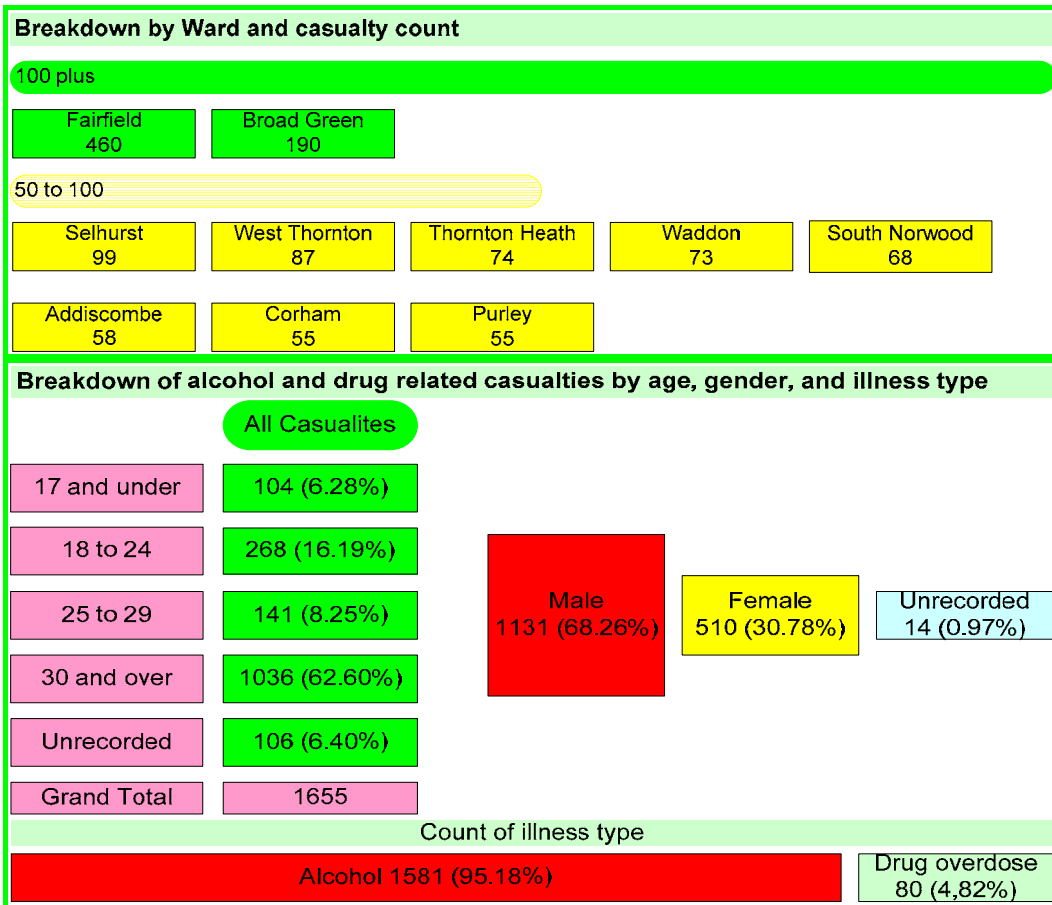
3.3.47. The client profile of a young person using substance misuse services in Croydon in 2009/10 was of a young White man aged 16 using cannabis and alcohol.

Drug and alcohol misuse – admissions data

3.3.48. Data from the London Ambulance Service gives a picture of severe drug and alcohol abuse in the borough. There were a total of 1661 alcohol and drug related casualties in 2008/09. Around two-thirds of the casualties were men. The map below shows the location of those casualties.

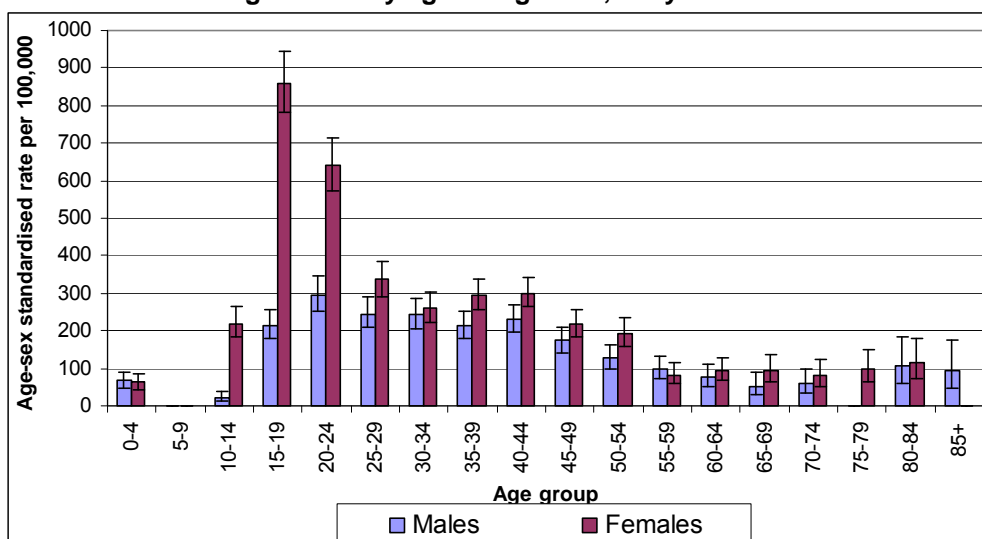


3.3.49. Numbers of casualties by ward and a breakdown by age, gender and type are shown below:



3.3.50. There were 14 admissions for under 18s between 2005/2006 and 2009/2010, 9 of which were for opioids. The following chart shows an overall peak in admissions for males aged 15-19 years followed by men aged 20-24 yrs. The peak age for females admitted for drug misuse is 15-19.

Admissions for drug misuse by age and gender, Croydon 2005/06 to 2009/10



Source: Secondary Uses Service -Drug misuse = all FCEs where primary diagnosis ICD10 F11-19 excl F17

3.3.51. This data provides a useful indicator of the need to work more closely with A & E departments to ensure that protocols are in place for young people to be referred to substance misuse specialists after they have discharged from hospital.

3.3.52. The provision of specialist support and treatment for children and young people who have drug and alcohol related problems is located within the Croydon Children & Families Partnership and sited at The Turnaround Centre – the specialist multi-agency young people’s hub. A young people’s substance misuse service has been commissioned and is due to be operational from December 2011, operating from the Turnaround Centre. This service will be providing advice, support and treatment to young people with drug and alcohol related issues. The work will be targeted, focusing on groups of young people most at risk of developing problematic substance misuse. These will include:

- Looked after children and young people
- Young people in drug using families
- Young people who are or who are at risk of being excluded from school
- Young people who have been or who are at risk of sexual exploitation

Drug and alcohol misuse – young people and risks

3.3.53. Young people who use drugs and/or alcohol problematically are likely to be vulnerable, at greater risk and experience a range of problems in addition to their substance misuse. From a safeguarding perspective, it is therefore important to address their needs holistically rather than addressing their substance use needs in isolation.

3.3.54. The National Drug Treatment Monitoring System (NDTMS) dataset has produced a risk/harm profile for 2010/2011 which examines the vulnerabilities faced by young people. It has been created by identifying ten key risk or harms to young people which may lead to adult dependencies. The ten key vulnerabilities identified are as follows;

- Opiate and/or crack user (OCU)
- High risk drinkers – the young person is drinking at harmful limits (more than 6 units a day for females and more than 8 units a day for males)
- Poly drug user – the young person is using 2 or more drugs (not including nicotine)
- The young person has no fixed abode or is Unsettled
- Offending – the young person is involved in offending and/or is in contact with the Youth Offending Team
- The young person is not in employment, education or training (NEET)
- Early onset – age of first use of main drug is under 15
- The young person involved in self harm

- The young person is pregnant and/or a parent
- The young person is a looked after child (LAC)

3.3.55. The following table shows the vulnerabilities associated with the young people new to substance misuse treatment in Croydon in 2010/11.

	OCU	High Risk Drinker	Poly Drug User	NFA	Offending	NEET	Early Onset	Self Harm	Pregnant/ Parent	LAC
Male	2	5	9	0	47	13	49	3	0	3
Female	1	3	5	1	5	3	12	2	0	2
TOTAL	3	8	14	1	52	16	61	5	0	5

3.3.56. It can be seen that for Croydon young people in treatment, the key risk factors relate to offending, and being NEET. A significant number of the group started to use substances under the age of 15. This provides evidence for the importance of early intervention and preventative work to be carried out with young people around substance misuse.

Young people's mental health

3.3.57. Nationally, nearly 10% of children aged 5-16 years have a clinically diagnosable mental health problem. There is a high degree of persistence into adult life. Conduct disorders (7%) and emotional disorders (5%) are most common in young people aged 11-16 years.

3.3.58. Children and young people at particular risk of developing persistent mental health problems include:

- those who experience negative parenting and poor-quality relationships
- those who have suffered child abuse, including sexual, physical and emotional abuse and neglect;
- those in contact with the youth and adult criminal justice systems – 80% of crime is committed by adults who had a conduct problem as children;
- those underachieving in school;
- looked after children and early school leavers; (Rates of mental health disorder are between four and five times higher amongst looked after children compared to children in the general population (ONS 2003).
- young lesbian, gay and bisexual people;
- those with chronic health problems and/or disabilities (particular pressures with ASD demand)

- family structure - with those living in single-parent households more likely to develop disorders;
- household tenure - children who live in rented accommodation are more likely to have a persisting emotional disorder than those who do not.
- young homeless people; and
- in particular, those who have suffered three or more adverse childhood experiences, such as family bereavement, divorce or serious illness.

3.3.59. The following features of Croydon suggest that there may be a higher than average level of unmet need:

- Croydon has the highest rates of children in need (CIN) in Outer London and 8th highest in London as a whole.
- Croydon also has the fourth highest number of children with a child protection plan (CPP) in London.
- Continuing Care (new Framework) – particularly challenging behaviour
- There is a growing service pressure for children and young people with ASD and ADHD
- Croydon has a large number of looked after children, as a result of the high number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children;
- There is a significant numbers of young people on the caseload of Youth Offending Service
- The lengths of stay of children and young people receiving acute tier 4 services

Estimated Number of children/young people in Croydon who may experience mental health problems appropriate to a response from CAMHS (2009)

Croydon	Percentage	Numbers
Tier 1	15.0%	12037
Tier 2	7.0%	5617
Tier 3	1.9%	1485
Tier 4	0.1%	60

Tier 1 Primary care services including GPs, paediatricians, health visitors, school nurses, social workers, teachers, juvenile justice workers, voluntary agencies and social services.

Tier 2 CAMHS Services provided by professionals relating to workers in primary care including clinical child psychologists, paediatricians with specialist training in mental health, educational psychologists, child and adolescent psychiatrists, child and adolescent psychotherapists, counsellors, community nurses/nurse specialists and family therapists.

Tier 3 CAMHS Specialised services for more severe, complex or persistent disorders including child and adolescent psychiatrists, clinical child psychologists, nurses (community or inpatient), child and adolescent psychotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, art, music and drama therapists, and family therapists.

Tier 4 CAMHS Tertiary-level services such as day units, highly specialised outpatient teams and inpatient units

- 3.3.60. Croydon's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provides a highly skilled assessment and treatment multidisciplinary service to adolescents with moderate to severe mental ill health.
- 3.3.61. TaMHS (Targeted Mental Health in Schools) was a government programme aimed at supporting the development of innovative models of therapeutic and holistic mental health support in schools for children and young people aged five to 13 at risk of, and/or experiencing, mental health problems, and their families. Croydon was part of the final phase of TaMHS that ran between April 2010 and March 2011 and involved two secondary schools, Riddlesdown Collegiate and The Archbishop Lanfranc School, and some of their main primary feeder schools. The pilot TaMHS project ran for pupils in transition between years 6 and 7 which assumed a 'whole school' approach and was built upon social and emotional aspects of learning (SEAL). Commencing in Autumn 2011 TaMHS will see the introduction of a co-ordinated capacity building project aimed at early years and primary school clusters to address and develop staff competency and frontline intervention skills.
- 3.3.62. Croydon Children and Families Partnership has identified children and young people's emotional health and well-being as a local priority and as a consequence it has been identified as one of the five main concerns for the Children and Families Partnership: Be Healthy Sub-group during 2011-12.
- 3.3.63. The Be Healthy Sub-Group is tasked in developing a local strategy in relation to this issue. In order to do this appropriately a comprehensive joint strategic needs assessment is due to be undertaken in 2012-13 to identify the range and extent of emotional and mental health issues being presented by children and young people in Croydon. Currently, there is considerable anecdotal information from service providers suggesting that Croydon has insufficient mental health provision (Tiers 1-3) for children and young people in Croydon. In addition, feedback has also suggested that improvements are required in relation to the transition of care from child to adult mental health services
- 3.3.64. Croydon CAMHS Strategy Group is in the process of collating more up to date position of needs for CAMHS in advance of next year's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment as this will need to inform our commissioning for 2012/13.
- 3.3.65. It is also important that we also reflect the valuable services and skills within our 3rd sector in Croydon, who are facing financial difficulties following budget reductions. This is creating additional and more costly pressures within statutory services as the capacity reduces for referrals that South London and Maudesley Trust may otherwise have signposted to 3rd sector. There have been considerable cuts and changes to the organisation of many services and agencies that are directly involved in the support of emotional health and well-being and mental health service provision to children and young people in Croydon. The full impact of these changes will start to be realised in the coming months and years ahead. It is therefore essential that

a review of the level and type of provision available in Croydon is made with a view to ensuring that the promotion of positive emotional health and well-being, as well as prevention and early intervention initiatives remain a high priority in order to ensure the reduction in moderate and severe/complex mental health conditions experienced by children and young people in Croydon.

3.3.66. By continuing to develop a better understanding of the extent and nature of local need, more informed development and prioritisation of services and early intervention can be undertaken. The potential benefits of the promotion and facilitation of emotional health and well-being and early intervention for those children and young people experiencing mental health difficulties could be reaped by agencies responsible for health, safeguarding, youth justice and education.

3.3.67. In addition, there also needs to be some redress in the balance to the prioritisation of prevention and early intervention, as well as the development of appropriate CAMHS provision for those young people with moderate or complex needs. Intervening later is more costly, and often cannot achieve the results that early intervention is able to deliver. A small shift in the balance of expenditure from treatment to prevention/promotion should generate not only improved efficiency gains but also ensure increased improvements in the mental health outcomes of children and young people, as well as reducing the number of children and young people with severe and complex needs.

Health of vulnerable groups

The health of children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

3.3.68. In Croydon, 1.3% of the child population is registered as disabled, the majority having communication difficulties, including those on the autistic spectrum. There is an increasing number of children with complex health needs and needing palliative care.

3.3.69. Support for children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities (LDD) includes:

- CAMHS support
- health action plans for pupils in Year 9 and above attending special schools
- increased speech and language therapy across five of the six maintained special schools
- participation by special schools in the healthy schools programme
- a programme of centre and school based SEN staff training
- a strategy for ASD

- the development of joint commissioning of provision for children with LDD between the health service and the local authority.
- SEN Strategy has been developed and recently signed off by Children and Families Partnership

3.3.70. A mismatch has been identified between services available and need in Croydon and this is most acute for children and young people with ASD, ADHD, and for children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities with challenging behaviour.

3.3.71. Proposals to meet the needs of more children with Special Education Needs within borough will have an impact on local health service provision in future and this will need quantifying.

Health of looked after children

3.3.72. Looked after children and young people share many of the same health risks and problems of their peers but often to a greater degree. They can have greater challenges such as discord within their own families, frequent change of home or school and lack of access to the support and advice of trusted adults. Children often enter the care system with a worse level of health than their peers, in part due to the impact of poverty, poor parenting, chaotic lifestyles and abuse or neglect.

3.3.73. Children and young people entering the care system are statistically more likely to have been exposed to a number of traumatic events such as bereavement, violence and abuse, parental drug addiction and mental health difficulties, increasing their vulnerability. Particular health risks for indigenous looked after children are:

- Mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Physical health
- Teenage parenthood
- Problems with drugs or alcohol

3.3.74. Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children also have a number of health risks. These children, who may speak little or no English, will often have witnessed and suffered events outside the experience of social workers, doctors and teachers in this country. Unaccompanied refugee children are unlikely to have medical records from their country of origin and their immunisation status may be unknown. Particular issues are:

- Impact of bereavement
- Experiencing racism
- Adjustment/cultural identity
- Access to education
- Feeling secure
- Guilt
- Vulnerability to trafficking/exploitation

- Immigration status
- Feelings about their birth families
- Experiencing stigma

3.3.75. There is a statutory requirement for the local authority to collect health data on three outcomes: immunisation status, dental checks and whether or not the child has had an annual health assessment. The LAC health assessment is used as an opportunity to discuss health promotion advice. Trend data for recent years is presented in the table below.

3.3.76. There are issues with the way data is collected and presented to ensure a view of shared between social care and health teams. For example data is collected on children who have been in care for 12 months so this cannot accurately reflect the position on immunisation status of the most vulnerable refugee children who usually enter the country with no immunisation record and need to have a catch up immunisation programme. Work is in progress to develop a more meaningful set of local health indicators through the LAC health service specification.

3.3.77. From the currently published data set, the tables below show Croydon's performance in relation to LAC health checks and substance misuse:

	% of children whose immunisations were up to date		% of children who had their teeth checked by a dentist		% of children who had their annual health assessment	
	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon	88%	93%	86%	84%	80%	81%

	no of children identified as having a substance misuse		% identified as having a substance misuse	
	2009/10	2010/11	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon	35	29	5.1%	4.5%

Source: Department for Education, 903 return.

3.3.78. A shared understanding of the numbers of looked after children with a disability is needed

3.3.79. Improved data on the numbers of looked after children with mental health problems or the nature of their mental health needs is also needed in Croydon. Social care teams need to strengthen the consistent use of the Strengths and Difficulties questionnaire at the first looked after child review to identify mental health needs. A training programme for social workers on the use of the questionnaire has been arranged by the CAMHS looked after children's team.

3.3.80. When LAC with mental health needs have been identified, CAMHS looked after children's team provides a fast track service with referrals allocated immediately for assessment. All children are seen within four weeks.

3.3.81. Use of the substance misuse screening tool needs to be strengthened in Croydon to ensure needs are identified.

3.3.82. There is research evidence that children and young people with a history of being looked after by local authorities are more likely to become pregnant as teenagers. Twenty-nine pregnancies in Looked After Children under the age of 18 were notified to the LAC Health Team in 2009. Sixteen were Croydon LAC (12 placed in Croydon, 4 placed outside Croydon). Thirteen were other authority LAC, placed in Croydon.

3.3.83. An improved understanding is needed of the numbers of care leavers who become mothers after leaving care. Studies have also shown that 25% of female care leavers had had a child by the age of 16 and that 50% were mothers within 18 to 24 months of leaving care. Almost a third (31%) of the 11-17 looked after children surveyed (n=1,039) in one national study reported that they had had sexual intercourse. Of these, 55% reported that they had not used any contraception when they last had sex. A further quarter, 23%, had used a condom and 15% had used a condom and a contraceptive.

Views of children, young people and communities in relation to health needs

3.3.84. Listening to the views of children, young people and parents is a crucial element in ensuring the appropriate development and improvement of local health services and this an area which needs to be strengthened. It is the intention of the Be Healthy Sub-Group to work closely with the Youth Council and Healthy Schools and colleges to this end. The Youth Participation Worker has been invited to Be healthy Sub-Group meetings to assist and advise the sub-group as to where improvements can be made and greater involvement and consultation made with the local Youth Council and associated participation groups.

3.3.85. A number of specific health services have undertaken consultation with children and young people around service development and improvement, but this needs to happen on a more routine and systematic basis. Health partners have been involved in youth consultation initiatives in the past such as Speak Your Mind, 11 Million and Xpress events. Some health services have developed additional methods for gathering feedback from young people in order to address service improvements. Some examples of services which have undertaken specific young people centred evaluation include the FNP Team, CASH and GUM services. CHaH carry out an annual survey directly with the children and young people on their caseload - there are two questionnaires targeted at different age groups.

3.3.86. Currently, Croydon University Hospital operates a 'Just a minute' survey whereby patients, including children and young people are encouraged to express their views regarding the care they receive. This form of user feedback is also used for community health services. It is generally felt that this method is extremely limited in relation to the needs of children and young people. Feedback from CUH has indicated that the response rate

from young people aged 16-19 year olds only represents a small percentage of the total.

- 3.3.87. Croydon Teenage Pregnancy Partnership Board and Croydon Healthy Schools have also overseen significant pieces of work to consult and involve children and young people on the development of various local initiatives, campaigns and service reviews. Young people have also been trained up as part of the You're Welcome Standards Programme in order to assess whether local health services meet specific criteria around how young people friendly their services are. The assessors undertake known and mystery shop exercises and produce reports with recommendations for improvement for the You're Welcome Moderation panel.
- 3.3.88. Young peer educators in specific schools and colleges have also been trained on different health issues.
- 3.3.89. The Looked After Children (LAC) Health Team situated in the Safeguarding Children Team has undertaken specific audits in order to ascertain the views of young people as well as foster carers. The LAC health service also carries out the advocacy role evidenced in their work with and attendance at the LAC reviews. Services were rated "good" or "very good" by the majority of users. The majority of users also felt they had been listened to and that health issues had been explained.

Conclusions on priority needs

- 3.3.90. The Being Healthy priorities for the Croydon Children and Family Partnerships for 2011/12 are:
- Reducing obesity
 - Reducing under 18 conception
 - Infant mortality
 - Emotional health and well being
- 3.3.91. These remain priorities and the findings of this needs analysis suggest that the following should be considered additionally:
- Impact of poverty and deprivation on health of children and young people.
 - Reducing inequalities and targeting high risk sub-groups in relation to health outcomes.
 - Health and well-being of looked after children.
 - Collecting the views of services users and engaging children and families in the development of services.
- 3.3.92. Croydon Youth Council have identified their 'Be Healthy' priorities, these are:
- Reducing childhood obesity
 - Young people are mentally and emotionally happy

3.4. Maintaining robust safeguarding for children and young people

Risk factors in relation to safeguarding children

Overview

- 3.4.1. Local Safeguarding Children Boards recognise a number of inter-related risk factors in relation to safeguarding children including:
- Poverty or deprivation
 - Domestic violence
 - problematic drug/alcohol abuse
 - Parents/carers with problematic mental health problems
 - Family breakdown
 - Isolated families
 - A child with disabilities
 - Parents with learning difficulties
 - Baby ill within first 6 months of life
 - Parent/carer relationship with child including highly critical of child, not showing warmth to the child, perceiving the child to be “difficult”, having unrealistic expectations of their child
 - Child has previously suffered abuse

Poverty or deprivation

3.4.2. As described in section 2, the highest proportions of children living in poverty are in the north of the borough with the addition of Fieldway and New Addington. Using the Index of Multiple Deprivation, Fieldway is the most deprived area in Croydon.

3.4.3. Mapping of referrals to social care has not been carried out but would provide a greater understanding of need by locality.

Domestic violence

3.4.4. The London Safeguarding Board report that domestic abuse is a consistent feature of child protection cases and serious case reviews.

3.4.5. Even at a national level, monitoring the prevalence rates for domestic violence is problematic as statistics from the British Crime Survey suggest that only between 10 and 20% of domestic violence incidents are reported to the police.

3.4.6. Multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARAC) in relation to domestic violence and Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA) meetings in Croydon are becoming increasingly effective. They are improving joint working regarding children who may be in households where there is domestic violence or where children are exposed to a convicted perpetrator. Both groups demonstrate effective joint risk assessment for children in these situations and there is evidence that professionals who work with adults have an increasing awareness of the needs of children in the family and the risks some adults may pose.

Drug/alcohol abuse

3.4.7. See from paragraph 3.3.41 in previous section.

Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

3.4.8. Section 3.2 of this report describes the prevalence of children with special educational needs.

3.4.9. Section 3.3.3 of this report identifies the mismatch between health service provision and need for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

3.4.10. The Children with Disabilities service provides services to families with children with a range of disabilities whom meet the threshold.

Missing children from home or care

3.4.11. Managers in Croydon's looked after children service follow the London Child Protection Procedure in relation to children missing from care. The procedures are being remodelled to ensure that they are robust and identify children at greatest risk. The children missing education officer advocates on behalf of all children without a school place who are known to the local authority.

Early intervention in Croydon

Integrated and multi-agency working

3.4.12. The development of an integrated early intervention and family support programme is bringing together children's centres and family support as an integral part of the offer of universal and early support services for children aged 0 to 12.

3.4.13. Funding for family support has been redirected to jointly commission programmes for 'children in need' that are fit for purpose, reduce duplication and fill gaps to ensure seamless provision. A broad range of agencies are

engaged in this work including social care, integrated youth service, youth offending service, adult services, children with a disability services and health.

- 3.4.14. The Family Resilience Programme will work with around 200 families who have a range of issues. This is a multi-agency programme supported through Croydon's Community Budget status.
- 3.4.15. The move to a more integrated and multi-agency approach to assessing and meeting the needs of children will mean that the needs of those at greatest risk of becoming looked after will also be approached in a multi-agency way. Senior level multi-agency panel arrangements are to be introduced in 2011 to ensure consideration of all possible options to best meet the needs of children.
- 3.4.16. Strengthening wider understanding of needs and thresholds for children's services practitioners in Croydon has been reinforced through the recent circulation of a Thresholds Guidance Document.

Safeguarding in schools

- 3.4.17. Schools and early years settings provide a key role in the early identification of children at risk.
- 3.4.18. Model safeguarding best practice, procedures, guidance and checklists have been communicated to Croydon schools. At March 2011 244 school staff and governors had received accredited safer recruitment training.
- 3.4.19. An audit of schools' CRB checks carried out in 2010 showed that schools were compliant with the CRB safeguarding requirements. The safeguarding element of school inspections has not revealed any concerns. The council's internal audit routinely checks HR files for evidence of CRB check compliance.
- 3.4.20. During inspections of children's centres and schools OFSTED makes judgements about safeguarding practice. As at August 2011 100% of children's centres, 92% of primary schools, 93% of local-authority maintained secondary schools and 100% academies were judged good or better for their safeguarding practice: there were no judgements of inadequate.
- 3.4.21. A group of Croydon head-teachers meet twice a term with the lead for school improvement to take an overview of schools safeguarding.

Combating bullying

- 3.4.22. Croydon's Anti-Bullying Strategy, developed in 2009 and reviewed annually, was informed by the previous government's *Safe to Learn* suite of guidance. The strategy is currently under review by the Stay Safe steering group to meet the current government's vision as outlined in "*Preventing and Tackling Bullying: Advice for school leaders and governing bodies – DfE 2011*".

3.4.23. A bullying social norms survey was conducted in July 2011 involving 3,918 Year 5 to Year 10 pupils in five secondary and nine primary schools in Croydon. Results from the survey indicated that:

- 7 out of 10 Croydon students (73%) think that students should tell the head teacher, another teacher or a counsellor if they or someone else are being bullied at school.
- 7 out of 10 Croydon students do NOT get involved in any pushing, shoving, kicking, pulling hair or tripping any other students.
- 9 out of 10 Croydon students (90%) say they are encouraged to help and respect other students.
- 3 out of 5 Croydon students (63%) think that students should tell a parent or other adult relative if they or someone else are being bullied at school.
- Most Croydon students (88%) do NOT spread rumours or unkind stories about other students.
- Most (92%) of Croydon students do NOT take or damage other's belongings.
- Most Croydon students (85%) do NOT exclude someone from a group to make them feel bad.
- Most Croydon students (94%) agree that students should NOT threaten to hit another student even if they don't actually hit the other student.
- 95% of Croydon students believe students should NOT shove, kick, hit, trip, or pull hair of another student.
- Most Croydon students (95%) say students should NOT tease in a mean way, call others hurtful names, or spread unkind stories about other students.
- Most Croydon students (95%) agree that "students should always try to be friendly with students who are different from themselves."

3.4.24. When asked whether they had been "teased in an unfriendly way; called hurtful names; unkind stories or rumours spread; threatened about being hurt" by Email, internet or phone messaging 96% primary and 93% secondary pupils responded that this had not happened to them.

Children and young people known to Croydon children's social care

Contacts and referrals

3.4.25. The children's social care service received 15,648 contacts between 1 April 2010 and 31 March 2011. This compares with 17,598 contacts between 1 April 2009 and 31 March 2010.

Number of Contacts received each month by Croydon children's social care: Sep 2010 – Aug 2011												
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Number	1399	1378	1126	916	1349	1362	1324	1361	1330	1445	1568	1441

3.4.26. Around a quarter of these contacts became referrals to Children’s Social Care in 2010-11, compared with 41% in 2009-10. There were 3919 referrals in 2010–2011, compared with 7248 in 2009-10.

Number of Referrals each month to Croydon children’s social care : Sep 2010 – Aug 2011												
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Number	285	294	236	229	235	315	328	333	302	342	318	232

3.4.27. It is not clear what all the factors are behind the drop in both contacts and referrals. The publication of clear threshold criteria for children’s services in November 2011 should help to ensure that referrals made to Children’s Social Care are appropriate.

Referrals going into initial assessment

3.4.28. From 2008/9 to 2010/11 a relatively small percentage of referrals went on to initial assessments (below national and statistical neighbour averages). This may indicate confusion between Children’s Social Care and partners about thresholds for intervention, often coupled with a lack of focus on early intervention and the Common Assessment Framework processes. For 2011 a much higher number of referrals are proceeding to initial assessment exceeding the national average and bringing us much closer to statistical neighbours. This will be reinforced by the Threshold Guidance referred to in the previous paragraph.

3.4.29. In the first few months of 2011-12 Croydon has exceeded the target (64%) and moved much closer to the performance of our statistical neighbours. The figures for the first part of 2011-12 are shown in the table below.

% referrals to social care going onto initial assessment - cumulative for Apr –Aug 2011								
	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
%	22.5%	30.9%	56.8%	65%	74%	75%	77%	78%

Children with a child protection plan

3.4.30. The numbers of children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP) at end of March each year increased steadily between 2002-3 and 2009-10. The likelihood is that this reflects both the national trend (post Baby Peter) and also local demographic changes. There were 346 children with a CPP on 31 March 2010 and then 336 on March 31st 2011.

Number of Children With a Child Protection Plan in Croydon: Year on Year Comparison										
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Number	175	110	125	175	215	235	252	269	346	363

3.4.31. The number of children with a Child Protection Plan equates to a rate of 43 per 10,000 of the under-18 population, which is high in comparison with the national average (31.0 per 10K) in 2008-9, but is average for the London region.

Rate of children with child protection plans per 10K 0-17 population										
	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Croydon	21.3	13.5	15.3	21.5	26.8	29.9	31.6	33.5	43.1	44.8
England	23.1	23.9	23.7	23.4	23.9	25.3	26.5	31	35.5	

Profile of children subject to a CPP

3.4.32. The main difference between the proportions of children and young people in each child protection categories for Croydon compared with the national proportions is the higher rate of physical abuse. The level of sexual abuse is considered to be under-reported nationally and in Croydon.

Croydon Children With A Protection Plan By Category 2010 - 2011				
Category of Plan	Croydon 2008-9 % of all plans	Croydon 2009-10 % of all plans	Croydon 2010 -11 % of all plans	National 2009 - 10 % of all plans
Emotional	19.7	12.1	26.3	27.3
Neglect	61	57.5	46.2	43.5
Physical	11.9	19.7	21.8	14.1
Sexual	4.8	9.0	5.7	5.4
Multiple	2.6	1.7	0.0	8.9

3.4.33. As shown in the following table, in terms of age, Croydon has a smaller proportion of children aged under five subject to a CPP (39.3%) compared with the rest of England (45.9%). Given the strong association between this age group and the chances of death and serious injury, raises questions for universal services working with this age group.

Croydon Children With A Protection Plan By Age & Gender 2010/ 11												
	Male						Female					
	Under 1	1-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-15 yrs	16 & over	Total Males	Under 1	1-4 yrs	5-9 yrs	10-15 yrs	16 & over	Total Females
National 2009/ 10 % of all plans	8.1	15.6	13.7	11.9	1.0	50.3	7.8	14.4	12.3	12.2	1.4	48.1
Croydon 2010/ 11	6.7	14	11.6	14	0.9	47.2	6.1	12.5	14.9	17.1	1.8	52.4

3.4.34. In relation to service provision, the unannounced inspection of contacts, referrals and assessment services in March 2011 found no areas for priority action and the safeguarding aspects in OfSTED inspections of two residential homes and the fostering service in 2011 were judged to be good.

Looked after children

3.4.35. Section 3.2 of this report describes the looked after children population.

3.4.36. Croydon Council has in place a number of safeguarding policies and procedures that ensure that looked after children receive the care they need to keep them safe.

3.4.37. The main reason children are placed in care is abuse and neglect (66% in 2010). Nearly all unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) are in care due to absent parents. The number of UASC is falling - 685 in 2009, 574 in 2010 and at September 2011 393.

Views of children, young people and communities in relation to safeguarding

3.4.38. Views of children and young people in relation to bullying were captured in the Social Norms survey with finding described earlier in this section.

3.4.39. To collect the views of children and young people in relation to safeguarding services, systematic arrangements to capture the experience of looked after children and young people after each statutory review, together with the views of the Independent Review Officers, have been introduced. This feedback, using a structured recording tool, will be aggregated to enable the council and partner agencies to have a far richer and more holistic understanding of the quality of corporate parenting in Croydon and to drive improvement.

3.4.40. Safeguarding is a priority topic for the Croydon Youth Council and is the subject of regular Council meetings.

3.4.41. Recently, 8 parents and 5 young people who had been through the Croydon child protection system and where the Child Protection Plan had ended in the first half of 2011 were interviewed to ascertain their experience of the child protection system. The main findings were as follows:

- Two young people felt they saw their social workers too much; two young people felt they saw their social workers enough and one young person did not feel he saw his social worker enough.
- Two young people felt listened to by their social workers, although one young person said CAMHS were better. One young person thought the social worker listened too much and the young person then used the Social Worker to get her own way. Two young people said they listened but either did not do what they wanted, or did not listen well enough.
- Three young people felt that nothing got worse because there was a protection plan. Two young people thought that things did get worse.
- Two children felt safer than before the plan. Three young people felt neither more nor less safe.

3.4.42. Things young people said went well are evidenced by the following examples:

- I felt safer because of the injunction about him not coming to my house or my school and the CCTV and the gate lock... He hurt me you know.”
- “Now since the Conferences Mum and Dad have a little bit better connection and do what’s best for us.”

3.4.43. Things young people wanted us to do better are evidenced by the following, which illustrate the level of sophistication young people expect social workers to demonstrate:

- “Other people don’t have people analysing their lives... the household felt uptight. I love my step sister to bits and we fell out because she thought the Social Workers would take her away. We’re all right now.
- “Listen to what all of us want”

3.4.44. The parents were generally clear that the main person involved with their family was the Social Worker.

- Four parents thought they were treated with respect by the social worker and four parents did not.
- Four parents thought the social worker valued what they had to say and four parents did not.
- 3/5 families said they experienced changes of social worker.
- Half of the parents described their relationships with the social worker as positive, but half felt their relationship with the social worker had not been as effective as they would have liked.

3.4.45. The Croydon Children in Care Council (CiCC) was established in August 2010, following extensive consultation involving young people, and is led and run by looked after young people. Close working between the CiCC and the Corporate Parenting Panel established the council's pledge to looked after children – what the children can expect in terms of support, their safety, their involvement, their education and their happiness and wellbeing. The CiCC has also been involved in contributing to the tendering process for providers of semi-independent living accommodation.

3.4.46. During summer 2011 the views of over 150 looked after young people about their experience of being in our care were collected: 92% of them indicated that they felt that their lives had improved as a result of being in care. (Views were collected during all the reviews that took place in May this year. Where the child was deemed too young or had a disability that prevented them giving verbal views, the independent reviewing officer was asked to make a judgement based on observations of the child with their carers and behaviour with Social Workers.)

Conclusions on priority needs

3.4.47. The Staying Safe priorities for the Croydon Children and Family Partnerships for 2011/12 are:

- Multi-agency participation in child protection process (responsibility of the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board)
- Missing children (responsibility of the Croydon Safeguarding Children Board)
- Anti-bullying

3.4.48. The findings of this needs analysis suggest that these should remain Partnership priorities and the following should be considered additionally:

- Embedding early intervention work through strengthened use of CAF.
- Improved understanding of safeguarding risk factors in Croydon in particular around domestic violence, mental health issues, children with disabilities and missing children.
- Reducing inequalities in particular for groups with protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Duty.
- Strengthening the engagement of children and young people in service development.

3.4.49. Croydon Youth Council have identified their 'Staying Safe' priorities, these are:

- Young people are safe on the streets and on transport
- Young people are safe from maltreatment, neglect and sexual exploitation

3.5. Improving educational outcomes for children and young people

Early years

- 3.5.1. All childcare provision in Croydon is represented on improvement programmes linked to OfSTED outcomes. This enables effective monitoring of quality to take place across all private and voluntary settings, including childminders. Targeted support programmes are delivered to settings according to their level of need. The 10 lowest performing day nurseries have been targeted for them to improve significantly or to be decommissioned by Spring 2012.
- 3.5.2. The childminding sector continues to perform well above the national figure (13% higher) and has a higher rate of improvement than the national figure too. Non domestic premises, which include day nurseries, pre schools and out of schools clubs, perform 6 percentage points under the national average for good or better. However, when broken down between the sectors, the pre schools and day nurseries are only 2 percentage points below national figures with the out of school clubs showing a 7 percentage point difference. In addition, pre schools and day nurseries show a strong improvement trend for the last 12 months.
- 3.5.3. There are early intervention surgeries in children's centres in each locality to support practitioners in early identification and early intervention. This helps ensure that there is strong assessment of family needs and information and support to bring services around the family. More support for families across the 0-12 ages will be in place through the developing commissioning programme, and many will be provided through children's centres.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile scores:

NI 72 % achieving 6+ in PSE and CLL and 78 points or more	2009	2010	2011
Croydon	53.2% - target 52.3% - achieved	56.5% - target 58.5% - achieved	58.5% - target 62.1% achieved
National	52%	56%	59%
Outer London	52%	56%	60%

NI 92 Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% and the rest	2009	2010	2011
Croydon	32.2% - target 34.6 - achieved	31% - target 31.4% - achieved	No target 28.7%
National	33.9%	32.7%	31.4%
Outer London	34.2%	33.2%	32

3.5.4. The data for EYFS profile results in 2010 showed a 6% rise from the previous year. This is 2% higher than the national figure of 56% and 3% higher than the London average. The profile results for 2011 showed a further 3.6% rise, 2.1% higher than London and 3% higher than national figures.

3.5.5. Girls continue to out perform boys in the EYFS profile. However, boys have made a greater rate of progress than girls over the last 2 years. Summer born boys, in particular white, working class, are the lowest performing group in the borough, showing lower attainment levels in PSE, writing and creativity than girls.

School performance

3.5.6. The percentage of schools (LA maintained and academies) whose overall effectiveness is judged to be good or better by OfSTED is increasing: the pattern is as follows:

- primary schools (79 with Ofsted outcomes) - increased from 57% in July 2010 to 63% in July 2011 (the national 3 year average was 59%)
- secondary schools (19) - increased from 56% in July 2010 to 68% in July 2011 (the national 3 year average was 54%)
- special schools (6) - remained steady at 67% (national 3 yr average is 77%)
- pupil referral units (5) – increased from 60% in July 2010 to 80% in July 2011 (the national 3 year average is 67%)
- all schools (109) – increased from 59% in July 2010 to 65% in July 2011.

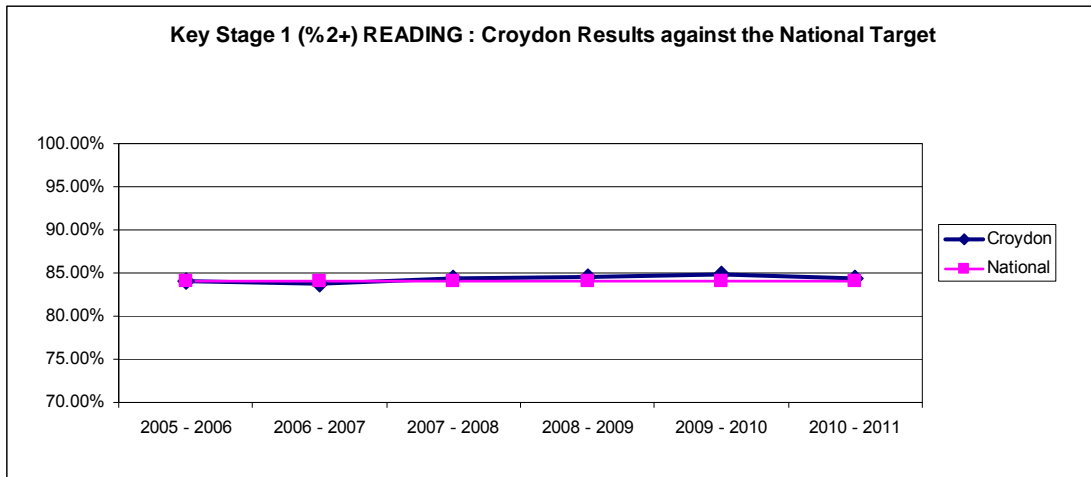
3.5.7. There are no Croydon secondary schools in an OfSTED category. Radical solutions are in place for four primary schools and one special school currently in categories to ensure that they make accelerated progress against their key issues.

Education attainment

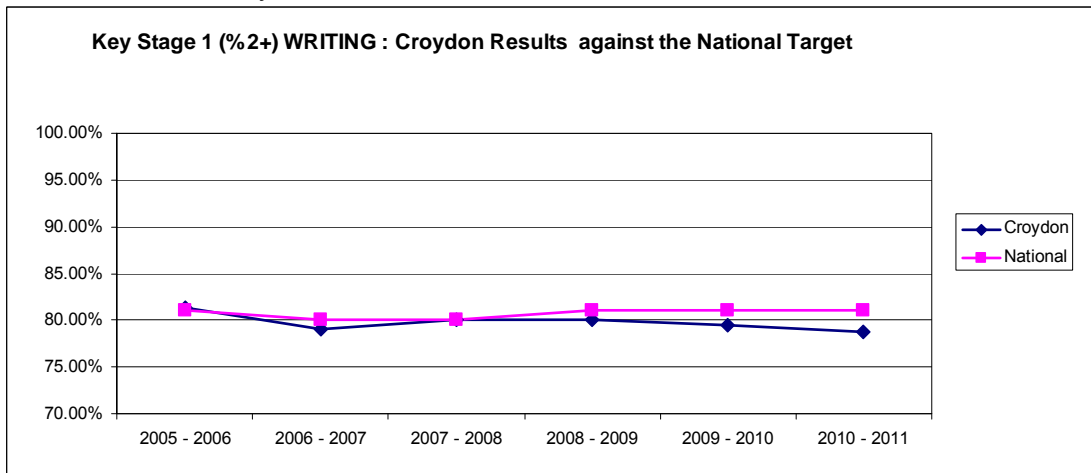
3.5.8. Educational attainment is described in the following paragraphs. To note that the 2010-2011 results are provisional and are subject to change for the January 2012 publication of attainment results.

3.5.9. **Key Stage 1 (Infants)** is a measure of attainment in Croydon primary school education for the following year group: Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 affecting children from ages 4-5 to 6-7 years inclusive. KS1 tests children in the following subject areas: Reading, Writing, Mathematics and Science.

3.5.10. The following graphs show the percentage of children who have reached a level higher than the standard level set at 2 (2+) in each subject areas since 2005 compared to the national targets. The KS1 reading attainment for Croydon school pupils fell below the national target in the 2006-2007 academic year. This was followed by 3 years of continuous improvement. In 2010-2011, there has been a dip in improvement but performance is still 0.30% above the national target.

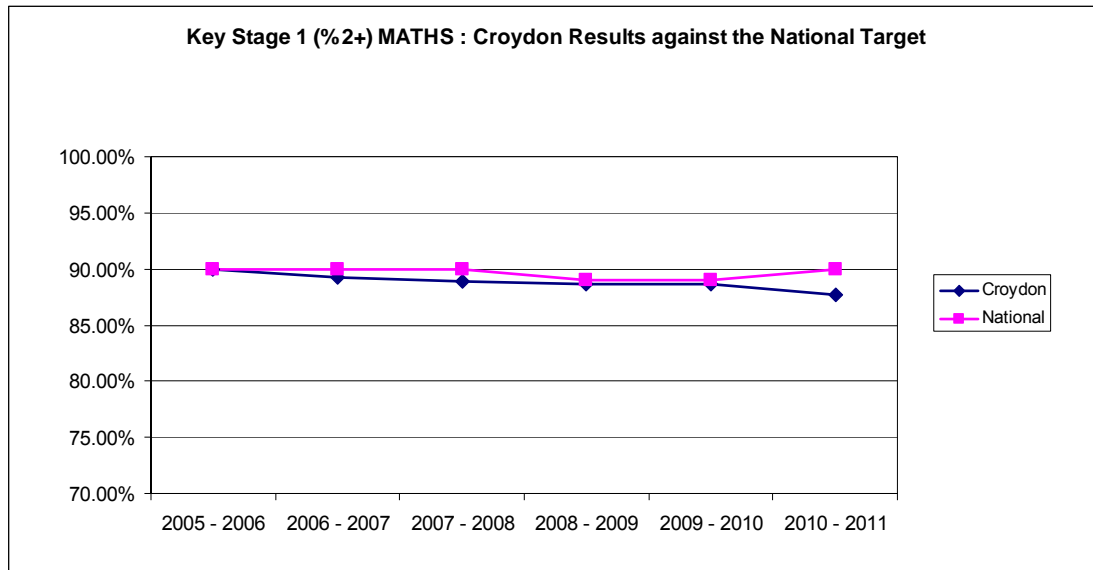


Source: KS1 Summary 2005-2010



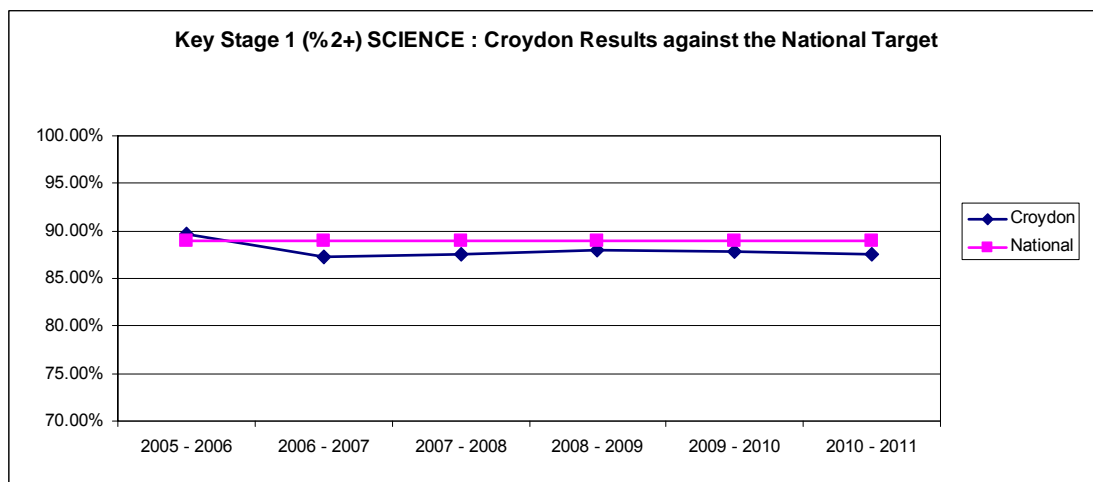
Source: KS1 Summary 2005-2010

3.5.11. Performance for KS1 writing attainment shows that the national target has only been exceeded in 2005-2006 and 2007-2008 and performance in these 2 years were only just ahead of the targets. Attainment for writing has been showing a downward trend since 2008-2009. KS1 attainment in Maths by Croydon pupils reached the national target in 2005-2006. Since that year, the trend has been downwards with the biggest dip in performance being in the latest academic year, 2010-2011.



Source: KS1 Summary 2005-2010

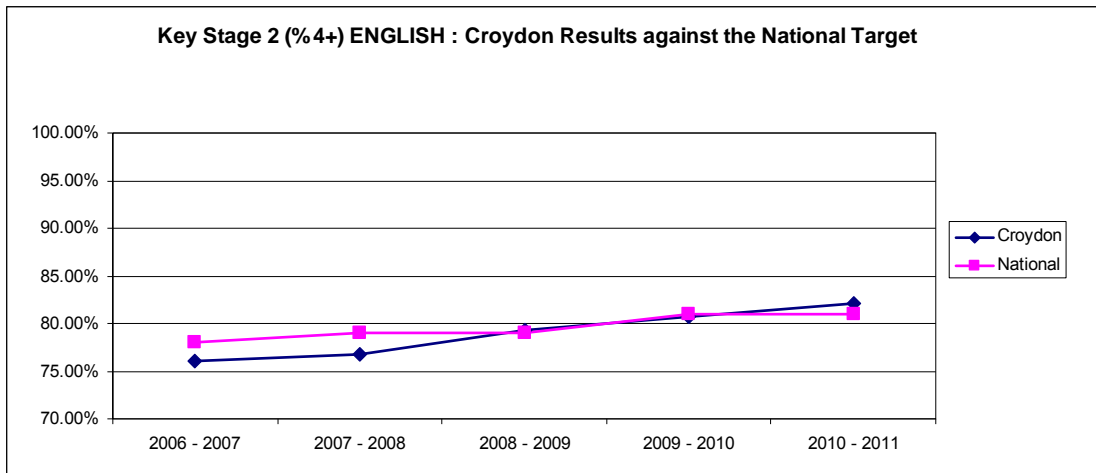
3.5.12. Croydon pupils showed good performance in KS1 attainment in Science in 2005-2006, exceeding the national target, but since then have consistently performed below target.



Source: KS1 Summary 2005-2010

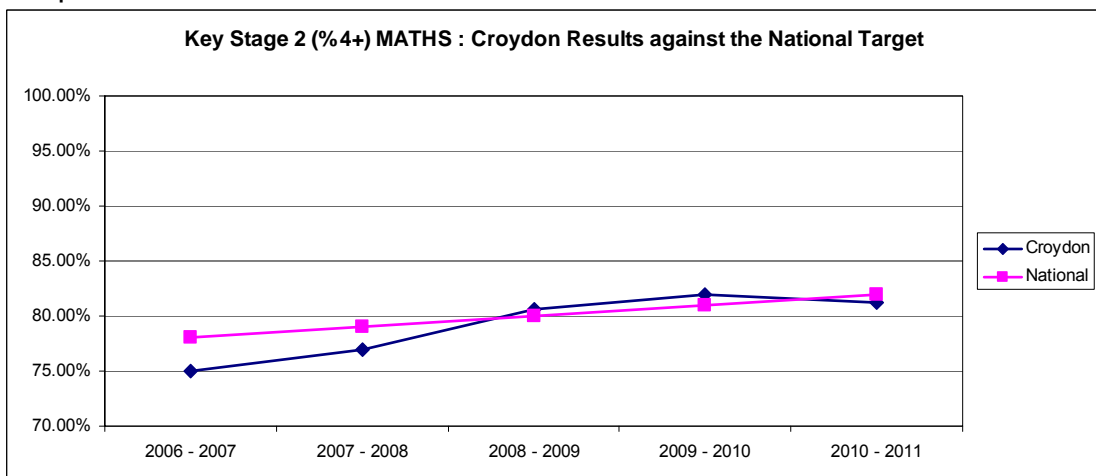
3.5.13. **Key Stage 2 (Juniors)** is a measure of attainment in Croydon primary school education for the following year group: Years 3 to 6 inclusive affecting children from ages 7-8 to 10-11 years inclusive. KS2 tests children in the following subject areas: English, Mathematics and Science. The following graphs show the percentage of children who have reached a level higher than the standard level set at 4 (4+) in each subject area since 2006 compared to the national targets.

3.5.14. KS2 performance in English by Croydon pupils has progressively improved since 2006-2007 with the latest results exceeding the national target which itself has been increasing over 2008-2011.



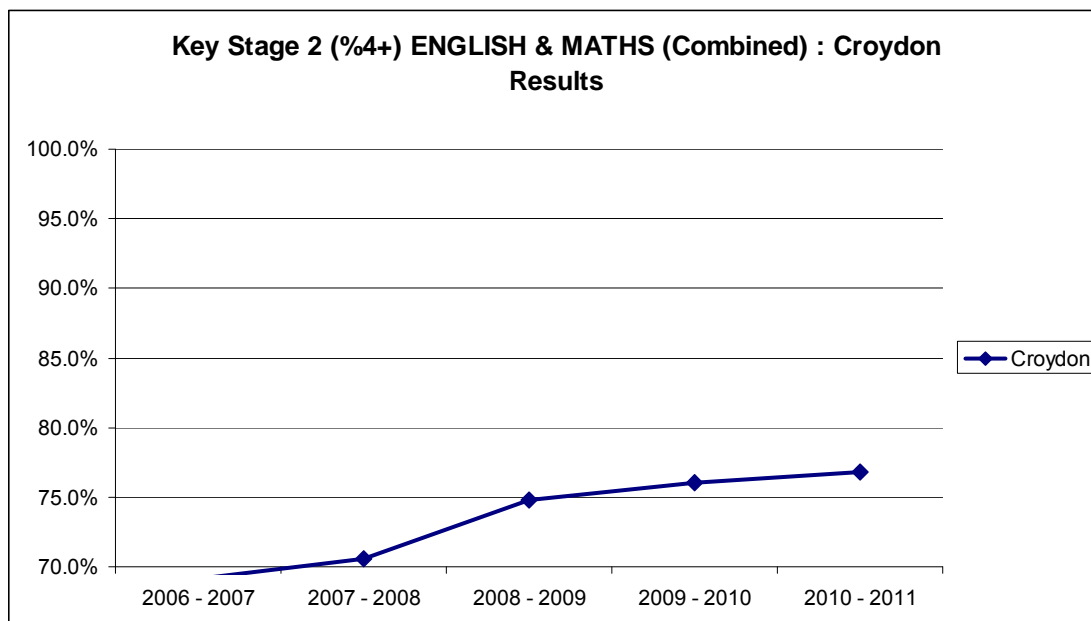
Source: KS2 Summary 2006-2010

3.5.15. KS2 performance in Maths by Croydon pupils progressively improved from 2006-2007 to 2009-2010 when the national target was exceeded. For the latest 2010-2011 academic year, the performance is 0.8% down on the national target (81.20% compared to 82.00%) but the results are still provisional.



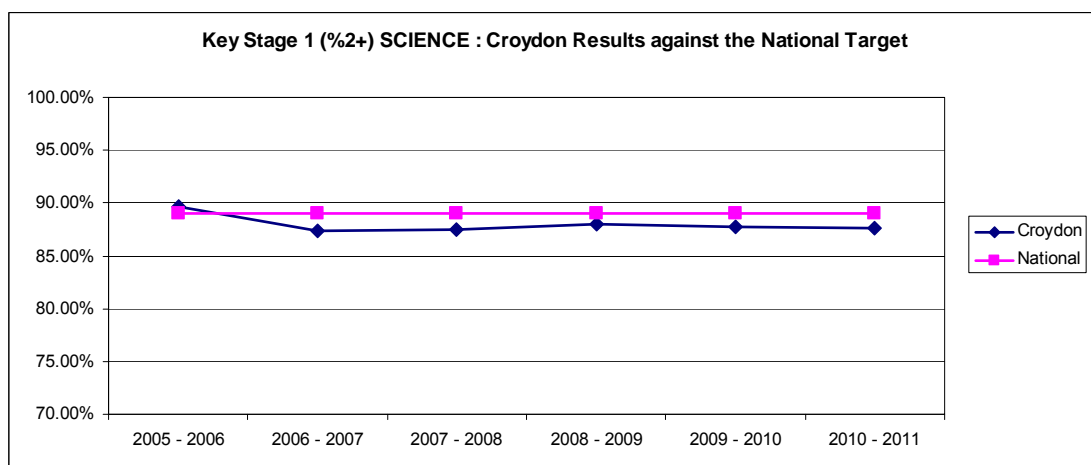
Source: KS2 Summary 2006-2010

3.5.16. KS2 performance in English and Maths combined by Croydon pupils has been steadily improving over the past 5 years and the latest results show that it is now over 75%. Please note that there are no national results for English and Maths combined.



Source: KS1 Summary 2005-2010

3.5.17. Local performance for KS2 attainment in science has been below the national target for the period 2006-2011.



Source: KS2 Summary 2006-2010

3.5.18. **Key Stage 4 (GCSE's)** is a two year programme of academic study for those students aged from 14-15 (Year 10) to 15-16 (Year 11). Since 2008-2009, Croydon students have achieved a higher percentage than the national average in terms of achieving 5 or more GCSE or equivalent qualifications. Since 2005-2006, Croydon results, every year, have been better in this area than the average for our statistical neighbours.

3.5.19. The number of secondary schools below national floor standards at the end of KS4 has decreased year on year from three in 2008, to two in 2009 and to one in 2010 (which has since become an Academy).

**Percentage of pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving at GCSE and equivalents:
5+ A*-C grades**

	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon	56.7	58.8	64.7	74.1	82.9	86.6
Average of statistical neighbours	55.0	57.8	63.8	69.3	76.5	80.1
England Average ^{1,5,6}	59.0	61.4	65.3	70.0	75.4	78.8

Source: GCSE Provisional Publications 2011.

3.5.20. The percentage of Croydon school pupils achieving 5 or more grades A* to C grades at GCSE has consistently improved since 2005-2006. The England average has been exceeded in the past 3 years. The Croydon results have also been better than the average for our statistical neighbours.

Percentage of Croydon schools' pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving at GCSE and equivalents: 5+ A*-C grades



3.5.21. The percentage of Croydon school pupils achieving 5 or more grades A* to C grades at GCSE, including English and Maths, has consistently been higher than the national average since 2008-2009. The latest 2010-2011 performance, subject to ratification in January 2012, exceeds the national target.

5+ A*-C grades inc. English & Mathematics GCSEs						
	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon	42.7	44.4	47.6	51.9	54.4	60.3
Average of statistical neighbours	42.8	44.9	48.5	50.5	55.4	57.8
England Average ^{1,5,6}	45.6	46.3	47.6	49.8	53.5	58.3

Source: GCSE Provisional Publications 2011.

3.5.22. **A Levels** are usually a two year programme of academic study for those students aged from 16-17 (Year 12) to 17-18 (Year 13). The percentage of Croydon pupils achieving 2 or more passes at A level or equivalent was higher in 2010-2011 than both Croydon's nearest neighbours and the national average. Over 95% of both males and females achieved 2 or more A level passes.

	Percentage of candidates achieving 2 or more passes of A Level or equivalent		
	Males	Females	Total
Croydon	95.6	95.9	95.7
Average of statistical neighbours	94	95	94
England Average	92.4	93.0	92.7

Source: Year: 2010/11 GCE (Provisional) Publication

3.5.23. The percentage of all students, (both male and female), who achieved higher grade passes of AAB in 3 or more subjects is significantly lower than Croydon's nearest neighbours and the national average.

	Percentage of candidates achieving AAB or more passes at GCE/Applied GCE A levels and Double Awards		
	Males	Females	Total
Croydon	7.6	11.7	10.1
Average of statistical neighbours	16	17	17
England Average	20.0	20.8	20.4

Source: Year: 2010/11 GCE (Provisional) Publication

3.5.24. Only 3.4% of the males and 5% of the females from Croydon schools achieved A* - A grades in 3 or more GCE A levels or equivalent. Performance is significantly lower than Croydon's nearest neighbours and the national average. The results for male students are significantly lower than the national average.

	Percentage of candidates achieving 3 or more A*-A grades at GCE/Applied GCE A Level and Double Awards		
	Males	Females	Total
Croydon	3.4	5.0	4.4
Average of statistical neighbours	11	10	10
England Average	13.1	12.5	12.8

Source: Year: 2010/11 GCE (Provisional) Publication

School attendance

- 3.5.25. Department for Education validated attendance data is available for the 2010/11 autumn and spring term. Full academic year data for 2010/11 is available in February 2012.
- 3.5.26. Croydon reduced secondary persistent absence levels to 4.1% in 2010/11 and more than met the national 5% target set for 2011. In September 2011 the DFE has raised the persistent absence threshold for pupils from 80% (64 absence sessions) to 85% (46 absence sessions) in an academic year, to encourage more rigorous challenge.
- 3.5.27. Primary persistent absence (PA) under the previous criteria of 80% resulted in a significant reduction of PA from 3.1% in 2007/08 to 2.1% in 2010/11. Using the new persistent absence threshold, primary persistent absence at (5.5%) is 0.3% worse than the national average (5.2%), 0.2% worse than the London average (5.3%) and 0.4% worse than the outer London average (5.1%).
- 3.5.28. Secondary persistent absence (PA) under the previous criteria of 80% a significant reduction of PA took place from 3.1% in 2007/08 to 2.1% in 2010/11. Secondary persistent absence under the new threshold at 8% is 1.5% better than the national average (9.5%), in line with the outer London average (8%) and 0.2% better than the London average (8.2%).
- 3.5.29. Primary overall absence has significantly reduced from 6.59% in 2002/03 to 5.5% in 2010/11. Overall absence in 2010/11 is still however 0.36% worse than the national average and additional early intervention support strategies have been prioritised to address this issue. Croydon has achieved significant improvements in reducing secondary overall absence from 8.92% in 2002/03 to 6.06% in 2010/11 and this is (0.46) better than the national average.
- 3.5.30. Croydon's absence performance has been compared to statistical neighbour data (see tables following) and shows that Croydon compares favourably, being amongst the top four, with the lowest primary overall absence. At secondary level Croydon compares well with only three other boroughs having lower overall absence rates and broadly average persistent absence levels in comparison to statistical neighbours.
- 3.5.31. Across the borough illness was the highest contributor to absence at 3% representing 54% of absences. Unauthorised absence at 1.42 contributed to 25% of absences. Register inspections indicate that absence through illness is distributed as frequent odd day absences for minor illness across a wide number of pupils.

Year	Croydon Primary Schools %	England average %	Year	Croydon Secondary Schools %	England average %
2002/2003	6.59	5.81	2002/03	8.92	8.28
2003/2004	6.19	5.49	2003/04	8.6	7.83
2004/2005	6.1	5.43	2004/05	8.32	7.82
2005/2006	6.5	5.18	2005/06	8.55	8.24
2006/2007	5.89	5.16	2006/07	8.16	7.87
2007/2008	5.91	5.26	2007/08	8.1	7.36
2008/09	5.82	5.34	2008/09	7.29	7.25
2009/10	5.9	5.34	2009/10	6.58	6.84
2010/11	5.5	5.14%	2010/11	6.06	6.52

PRIMARY SCHOOLS AUTUMN TO SPRING 2010/2011						
	No of pupil enrolment	Overall Absence	PA Pupils (85%)	PA Pupils (85%)	PA Pupils (80%)	PA Pupils (80%)
Birmingham	84,049	5.93%	6,079	7.2%	2,333	2.8
Croydon	23,334	5.14%	1,340	5.5%	510	2.1
Ealing	22,110	5.29%	1,142	5.2%	384	1.7
Enfield	28,871	5.3%	1,303	5.5%	468	2.0
Greenwich	16,831	4.93%	782	4.6%	242	1.4
Hillingdon	19,806	4.95%	794	4.0%	253	1.3
Luton	16,801	5.90%	1,102	6.6%	360	2.1
Merton	12,041	5.04%	604	5.0%	201	1.7
Reading	8,874	5.29%	463	5.2%	140	1.6
Redbridge	21,411	5.65%	1,157	5.4%	375	1.8
Waltham Forest	18,991	5.46%	1,088	6.0%	397	2.2

SECONDARY SCHOOLS AUTUMN TO SPRING 2010/2011						
	No of pupil enrolment	Overall Absence	PA pupils (85%)	PA Pupils (85%)	PA Pupils (80%)	PA Pupils (80%)
Birmingham	63,604	6.52%	5,963	9.4%	2,952	4.6%
Croydon	18,941	6.06%	1,517	8%	663	4.1%
Ealing	15,137	5.74%	966	6.4%	440	2.9%
Enfield	18,911	6.64%	1,786	9.4%	932	4.9%
Greenwich	11,540	6.56%	1,156	10%	614	5.3%
Hillingdon	15,505	6.25%	1,320	6.5%	613	4.0%
Luton	12,525	6.71%	1,157	9.2%	560	4.5%
Merton	7,999	6.41%	727	9.1%	348	4.4%
Reading	5,386	5.91%	405	7.5%	191	3.5%
Redbridge	16,983	5.87%	1,164	6.9%	526	3.1%

School exclusions

3.5.32. There has been a downward trend in Croydon's exclusion rate over the last five years. However, last academic year there was a slight increase in overall permanent exclusions. This is attributable to a significant increase in permanent exclusions (17 permanent exclusions) from a single school which had transferred to an academy in September 2010. This is the highest rate of permanent exclusions from an individual school for four years and compares to a high of 8 in the next highest excluding secondary school in 2010-11, also an academy. In the primary phase there was significant improvement. Primary permanent exclusions were reduced by nearly half in 2010-11, from 16 (in 2000-10) to 9.

3.5.33. 2009/10 figures for permanent exclusions equates to 0.15%, in other words 15 permanent exclusions in the borough for every 10,000 pupils. This year's figure (2010/11) will be 0.16%. This is a poorer performance than the London average 0.10% and the England average 0.08%, and our statistical neighbours.

3.5.34. However, Croydon schools overall have generally improved their processes for maintaining pupil discipline without the need for the ultimate sanction of permanent exclusion from school. The trend diagram for permanent exclusions demonstrates the improvements for Croydon: from 0.21 as a percentage of population in 2006/7 to 0.15 in 2009/10. The London average had moved from 0.13 in 2006/7 to 0.10 in 2009/10.

3.5.35. The 2 most common reasons for exclusions in 2010/2011 were as a result of persistent disruptive behaviour (502 incidents) and physical assaults against other pupils (385 incidents). Of the total number of exclusions, more than 3 in 4 (76.8%) were attributed to disruptive behaviour and verbal and physical assaults on another pupil or an adult.

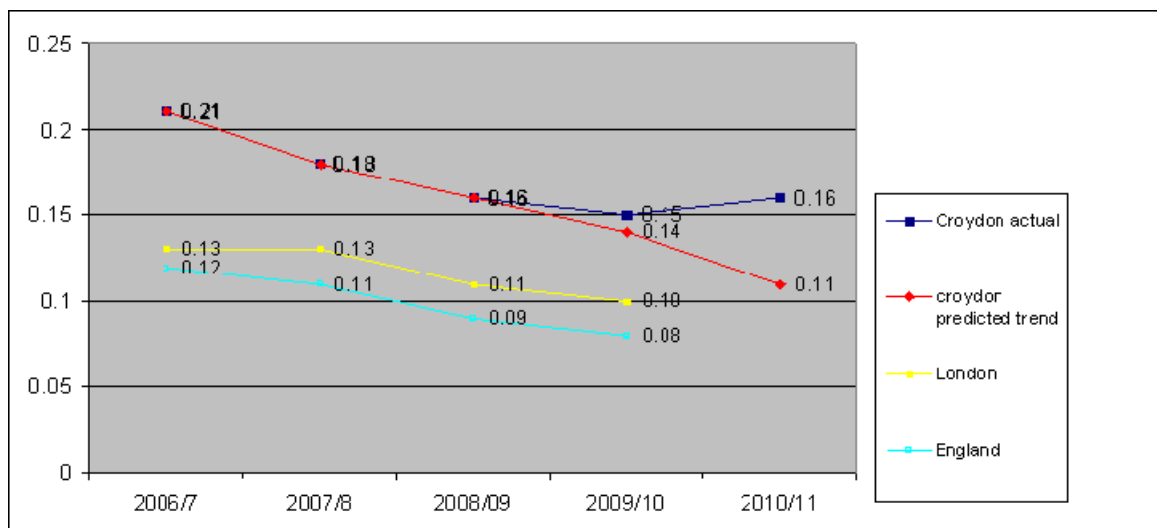
2010/2011	Academic Year End (Sep-Aug)	% at year end
Persistent disruptive behaviour	502	26.12%
Physical assault against pupil	385	20.03%
Verb abuse / threatening behaviour to an adult	254	13.22%
Physical assault against adult	251	13.06%
Other	173	9.00%
Theft	82	4.27%
Verbal abuse / threatening behaviour to a pupil	84	4.37%
Damage	48	2.50%
Drug and alcohol related	49	2.55%
Bullying	33	1.72%
Sexual misconduct	24	1.25%
Racist abuse	22	1.14%
Possession of Offensive Weapon	15	0.78%
Total Exclusions	1,922	100.00%

Source : EMS, ExclusionUpdates_AY_2010_11.xls

3.5.36. Permanent exclusions of SEN pupils with statements have decreased from 53 during 2008/9 to 42 in 2010/11. There is little change in exclusions of looked after children with 59 fixed term exclusions and 2 permanent exclusions in 2010/11 (55 fixed term and 1 permanent in 2009/10).

Permanent exclusion trends

Academic year	2006/7	2007/8	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon actual	0.21	0.18	0.16	0.15	0.16
Croydon predicted trend	0.21	0.18	0.16	0.14	0.11
London	0.13	0.13	0.11	0.10	
England	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.08	



Number of permanent exclusions from Croydon maintained schools and academies over the last five years, and as a percentage of the school population compared with statistical neighbours

Academic year	2006/7	2007/8	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Croydon	102	90	81	75	77
Croydon as a % of the school pop.	0.21	0.18	0.16	0.15	0.16
London	0.13	0.13	0.11	0.10	**
England	0.12	0.11	0.09	0.08	**
Enfield	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.11	**
Waltham Forest	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.02	**
Redbridge	0.16	0.12	0.04	0.08	**
Merton	0.05	0.09	0.12	0.08	**
Birmingham	0.19	0.15	0.10	0.12	**
Ealing	0.13	0.09	0.06	0.06	**
Reading	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.05	**
Hillingdon	0.08	0.09	0.11	0.11	**
Luton	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.07	**
Greenwich	0.26	0.05	0.06	0.04	**

*** Figures will be published July 2012.*

3.5.37. More boys are excluded than girls with the ratio reducing from around 4:1 in 2009/10 to 3:1 in 2010/11.

Education other than at school

3.5.38. Provision for children with medical needs, including school refusers and elective home education in Croydon is well advanced. Cotelands provides education to young people who are emotionally based school refusers and pregnant and schoolgirl mums (judged outstanding in most recent Ofsted inspection). Home tuition is used effectively and in relation to medical needs, linked to hospital provision. Improved referral tracking and reintegration processes through a new panel system have been established.

3.5.39. The consistent implementation of regular monitoring visits has led to approximately 20% of those on the 2010/11 Elective Home Education register returning to school. This year electively home educated young people have access to an examination centre at reduced cost to sit GCSEs and Functional Skills assessments.

3.5.40. The number of students that were placed back in mainstream school through the Fair Access process is improving by 40% in 2010/11 compared with 2009/10.

Education of looked after children

3.5.41. Looked After Children perform in line with other Croydon children at the end of Key Stage 2. At this age, the LAC cohort is almost entirely made up of indigenous Croydon children.

3.5.42. Performance of Looked After Children at the end of Key Stage 4 is significantly lower than other children in Croydon (although it is broadly in line with Looked After Children nationally). There is therefore an identified need to improve performance at Key Stage 4. At this stage, the majority of the LAC cohort are unaccompanied asylum-seeking children.

3.5.43. Every Croydon school has a designated teacher for LAC. All schools are asked to ensure the provision and outcomes for LAC are regularly reviewed. Schools are actively encouraged to support LAC attendance at after school clubs and on trips, providing additional resources and support where required. The Virtual School team also review classroom practice and offer advice to ensure appropriate support for LAC.

3.5.44. Schools receive guidance in developing their whole school policies for LAC. Work is undertaken to track and monitor the attendance, behaviour, exclusion and attainment of LAC on a termly basis. The staff of the Virtual School engage in individual complex casework to acquire appropriate school places, provide guidance on Personal Education Plans (PEPs) and give advice to social workers on exclusion protocol and statutory assessment where required.

3.5.45. The data in the following tables shows that over the past three years there has been a narrowing of the gap between LAC and other pupils at key stage 2. The key stage 4 data shows that the proportions of Croydon LAC achieving both 5A-C GCSEs and 5 A*-C including English and Maths (taking the indigenous group) have improved over time; comparison with statistical neighbours is very positive on A*-C not including English and Maths. The gap between Croydon LAC and the national average has improved for A*-C without English and Maths, but remained the same with English and Maths.

3.5.46. However, the difference between these two sets of statistics at key stage 4 reflects the high proportion of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children in Croydon: the latter group achieves a higher than LAC average on 5A*-C GCSEs but do not achieve a GCSE English. In 2011 UASCs took a variety of other English courses including Functional Skills, ESOL, ASDAN and ALAN courses. In 2011 13.83% of LAC achieved 1 or more A levels grade A-E, and 13 young people completed degree courses (of which 7 were UASC).

3.5.47. The operation of the Virtual School has been reviewed and a new model agreed which should ensure greater impact; this should be in place in early 2012

<u>Key Stage 2</u>	Croydon LAC gaining Level 4+ in English and Maths	Croydon – all pupils, Level 4+ in English and Maths
2009	55%	73%
2010	80%	74%
2011	75%	73% (provisional)

<u>KS 4</u>	Croydon LAC 5 A*-C	National LAC 5 A*-C	National average All yp 5 A*-C	Gap between Croydon LAC and national for all yp	Croydon LAC 5+ A*-C Inc E+M	National LAC 5+ A*-C inc E+M	National average All yp 5+ A*-C inc E+M	Gap between Croydon LAC and national for all yp
2009	12.0%	15.0%	70.0%	58.0%	8.0%		49.8%	41.8%
2010	43.6%	26.1% (SN 31.5%)	75.4%	31.8%	10.9% (SN 15.8%)	11.6%	54.0%	43.1%
2011	34.3% (provisional)				7.2% (indigenous 16.67%)			

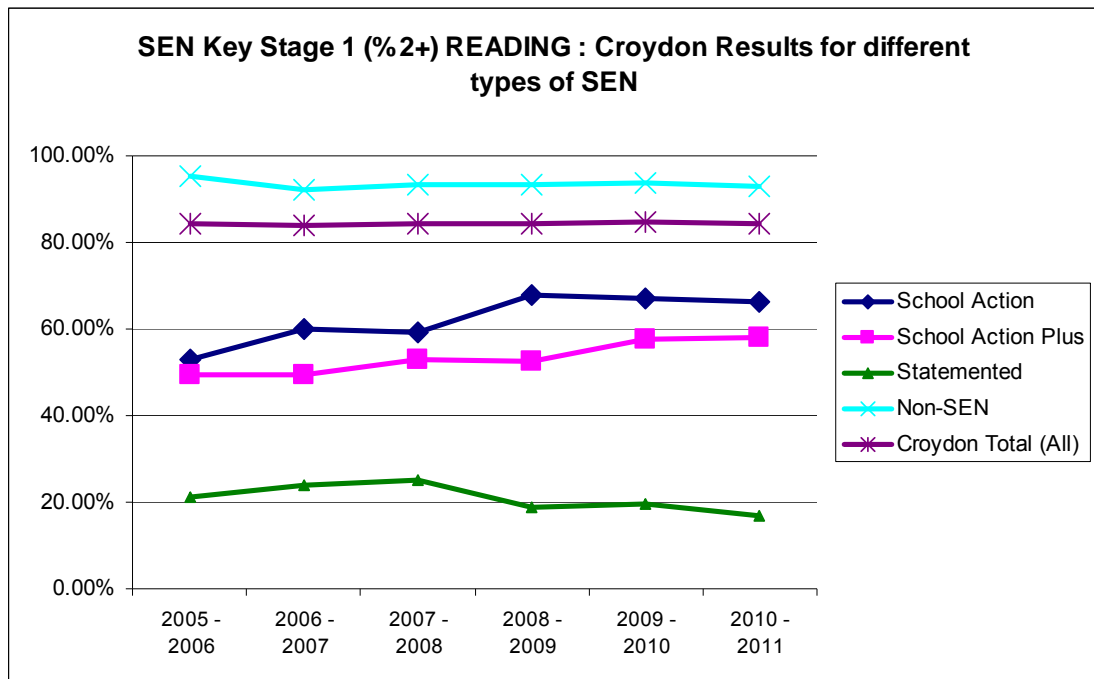
Education of children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities

3.5.48. Attainment gaps for pupils with special educational needs are better than those reported nationally. However, they have not improved over the last five years and actions are being taken to address this situation.

3.5.49. A strategy has been developed to address the changing profile and rising numbers of pupils with SEN and also to reduce the disproportionate numbers of Croydon pupils educated out borough and in the independent sector.

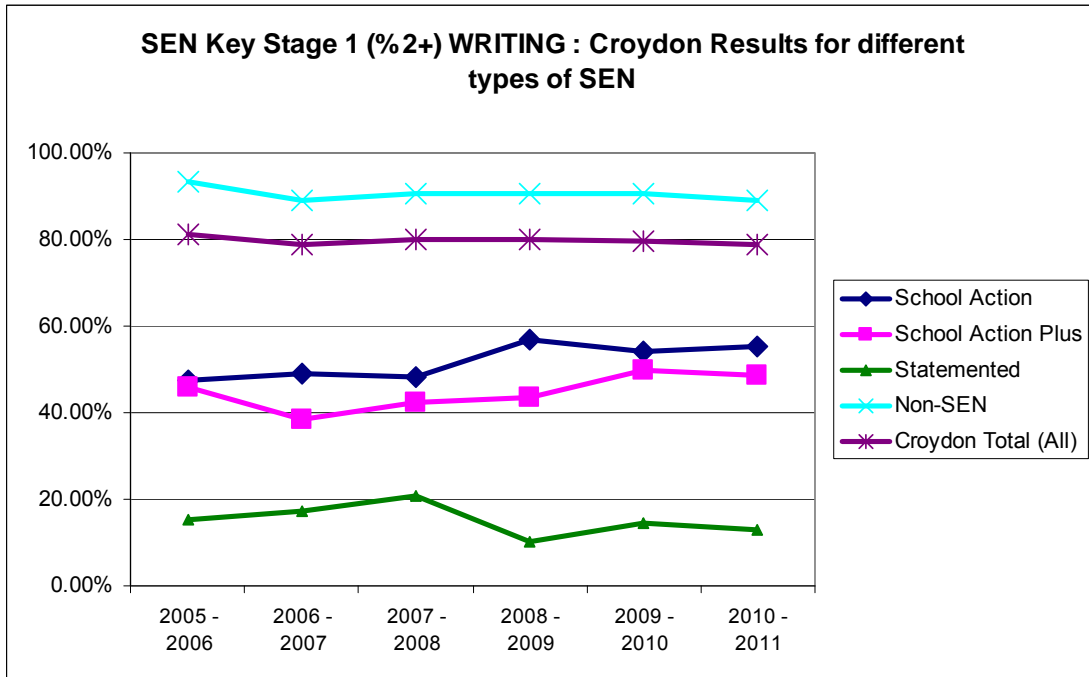
3.5.50. For school attainment for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), it should be noted that the 2010-2011 results are provisional and are subject to change for the January 2012 publication of attainment results.

3.5.51. **Key Stage 1 (Infants):** The KS1 reading attainment for Croydon school SEN pupils is considerably lower than levels for non-SEN pupils. Attainment for children with School Action has been around 67% for the past 3 years. School Action Plus pupils reached 58% in the latest school year which is the highest level of attainment over the past six years; conversely the reading attainment of Statemented pupils has dropped to its lowest level over the same period at 17.02%.



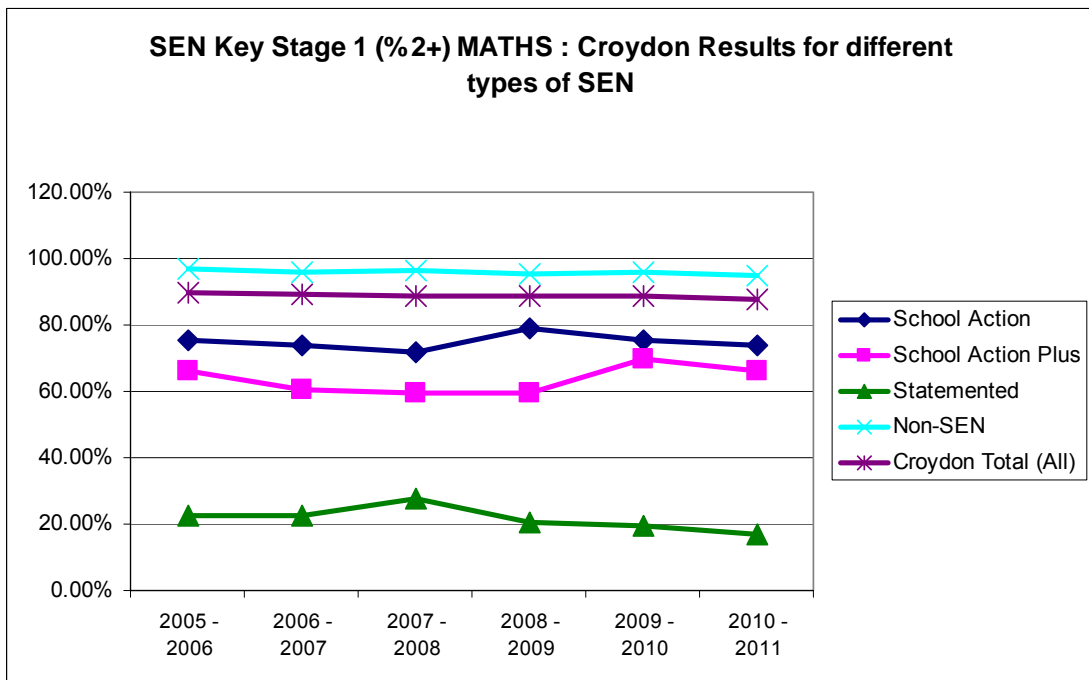
Source: KEYPAS to 2010, NEXUS from 2011

3.5.52. Performance for KS1 writing attainment for School Action has been at 55% for the last two years. Performance for School Action Plus pupils has reduced slightly in 10/11 compared 09/10, 48.44% compared to 49.86%. Performance for Statemented pupils has also reduced for this period from 14.47% to 12.77%.



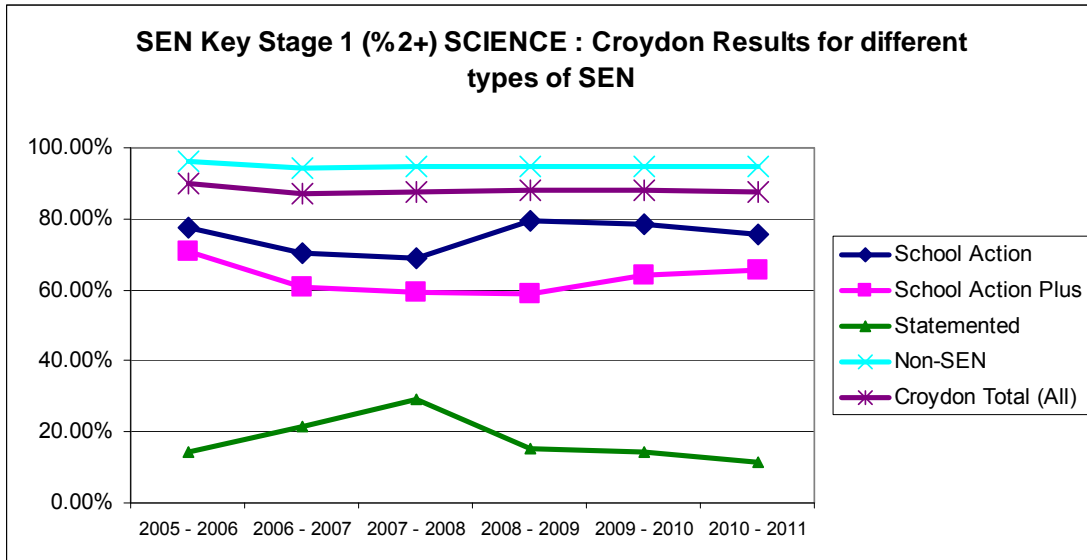
Source: KEYPAS to 2010, NEXUS from 2011

3.5.53. Attainment in Maths for School Action pupils has been at approximately 75% over the last six year period. For School Action Plus pupils the average has been just under 64% for this period. Attainment in Maths for Statemented pupils have shown a drop in performance, the latest attainment figure of 17.02% (2010/11) is over 2% less than the previous year.



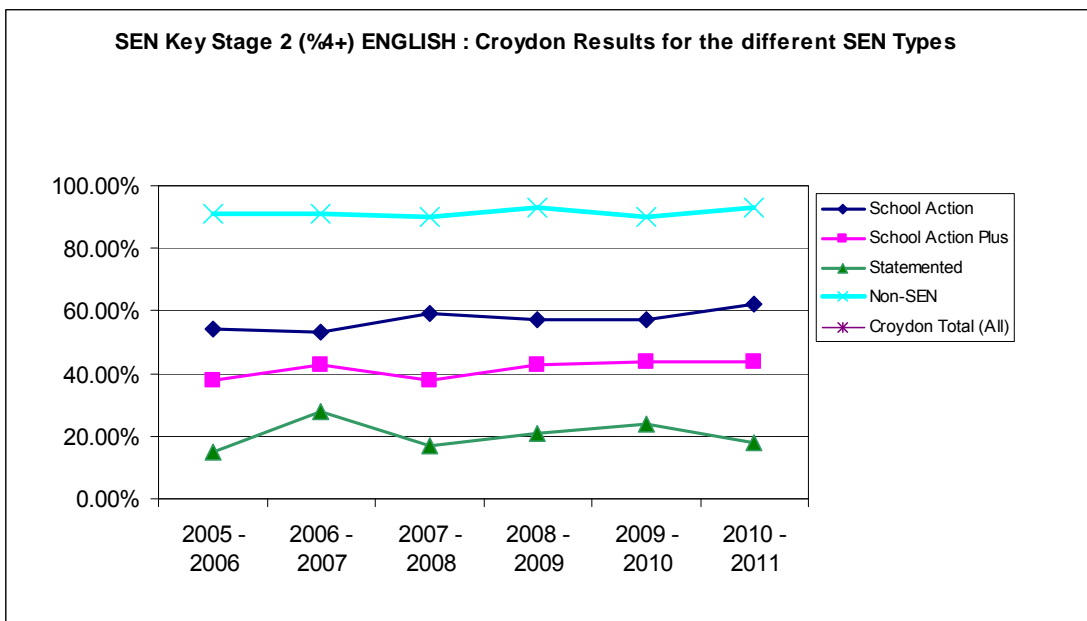
Source: KEYPAS to 2010, NEXUS from 2011

3.5.54. Attainment in Science for School Action pupils and School Action Plus pupils has averaged at 75% and 63% respectively over a six year period. Latest attainment levels for Statemented pupils shows reducing performance levels compared to earlier years with 11.70% attainment in 2010-11.



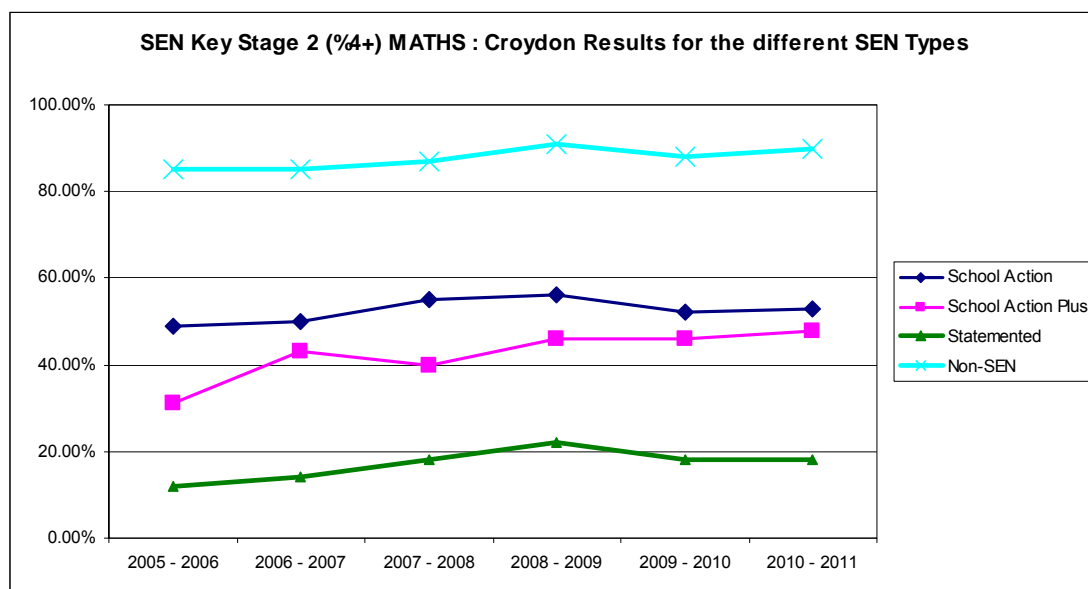
Source: KEYPAS to 2010, NEXUS from 2011

3.5.55. **Key Stage 2 (Juniors):** There has been a 5% improvement in attainment in English for School Action pupils for 2010-11 compared to the previous year (62% compared to 57%). School Action Plus pupils attainment at this key stage has been consistent over the past three years at approximately 44%. Statemented attainment for 2010-11 has dropped to levels of attainment in 2007-08.



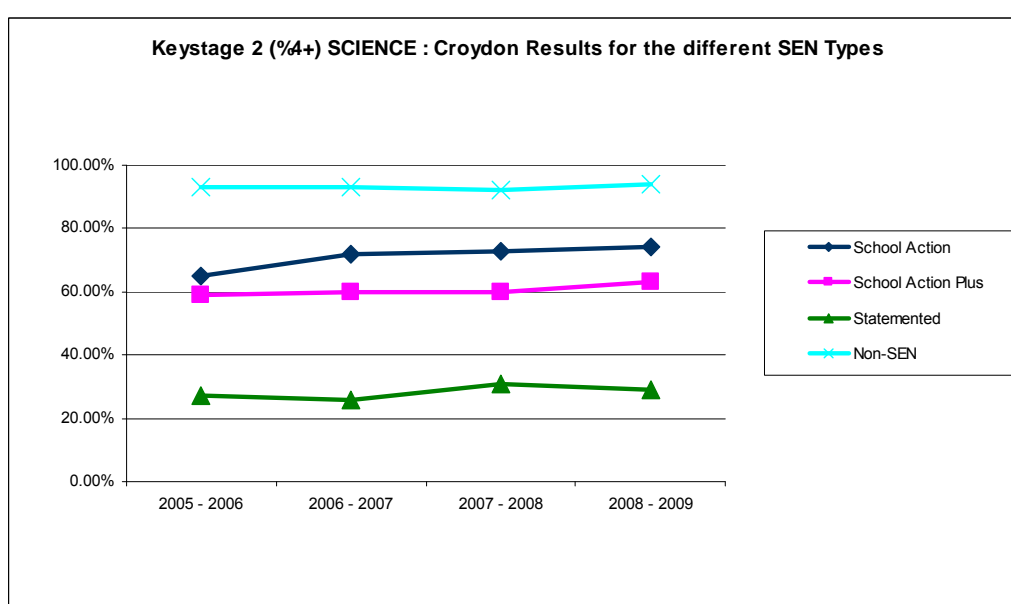
Source: KEYPAS & NEXUS by SEN 2006-2011

3.5.56. School Action pupils have achieved an attainment of 50% or more in Maths since 2006-07. The latest figures show that the gap between School Action and School Action Plus attainment has narrowed to within 5%. Statemented pupils' attainment has been at 18% over the past two years.



Source: KEYPAS & NEXUS by SEN 2006-2011

3.5.57. For the 3 year period 2006-2009, School Action pupils attainment in Science has been consistently over 70%. School Action Plus pupils have consistently obtained attainment levels of approximately 60% each year. Statemented pupils have an average performance of 28.25% over the 4 year period 2005-2009.



Source: KEYPAS 2006-2009

3.5.58. **Key Stage 4 (GCSE's):** The percentage of Croydon school pupils achieving 5 or more grades A* to C grades at GCSE has consistently improved since 2005-2006. There has been a year on year improvement in performance in every SEN category.

Percentage of all pupils including SEN pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving at GCSE and equivalents: 5+ A* - C grades.

	2005/0 6	2006/0 7	2007/0 8	2008/0 9	2009/1 0	2010/1 1
School Action	23.5	36.4	41.7	56.4	72.4	81.4
School Action Plus	14.1	25.0	29.3	36.7	54.8	63.2
Statemented	6.7	8.8	15.3	21.6	27.5	30.0
Non-SEN	62.7	65	72.5	79.5	86.8	92.4
TOTAL	56.7	58.8	64.7	74.1	82.9	86.6

Source: The raw data is from the EPAS

3.5.59. The results for Croydon school pupils in SEN categories School Action and School Action Plus achieving 5 or more grades A* to C grades at GCSE, including English and Maths, has consistently improved year on year since 2005-2006. However, results for Statemented pupils shows a year on year improvement from 2.2% in 2005-2006 to a peak of 7.4% in 2009-2010, but the latest data for 2010-2011 shows a drop in performance to 4.9%.

Percentage of all pupils including SEN pupils at the end of Key Stage 4 achieving at GCSE and equivalents: 5+ A* - C grades including English and Mathematics.

	2005/0 6	2006/0 7	2007/0 8	2008/0 9	2009/1 0	2010/1 1
School Action	11.2	22.0	26.1	24.9	31.0	37.1
School Action Plus	5.3	11.7	13.3	17.4	21.3	24.9
Statemented	2.2	3.8	4.2	6.1	7.4	4.9
Non-SEN	49.1	51	57.8	61.7	62	69.9
TOTAL	42.7	44.4	47.6	51.9	54.4	60.3

Source: The raw data is from the EPAS

3.5.60. In terms of children with special educational needs, we need to be clear on which children need to be targeted – children at School Action, School Action Plus or children with Statements.

3.5.61. **SEN partnership working:** Some of the key areas in which the local authority is currently working jointly with schools are:

- Developing schools' capacity to meet the needs of pupils with SEND within a cost effective framework
- Developing effective assessment and monitoring systems to raise ambition and achievement for pupils with SEND
- Reviewing the range and impact of school provision, including intervention programme, to meet the diverse needs of pupils
- Improving and enhancing the recruitment, deployment and monitoring of teaching assistants so that they give effective support to pupils with SEN

- Developing SEN policy and practice, ensuring that all staff are equipped to meet their responsibilities
- Mentoring and coaching for SENCOs and Inclusion Managers to develop their strategic lead of SEN

Achievement of children and young people from other vulnerable groups

- 3.5.62. Analysis of the data for the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2) and Key Stage 4 (KS4) over the past five years shows that most equality groups in Croydon are performing well in trends over time and in comparison to national data. At KS4 the attainment gap for BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) groups has reduced year on year to 3 percentage points, which is now below national levels. However, at KS2 this group remains a focus for improvement as the attainment gap has fluctuated over time between 5 and 12 percentage points.
- 3.5.63. The main under-attaining group at both key stages is the White FSM (Free School Meals) group. At KS2 the attainment gap for this group has widened over the past 3 years and is now higher than the national gap. At KS2 nationally the gap between those pupils eligible for FSM and those not eligible has steadily decreased from 25 percentage points in 2006 to 19 percentage points in 2010. In Croydon the FSM gap during this period of time has remained around the current national average fluctuating between 19.1 percentage points (2006) and 20 percentage points (2010). However the gap in the percentage of pupils who are white and receive FSM stands at 34.9 percentage points in Croydon. Whilst the gap at KS4 narrowed to below national in 2010, it remains high.
- 3.5.64. Almost 500 young carers are supported through the Croydon Young Carers Project. Provision includes support for learning both at school and home. However, it has been recognised that young carers need more educational support so from September 2011 the restructured school improvement team will include a designated education consultant to support this group of young people.

Achievement for children for whom English is an Additional Language

- 3.5.65. The number of pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) including refugees and asylum seekers is on the increase. It is important for schools to develop a coherent approach to fulfilling the potential of both new arrivals (at the early stages of English language development) and the more advanced EAL learners in order to close the performance gap. Support we are currently offering through School Improvement is as follows:

- Support and coach the EAL coordinator to develop their strategic leadership and management of whole school EAL, refugee and asylum seeker provision
- Support with the implementation of effective admission procedures
- Work in partnership with schools to develop strategies and differentiated materials to support learners with EAL
- Identify good practice and facilitate school to school visits
- Advise on resources and provision relevant for target group of pupils
- Support schools to create a culturally inclusive environment
- Support schools to conduct community language examinations
- Liaise with outside agencies to provide additional support for vulnerable groups of learners

Ethnic Minority Achievement

3.5.66. The Ethnic Minority Achievement (EMA) service's aim is to provide quality support to schools, parents and carers, monitor and track schools' performance and improve their capacity to develop strategies and targets to raise pupils' attainment. Support through School Improvement is offered as follows:

- Support the leadership role of the EMA co-ordinator by reviewing and improving current practice and tackling potential underachievement
- Provide advice and training on making the curriculum more accessible to, and relevant for, BAME pupils
- Work with the school to develop whole school strategies for accelerating the progress and achievement of BAME more able pupils
- Support schools with their BAME action plan and the monitoring, evaluation and implementation of those plans

Gypsy Roma Travellers

3.5.67. Ofsted has identified Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) pupils as the lowest achieving and most at risk minority ethnic groups in the education system. There are currently about 200 GRT pupils within Croydon, and through the School Improvement Service, the following is offered:

- Support for families with school admissions and promoting attendance
- Support with initial assessments to identify educational needs and work collaboratively with teachers to provide appropriate teaching strategies, activities and experiences that support GRT pupils achieve

- Mentoring support for GRT pupils at risk of under-achieving (e.g. 0.5 per week based on 6 week intervention on developing literacy skills)
- Liaison support with parents of GRT pupils to support increased attendance, home/school relationships and transition
- Support for transient travellers visiting the borough including supporting travellers from the Circus and Fairground community.

Views of children, young people and communities in relation to education

- 3.5.68. School councils are strong in Croydon and actively support young people's influence across the borough. Three councils (from St James the Great Primary School, Archbishop Tenison's High School and Oasis Academy Coulsdon) gave presentations and took questions at a recent conference for headteachers. The young people's views were that a good education was important and they were happy to strive for excellence: in return they expected to receive good teaching, feel safe and have a school experience that helped them to grow as people.
- 3.5.69. School pupils are regularly involved in OfSTED inspections. OfSTED will ask pupils for their views about their school and these will be taken into account in the inspection's findings.
- 3.5.70. Pupils with special educational needs are encouraged to attend all or part of their annual review. A pilot for 'person centred annual reviews' is being carried out in three special schools and how to more fully include the pupil voice in these is being explored.

Conclusions on priority needs

- 3.5.71. The Enjoy and Achieve priorities for the Croydon Children and Family Partnerships for 2011/12 are:
- Narrowing the gap: vulnerable groups and between schools
 - Provision for children with special educational needs
- 3.5.72. The findings of this needs analysis suggest that these should remain priorities and that the following should be considered additionally:
- Reducing inequalities for education achievement of vulnerable groups.
 - Reducing fixed term and permanent exclusions.
 - Reducing the number of primary schools below the new floor standard 65% L4 English and maths combined and raising attainment at KS1
 - Strengthening the engagement of children and young people in service development.

3.5.73. Croydon Youth Council have identified their 'Enjoy and Achieve' priorities, these are:

- Young people are aware of and have access to activities that will help them develop personally and socially
- Young people achieve regardless of which school they go to and their background

3.6. Promoting the positive contribution of children and young people

3.6.1. The Croydon Children and Families Partnership has focused on two key aspects of the positive contribution of children and young people, strengthening the engagement of children and young people with service development across all children's services and reducing youth offending. Improving the participation and influence of children and young people in decision making and service development, delivery and review is core to all priority areas. Examples of how young people's views are already used are included within each section of this Needs Analysis.

Children's voice – engaging with children and young people

3.6.2. Croydon has undertaken a radical reshaping of its **youth services** to deliver on its aspirations with and for young people. The reshaped integrated youth support service operational from September 2011 has a greater focus on improving life chances for young people and young people will be actively engaged in all elements of service planning, design and delivery.

3.6.3. The **UK Youth Parliament** (UKYP) has been up and running in Croydon for five years. There are two elected members of Youth Parliament and two deputies. The members work closely with the Youth Council and are responsible for representing the views of Croydon UKYP regional and national meetings.

3.6.4. **Croydon Youth Council** comprises four trained, participative bodies of young people (11-19): UK Youth Parliament, Borough Wide Youth Council, Local Area Forums, LDD forum. The Youth Council provides a voice for young people in decision making in the Partnership and its agencies. Members of the Youth Council attend all meetings of the Children and Families Partnership Board.

3.6.5. The borough wide youth council provides scrutiny on policy linking into the Every Child Matters outcomes and consults young people to produce recommendations on how to improve policy for young people. The results will be fed in to decision making through the Children and Family Partnership. The Youth Council sub-groups parallel the Partnership sub-groups and arrangements are in place to ensure the works of the parallel groups are coordinated and that each can support the other in addressing their priorities.

3.6.6. The five Local Area Forums have a specific focus on the issues in their area they are also involved in commissioning services for their locality.

- 3.6.7. The **Croydon Children in Care Council (CiCC)** was established in August 2010, following extensive consultation involving young people, and is led and run by looked after young people. Close working between the CiCC and the Corporate Parenting Panel established the council's pledge to looked after children – what the children can expect in terms of support, their safety, their involvement, their education and their happiness and wellbeing. The CiCC has also been involved in contributing to the tendering process for providers of semi-independent living accommodation.
- 3.6.8. **School councils** are strong in Croydon and actively support young people's influence across the borough.
- 3.6.9. **Duke of Edinburgh awards:** Currently (47%) of schools operate DofE in Croydon and 50% of further education colleges. Between 2009 and 2011 399 awards (265 Bronze, 98 Silver and 36 Gold) were achieved by young people via Croydon DofE.
- 3.6.10. Young people have helped Croydon Xpress, a group of young participation workers, to develop a tool called HYPE (How Young People Evaluate) to measure qualities identified by young people. The tool can be used to help inform appraisal and to identify learning and development needs for those working with young people. The tool has been used in training with 20 PCSOs.
- 3.6.11. A Participation Strategy is being developed for the Partnership to strengthen consistent and meaningful engagement of young people

Vulnerable groups making a positive contribution

- 3.6.12. Looked after children are positively encouraged to attend and contribute to their personal education plan (PEP) reviews so that action and targets agreed at the review are endorsed by the young person, in order for them to accept their responsibilities in meeting the targets. They can also give their views on their educational placement, discuss any problems and share successes. The annual looked after children achievement ceremony, recognises all positive contributions that a young person has made during the academic year. At the February 2011 ceremony over 80 awards were given to young people.
- 3.6.13. The Croydon Children in Care Council (CiCC) was established in August 2010 to be led and run by looked after young people and supported by a staff member
- 3.6.14. On average the integrated youth support service works with around 60 young people with LDD each week to help them gain life

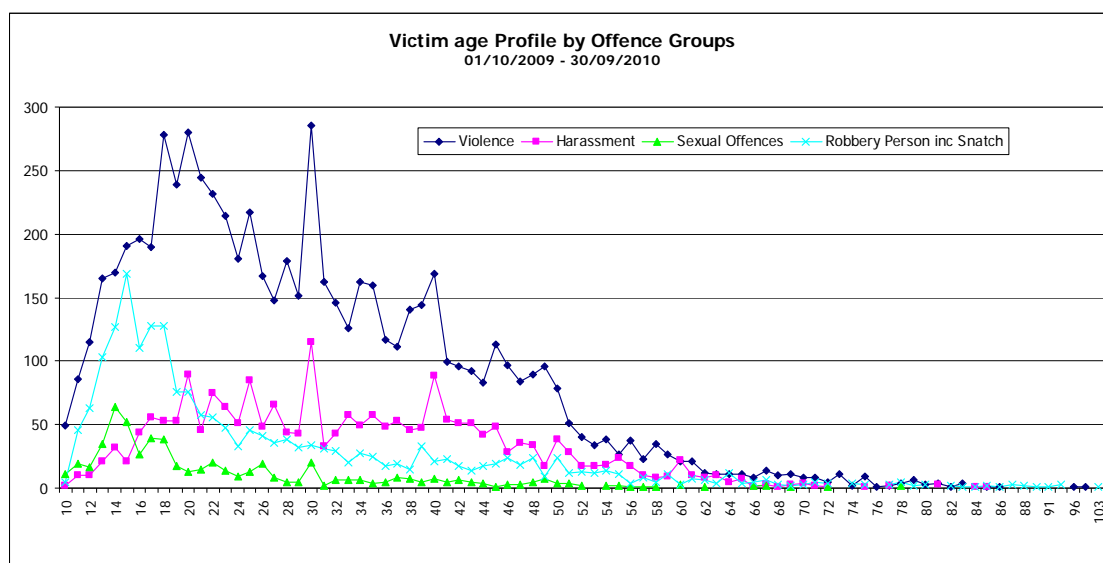
skills such as planning and preparing a meal, handling money and travel training, or taking part in group discussion or physical activities.

- 3.6.15. Young people with LDD have the opportunity to become positive role models and mentors for younger youth club members. Some participate in fund raising and sponsorship activities to raise support and awareness for their clubs and national charities.
- 3.6.16. The Youth Council is setting up a forum for young people with learning difficulties/ disabilities to ensure views from this group are represented.
- 3.6.17. Young people with LDD take part in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme through work with special schools
- 3.6.18. Young people with LDD participate in local programming of activities in the integrated youth support service and events and are able to gain a voice and express themselves through positive activities.
- 3.6.19. Pupils with special needs are encouraged to attend all or part of their annual review.

Offending by children and young people

- 3.6.20. The Safer Croydon strategic assessment 10/11 highlights violent crime as the largest proportion of key offences in Croydon with a significant increase in serious youth violence offences.
- 3.6.21. Offender profile – the report provides a detailed analysis on the age of offenders for key offences. Young people aged 16-24 years accounted for 46% of all suspects accused of key offences during the reporting period. Violent offences were primarily committed by 19-21 age ranges, however a higher percentage of females committed violent offences at a younger age. Ten per cent of violent offences committed by females were committed by females aged between 13-15 years.
- 3.6.22. Victim profile – analysis of victim data for offences where the person is targeted and not property, indicates that young people are particularly vulnerable to key crime types, particularly violence and robbery.
- 3.6.23. Victimization in relation to violent offences against young people starts to increase from age 11 years, with robbery offences peaking between 13 -19 years and violent offences peaking between 18 – 21 years. Independent research identifies that much of the crime committed by and against young people is unreported and therefore unrecorded.

3.6.24. The peak time for offending is between 12 and 6 pm and, during school term time, around 50,000 young people travel through Croydon before and after school hours.



3.6.25. The rate of first time entrants to the criminal justice system per 100,000 has reduced from 1,154 in 2009 to 841 in 2010 and is below the London average of 1,082. The target for 2011 is to further reduce by 5%.

3.6.26. In 2009/10 only 14% of the young people had re-offended after a year later compared to average re-offending rate for reprimand and final warnings of around 25%.

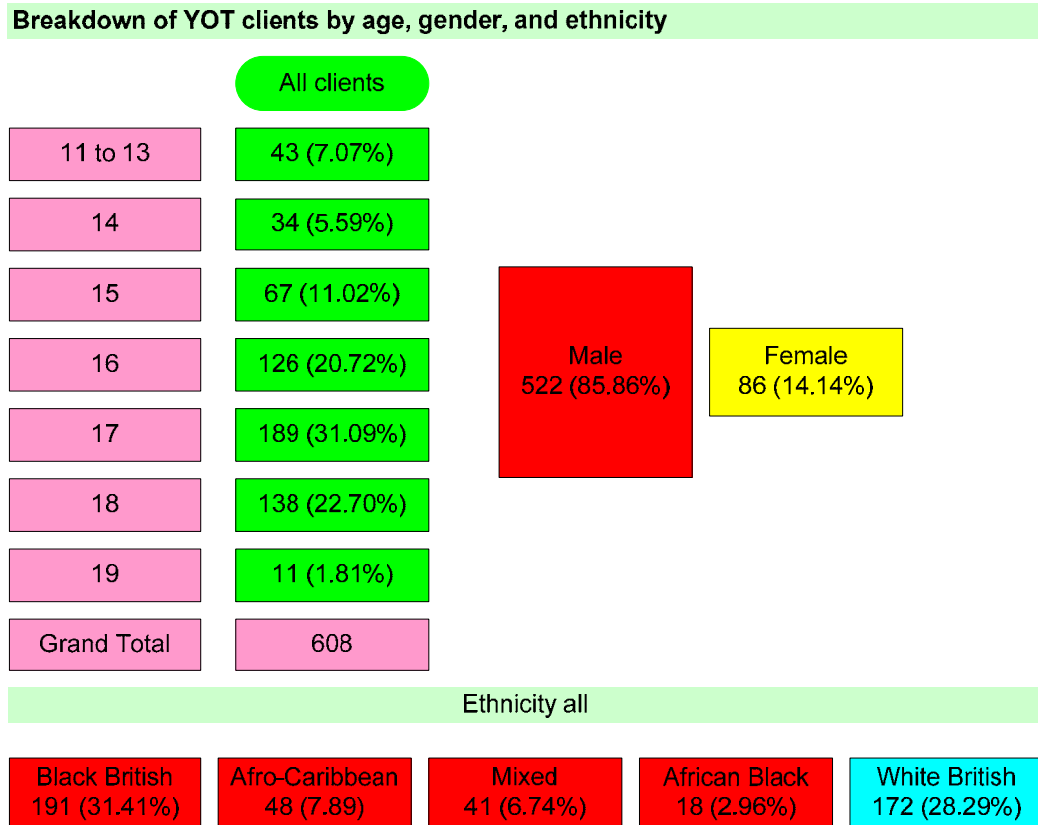
3.6.27. In 2010 a 5.2% reduction in overall re-offending was achieved alongside a 15% reduction in the overall numbers of young people entering the criminal justice system comparing 2008/09 with 2010/11. A recent report by the Prison Reform Trust states that Croydon has below average levels of remands in custody for young people and over the last 3 years has reduced the number of young people sentenced to custody.

3.6.28. Although the 2010/11 serious youth violence came in under target at 298 offences, lower than 2009/10 with 350 offences, serious youth violence remains a key issue. Offences in this category reaching the YOT (Youth Offending Team) have increased from 33% in 2009/10 to 38% in 2010/11.

First time entrants to criminal justice system per 100,00 population			
	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
Croydon (actual)	1,750	1,154	841
London (actual)	1,687	1,410	1,082
National (actual)	1,588	1,289	926

3.6.29. Data for 2009-2010 shows that the majority of YOT clients were male and aged between 16-18 years. The majority of clients also live in the north of the borough; hotspot wards include Broad Green, Thornton Heath, Woodside, Waddon and Fieldway.

3.6.30. The following diagram shows the breakdown of YOT clients for the period 2009 – September 2010.



Conclusions on priority needs

3.6.31. The Positive Contribution priorities for the Croydon Children and Family Partnerships for 2011/12 are:

- a. Children and young people influence provision
- b. Reducing youth crime and disorder (shared with the Safer Croydon Partnership)

3.6.32. The findings of this needs analysis suggest that these should remain priorities and that the following should be considered additionally:

- All agencies improve meaningful participation by and influence of young people.
- Ensuring the views of 'hard to reach', children with disabilities and children under 11 are better represented

- Providing evidence and feedback on how young people's views have been taken into account and influenced service delivery.
- Parents and carers have the opportunity to influence provision.

3.6.33. Croydon Youth Council have identified their 'Positive Contribution' priorities, these are:

- Young people have a say in decisions that affect them
- When young people give their views they are listened to
- All young people have the opportunity to contribute

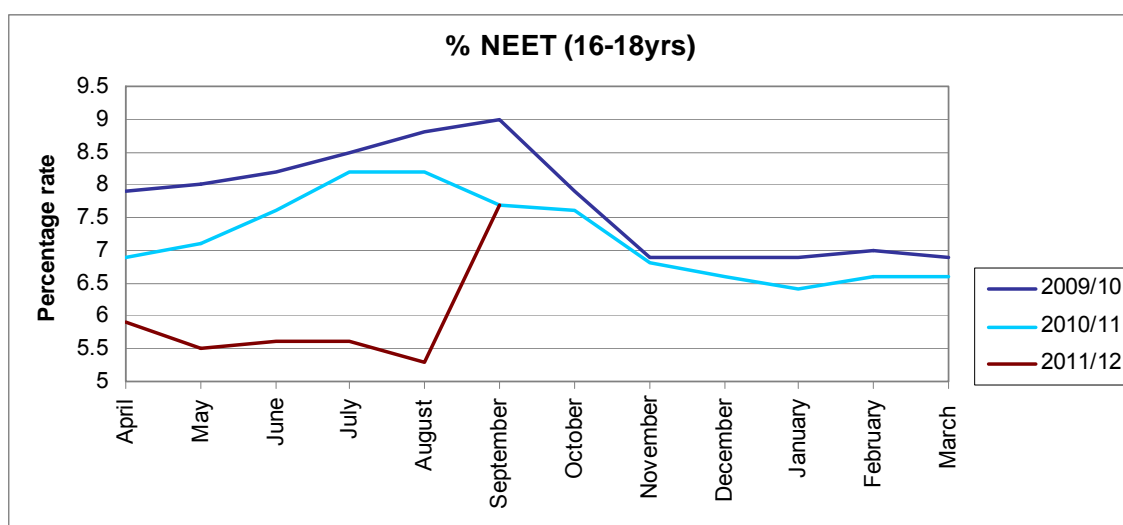
3.7. Promoting the economic well-being of children and young people

Young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)

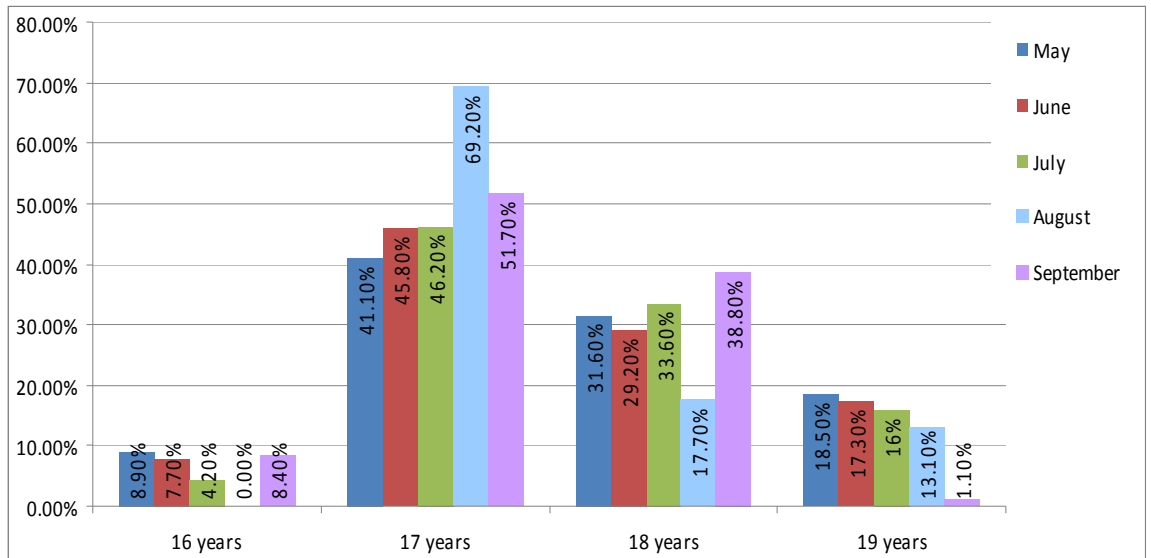
3.7.1. Over the last few years there has been a steady decrease in the overall percentage of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) in Croydon even in a period of economic downturn.

3.7.2. Trends for young people who are NEET show seasonal variations, and increase significantly in August and September after the end of the academic year. NEET levels generally reduce in October when this group enrol in further education or enter employment. Due to seasonal variations NEET levels should be compared to levels of the previous year.

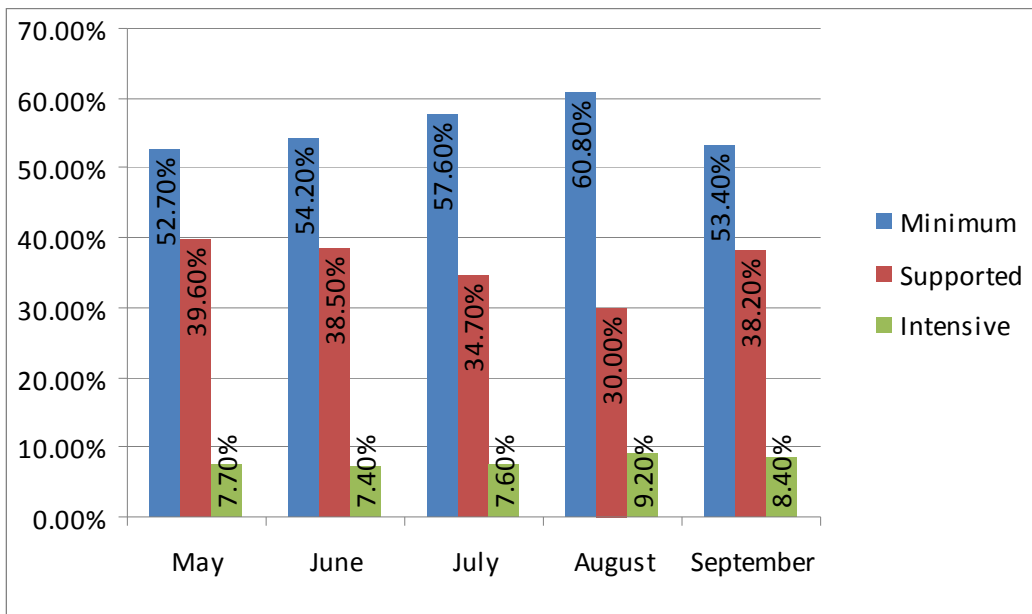
3.7.3. The NEET rolling average for November to January 2009/10 was 6.9% and fell to 6.5% for November to January 2010/11. However, recent official NEET data (Sept 2011) shows an increase to 7.7% (bringing) the current NEET cohort to the same level as the previous year) and this is considered a conservative estimate due to the high level of unknown destinations of 2011 year 11 leavers. This is high level of unknown destinations is due to tracking issues resulting from the demise of Connexions services. The rise in Croydon NEET in recent months is replicated both in London and nationally. However due to data deficiencies (locally and regionally) we cannot ascertain whether the level of the Croydon increase is comparable to our neighbours.



3.7.4. NEET data can also be analysed by age, gender and supervision level. September data shows the total number of male young people within the NEET Group is higher than their female counterparts with 55.1% and 44.9% respectively. Analysis of data between May and September 2011 shows that young people age 17 years make up the majority of NEET cohort and this is consistent across the period.



3.7.5. The majority of the young people within the NEET group in September 2011 required a level of need of "Minimum" with 53.4%.



3.7.6. Approximately 25% of long-term (20 weeks or more) NEET young people are classified as being in a vulnerable group. Analysis suggests that the largest vulnerable group is teen pregnancy/mothers which account for approximately 10% of NEET, followed by LDD

(9.6%), supported by YOS (3.4%) and looked after children/care leavers (2.7%). However, it is likely that there are also vulnerable characteristics in the remaining 75% of long-term NEET young people which have not been declared.

3.7.7. Specific wards account for disproportionately high levels of NEET. In June 2011 just five wards – Fieldway, Woodside, Selhurst, Waddon and West Thornton – accounted for almost 40% of the NEET cohort.

3.7.8. The demise of the Connexions service has resulted in a large reduction in personal advisers. Temporary additional resources have been added to overcome the resulting issues. This also means that available resources must be targeted at the most vulnerable young people. In order to deploy resources effectively and inform NEET prevention strategies, we are currently undertaking early intervention indicator mapping to geographical areas.

14-19 curriculum offer

3.7.9. The 14-19 curriculum offer has been enhanced over a number of years. Secondary schools have diversified their curriculum to offer a range of vocational programmes at Key Stage 4. Croydon Education Business Partnership provides a range of enterprise opportunities and work-related activities for young people including work experience. Additionally, each school's curriculum is supplemented by a collaborative programme developed in partnership with FE providers. This includes a comprehensive range of vocational courses at levels 1 and 2 and programmes for ESOL learners.

3.7.10. Going forward the borough will need to respond to the changing economic and political context. Although Government policy is yet to be clarified, it is clear that curriculum development will have to respond to the worsening employment figures, falling applications for Higher Education places and policies to reduce the role of vocational education for 14-16 year olds.

3.7.11. Three new Government initiatives in Key Stage 4 mean that schools are likely to be forced to limit the time spent on vocational education:

- Vocational education cannot take up more than 20% of the timetable
- No vocational qualification will be worth more than one GCSE
- A stronger emphasis on the English Baccalaureate in Government statistics and possibly league tables

- 3.7.12. Without some additional planning this may have a negative impact on overall GCSE results in the borough and the collaborative provision which is entirely based on vocational courses.
- 3.7.13. Post-16 a much higher number of NEETS and a reduction in the number of applications for Higher Education will require provision that is more flexible (starting at points in the year other than September); more supportive to those looking for work and which involves more Apprenticeships. Improving the life-chances of our young people in these difficult economic times will require education providers to work more closely with employers.

Foundation learning strategy

- 3.7.14. The first year of the foundation learning strategy has focused on piloting curriculum development in special schools to better meet the learning needs of young people with special educational needs. Young people undertake a programme of learning which is destination-led and covers the key strands of functional skills, personal and social development and subject or vocational learning. As a result of this successful pilot other special and mainstream schools will be developing foundation learning curriculum models. The colleges already offer a range of entry and level 1 programmes post-16 which are foundation learning compliant.

Level 2 and level 3 attainment at age 19

- 3.7.15. There is significant travel to learn movement in and out of Croydon (and London), which means that our residents study at approximately 100 institutions across London and the South East, with Croydon institutions importing a large number of learners from outside the borough. As a result post 16 data is collected by a number of agencies, including the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA), Skills Funding Agency and DfE depending on the type of institution delivering the provision. This is all collated by the YPLA who publish borough level attainment information. This means that the LA does not hold the information required to enable locality data interrogation.
- 3.7.16. There has been continued improvement in the rate of level 2 attainment by age 19. In 2010 the rate increased to 80.2% from 76.3% in 2008. This is above regional (79.7%) and national (78.7%) averages.
- 3.7.17. In Croydon the proportion of disadvantaged young people (using eligibility for free school meals [FSM] as a proxy) attaining level 2 by

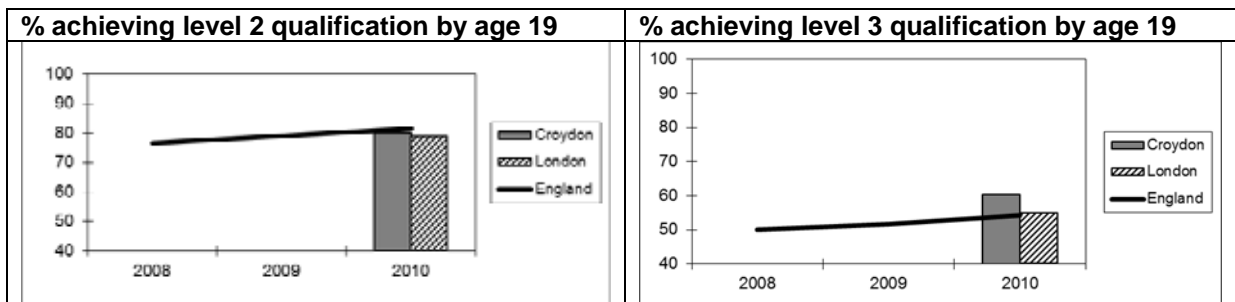
19 has increased. In 2010 69.7% of these young people attained level 2 by age 19 compared to 82.2% of those who were not eligible for FSM. This narrowed the attainment gap to 12.5 percentage points, compared to a gap of 17.2 percentage points in 2008.

3.7.18. Level 3 attainment by age 19 has improved from 54.2% in 2008 to 60.3% in 2010. This is well above regional (56.2%) and national (52.0%) averages. Attainment increased at a faster rate than the regional and national figures demonstrating very good performance.

3.7.19. There has been an increase in young people who are eligible for FSM attaining level 3 by 19 over the last three years. In 2010 42.8% of young people eligible for FSM attained level 3 compared with 61% of those who were not eligible. This narrowed the attainment gap to 18.2 percentage points from 19.2 percentage points in 2008.

3.7.20. Focused local intervention and support to improve KS4 performance (particularly in English and maths) has also had a positive effect post-16. In 2010 85% of learners who attained level 2 at 16 attained level 3 by 19, compared with 28% of those without level 2 at 16. This is higher than the national averages (77% and 17% respectively).

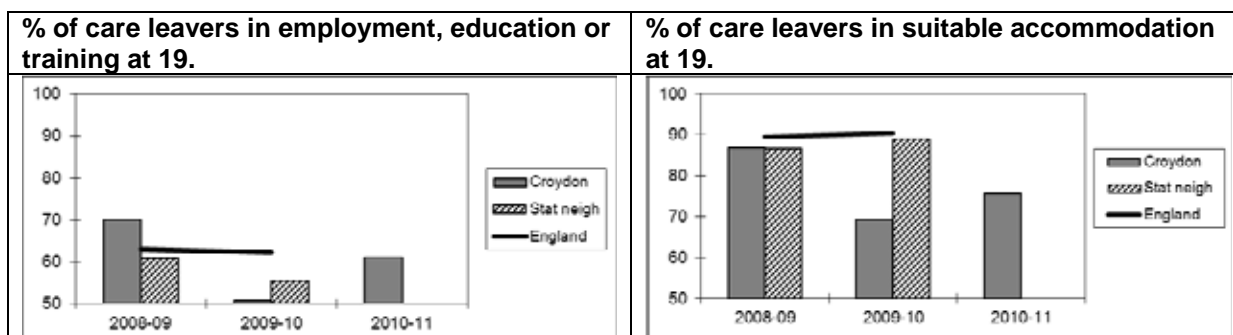
Post 16 collaborative offer



3.7.21. A newly developed Croydon model involves a range of local post-16 providers (schools, academies, colleges and independent providers) working together in a number of collaborative arrangements in response to local learner, community and employer/economic demand. Progression pathways for young people to undertake apprenticeships as an alternative to full-time education need to be strengthened. Croydon Council is currently working with partners to develop a local apprenticeship strategy.

Children and young people who are looked after are helped to achieve economic well-being

- 3.7.22. Intensive work has been conducted to track the post-16 destinations of LAC. Action continues to improve the completion, quality and monitoring of personal education plans and to ensure appropriate education transition planning is in place for all LAC.
- 3.7.23. Additional capacity has been put in place to address NEET rates for LAC.
- 3.7.24. We are developing a needs analysis to assess the status of care leavers in suitable accommodation and will then be able to target resources.



Children and young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities are helped to achieve economic well-being

- 3.7.25. The number of young people aged 16-18 with LDD has been sustained over the last year at around 60 to 80. There has been neither an improvement nor a significant decline in their progress. Some detailed analysis about where these young people are coming from and their specific needs identified that there is high representation in the NEET group of young people with mild to moderate learning difficulties and behavioural emotional or social difficulties (average 75 January to March 2011).

Children and young people from other vulnerable groups are helped to achieve economic well-being

- 3.7.26. The 16-19 commissioning priorities for 2011-12 include improved access to local provision for young people within vulnerable groups (teenage parents, care leavers, offenders) and through

supported employment routes, for example with social enterprise employers.

	Indicator description	Current actual	Source date
NI 46	% of known young offenders who have access to suitable accommodation	93%	Sep 10
NI 45	% of young offenders who are actively engaged in education, training or employments	63%	Mar 11

Views of children, young people and communities

3.7.27. Owing to a greater level of learner choice, funding methodology and competitive nature of post-16 education and training, the 16-19 offer is very much demand-led. Additionally our schools and colleges continually seek learner views to ensure that their curriculum and services continue to attract learners whilst addressing their needs and aspirations.

3.7.28. Learner voice research to inform the development of the borough's post-16 collaborative offer.

Conclusions on priority needs

3.7.29. The Economic Well-being priorities for the Croydon Children and Family Partnerships for 2011/12 are:

- c. Reducing rates of NEET
- d. Suitable accommodation for vulnerable groups

3.7.30. Owing to a rapidly changing policy landscape and implications arising from the current economic climate there is a great deal of uncertainty surrounding the delivery of the post-16 offer. However the findings of this needs analysis suggest that these should remain priorities and that the following should be considered additionally.

- NEET reduction and achieving 100% participation in education or employment with training at age 17 by 2013 and age 18 by 2015, with a particular focus on improving:
 - transition planning into FE, HE and employment with training from year 9 for all young people but particularly the most vulnerable, identifying specific objectives for equality sub-groups.
 - co-ordination across all institutions, agencies and departments dealing with 16-24 year olds, particularly with regards to: data collection and sharing, delivery of appropriate information advice

and guidance, availability of provision to meet the needs of all young people and engagement with local employers.

- Improving the quality of local post-16 provision and meeting the needs of all young people, with a particular focus on improving teaching and learning to:
 - narrow the gap in achievement for disadvantaged young people, identifying specific objectives for equality sub-groups.
 - increase the % of high grades achieved at level 3.
- Strengthening the engagement of children and young people in service development.
- Reducing inequalities and targeting high risk groups

3.7.31. Croydon Youth Council have identified their 'Economic Well-being' priorities, these are:

- Young people are in education training or employment
- Young people have the opportunities to gain skills for training and employment (work experience etc)

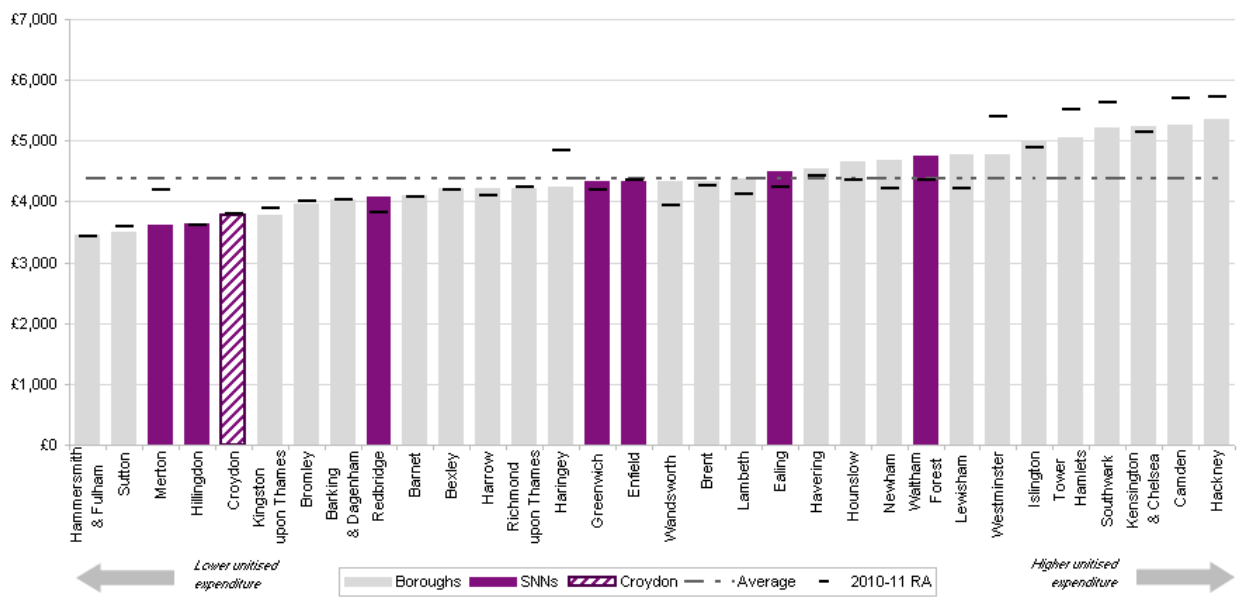
3.8 Value for money, efficiency and effectiveness analysis

Context

- 3.8.1. This section compares the cost and performance of Croydon's services to children and young people, broken down three key service groups;
- Primary Education
 - Secondary Education
 - Social Care for Children
- 3.8.2. This data is sourced from the London Area Performance Solution (LAPS), a benchmarking tool developed in partnership between London Boroughs and Capital Ambition.
- 3.8.3. **Cost data** is drawn from a range of sources and reflects budgeted spend for 2011-12. Raw cost information is standardised using an appropriate unit (e.g. no. of pupils) to ensure a fair comparison.
- 3.8.4. **Performance data** is drawn from the "London Set"; a subset of national indicators which all London Boroughs have agreed to share quarterly. The performance comparison draws on Q1 2011-12 LAPS return, which at the time had the most recent data for each indicator.
- 3.8.5. Cost and performance data are combined to create "bubble plots" to give a high-level overview of how Croydon's relative cost and performance compare with other boroughs.

Primary Education

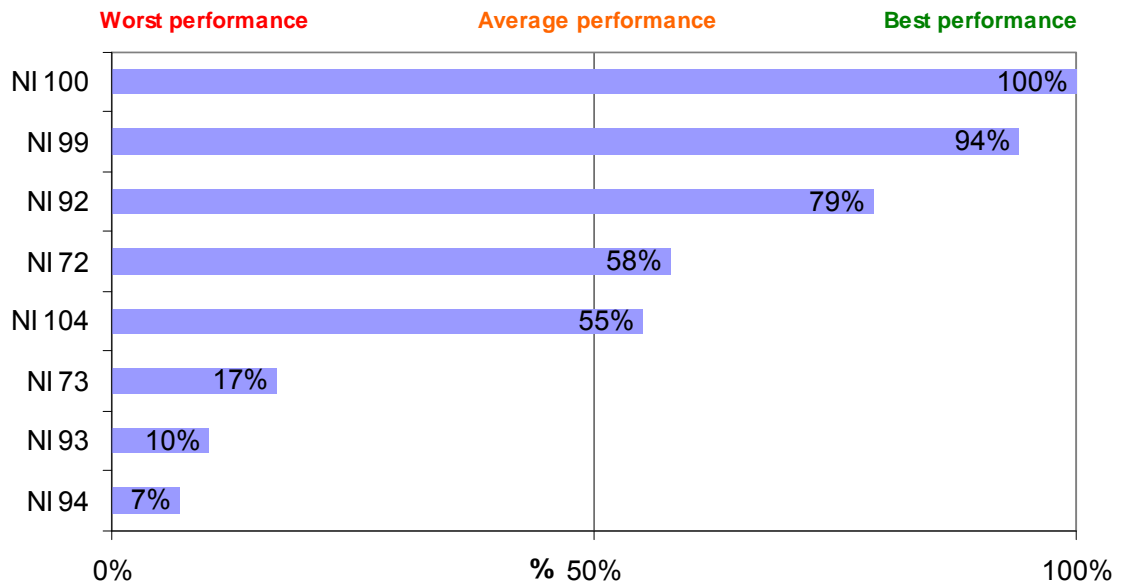
- 3.8.6. **Spend per pupil on primary education** is shown in the following chart:
- For 2011-12, Croydon has the 5th lowest spend per pupil when ranked against the 32 London Boroughs and the 3rd lowest spend when ranked against our 8 statistical nearest neighbours
 - There has been little movement in budget compared with the previous year.



3.8.7. Primary Education – Performance As selection of performance indicators has ranked against all London Boroughs based on the London Set:

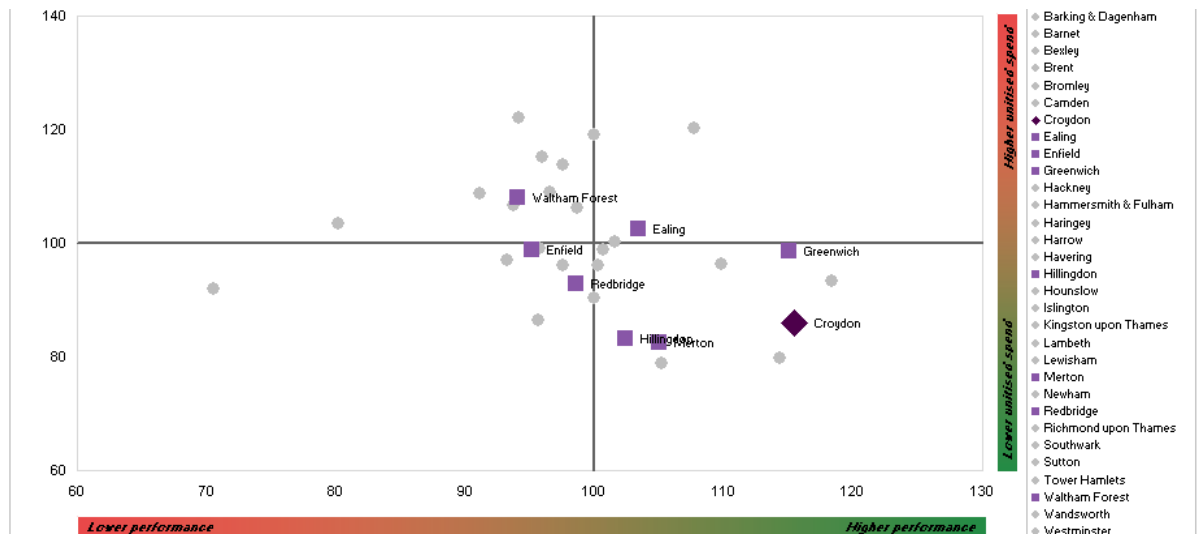
- Croydon is performing above average for 5 out of the 8 indicators listed below
- Generally attainment is below the London average; the % of pupils achieving level 4 KS2 and the progressing by 2 levels between KS 1-2 in English & Maths is below the London average
- The Council is outperforming the London average for looked after children reaching level 4 at KS2 in English and Maths and for SEN pupils achieving KS2

Ref	Title	Ranking
NI 100	Looked after children reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2	ranked 1 st out of 18 returns
NI 99	Looked after children reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2	ranked 2 nd out of 17 returns
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	ranked 4 th out of 15 returns
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 points or more in each of the PSED and CLL scales	ranked 13 th out of 32 returns
NI 104	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap - achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold	ranked 6 th out of 12 returns
NI 73	Percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2	ranked 25 th out of 31 returns
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	ranked 26 th out of 30 returns
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	ranked 7 th out of 30 returns



3.8.8. **Primary Education – Value for Money** is shown in the following chart:

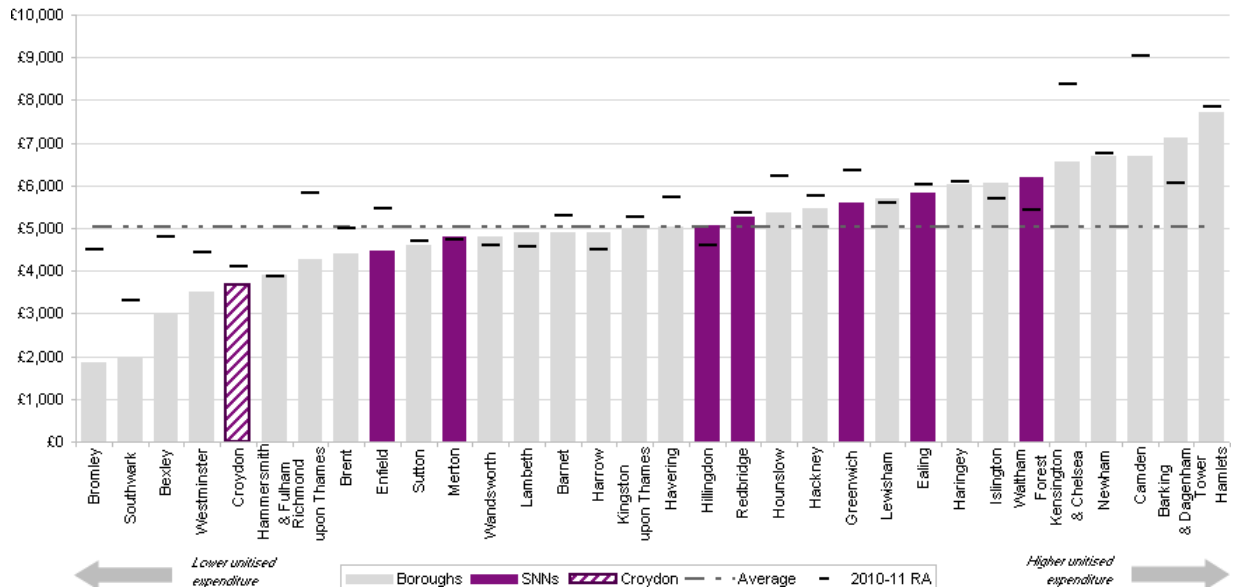
- Using the cost and performance information above we can plot the value for money of primary education in comparison to all the other London Authorities. This is a broad-brush picture for illustrative purposes only.
- Croydon is in the 'higher performance' and 'lower unitised cost' bracket which is the ideal location
- Our statistical nearest neighbours are also highlighted and shows we are providing the best overall VfM



Secondary education

3.8.9. **Spend per pupil on secondary education** is shown in the following chart:

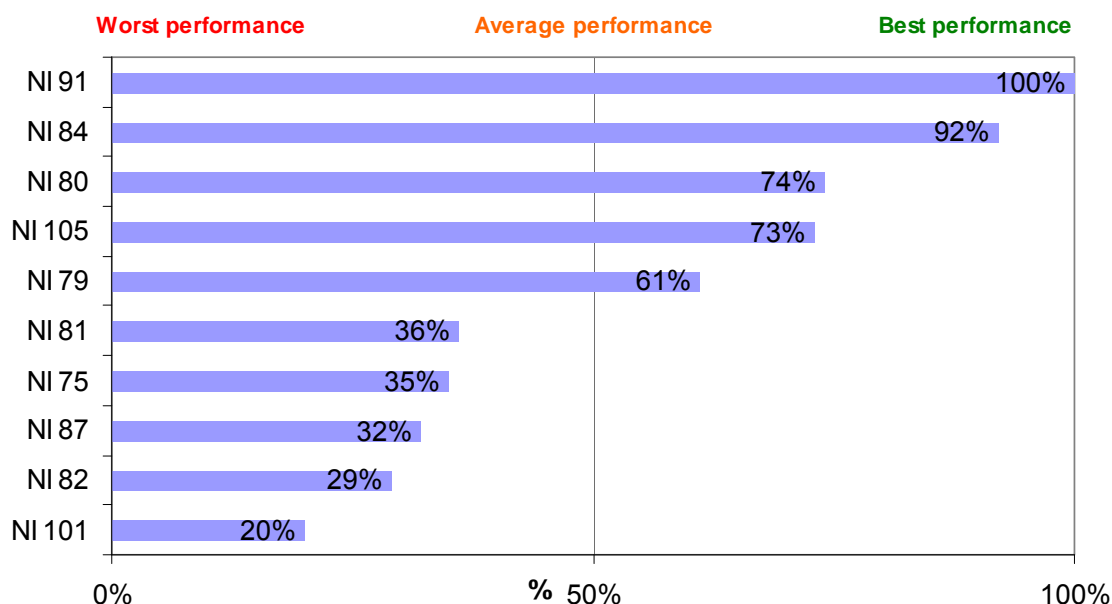
- For 2011-12 Croydon has the 5th lowest budgeted spend per pupil when ranked against the 32 London Authorities and the lowest spend when ranked against our 8 statistical nearest neighbours
- Compared with the previous year there has been relatively little movement in budget.



3.8.10. **Secondary Education – Performance** As selection of performance indicators has ranked against all London Boroughs based on the London Set;

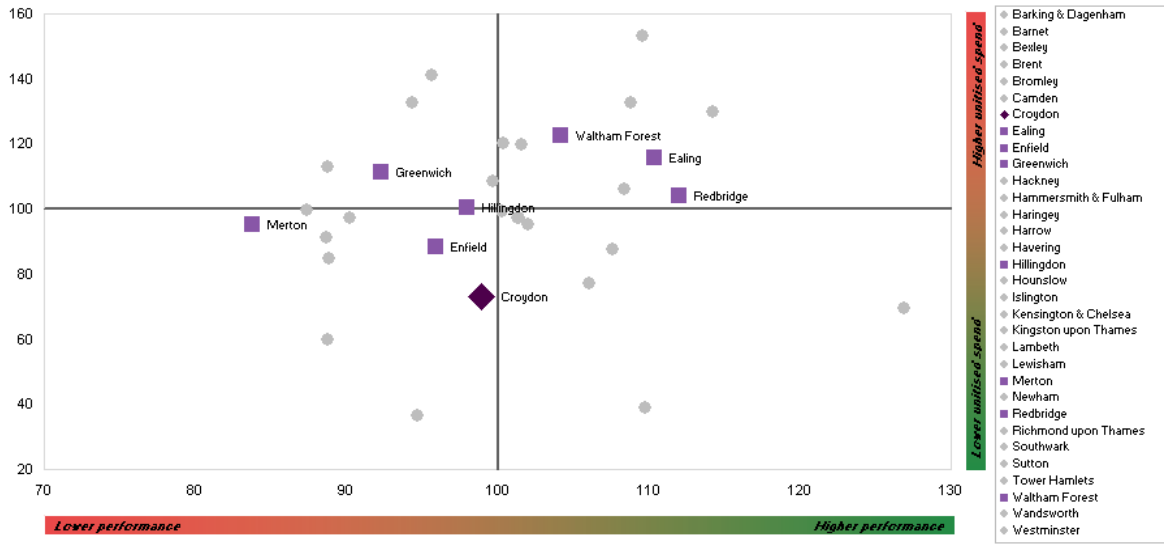
- Croydon is performing above average for 5 out of the 10 indicators listed
- Achievement of 5 or more A* – C grades at GCSE is below London average both for all children and for looked after children
- Croydon's secondary school persistent absence rate is also above the London average
- The Council is outperforming the London average for level 2 & 3 qualification by the age of 19
- We have the highest proportion of 17 year olds in education and training compared with the 7 London Boroughs that replied)

Ref	Title	Ranking
NI 91	Participation of 17 year-olds in education or training	ranked 1 st out of 7 returns
NI 84	Achievement of 2 more A* - C grades in Science GCSE or equivalent	ranked 2 nd out of 14 returns
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	ranked 9 th out of 32 returns
NI 105	The Special Education Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc English & Maths	ranked 4 th out of 12 returns
NI 79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19	ranked 13 th out of 32 returns
NI 81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	ranked 21 st out of 32 returns
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths	ranked 21 st out of 32 returns
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate	ranked 23 rd out of 32 returns
NI 82	Percentage of young people who were in receipt of free school meals who attain level 2 qualifications by the age of 19	ranked 20 th out of 32 returns
NI 101	Percentage of looked after children achieving 5 GCSEs A*-C (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)	ranked 13 th out of 32 returns



3.8.11. **Secondary Education – Value for Money** is shown in the following chart:

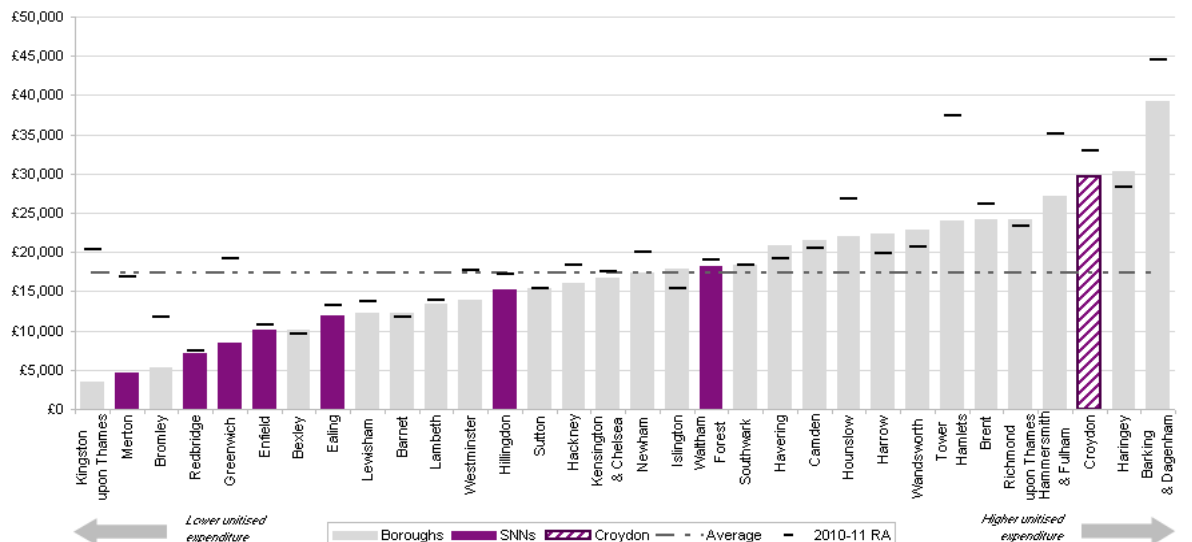
- Croydon is marginally lower than average for performance and lower than average on cost.
- Our statistical nearest neighbours are also highlighted – by comparison we provide average performance at low costs.



Children's Social Care

3.8.12. **Cost per initial assessment** is shown in the following chart:

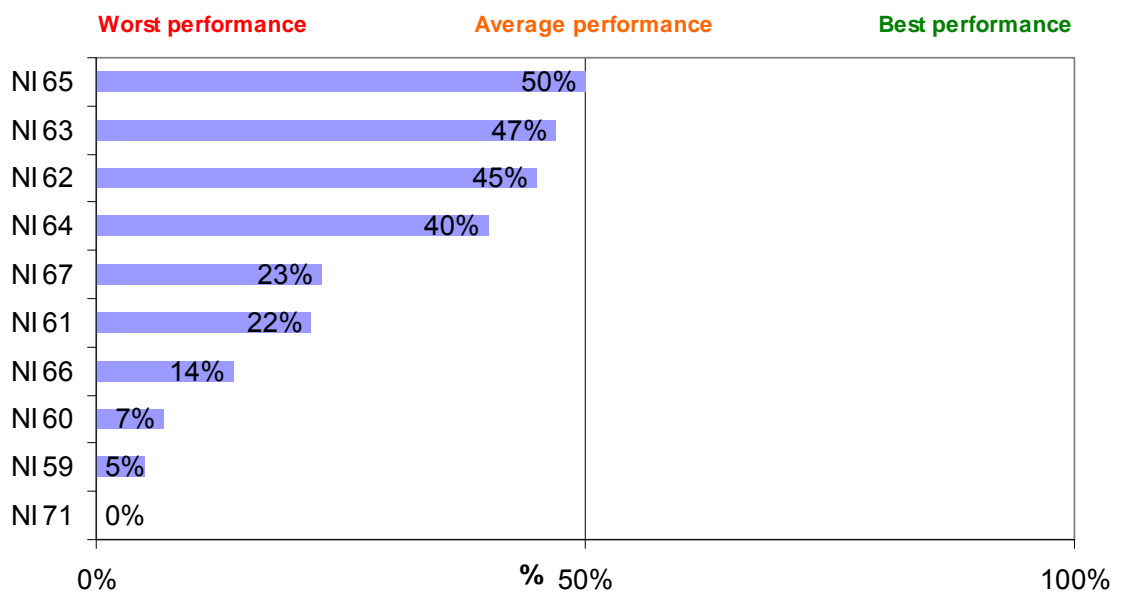
- For 2011-12, Croydon has the 3rd highest spend per child receiving an initial assessment on social care when ranked against the 32 London Authorities and the highest spend when ranked against our 8 statistical nearest neighbours
- Compared with 2010-11 there has been a decrease in budget, although the scale of this is less significant than some other authorities at the higher end of the unit cost spread.



3.8.13. **Children’s Social Care – Performance** As selection of performance indicators has ranked against all London Boroughs based on the London Set;

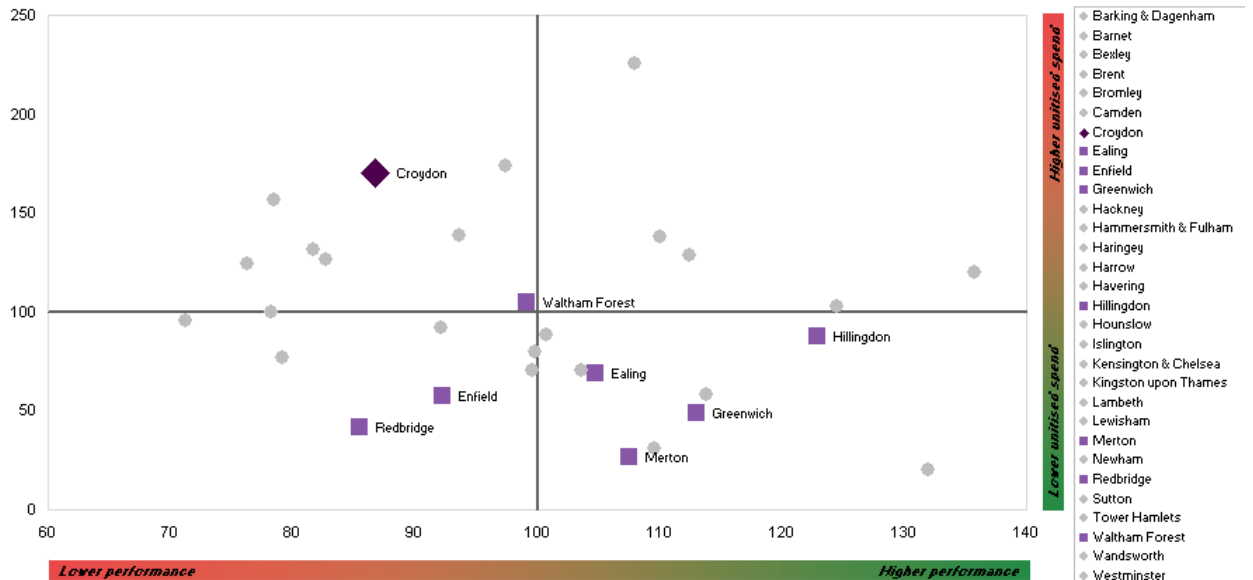
- Croydon is performing below average for 9 out of the 10 indicators listed
- Initial and core assessments carried out within the required time frames is significantly below the London average
- The timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption is the 4th worst out of the 19 Authorities that submitted data

Ref	Title	Ranking
NI 65	Percentage of children becoming the subject of Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	ranked 15 th out of 29 returns
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	ranked 10 th out of 18 returns
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of placements	ranked 11 th out of 19 returns
NI 64	Child protection plans lasting two years or more	ranked 13 th out of 21 returns
NI 67	Percentage of child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales	ranked 21 st out of 27 returns
NI 61	Timeliness of placements of looked after children for adoption following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption	ranked 15 th out of 19 returns
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales	ranked 13 th out of 15 returns
NI 60	Percentage of core assessments for children’s social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement	ranked 27 th out of 29 returns
NI 59	Percentage of initial assessments for children’s social care carried out within 10 working days of referral	ranked 19 th out of 20 returns
NI 71	Children missing from home or care	ranked 24 th out of 24 returns



3.8.14. **Children’s Social Care – Value for Money** is shown in the following chart:

- Croydon just falls into the ‘lower performance’ and ‘higher unitised cost’ bracket
- Our statistical nearest neighbours are also highlighted and comparison shows we provide significantly less value for money when compared to Merton, Greenwich & Hillingdon



Conclusion and recommendations

3.8.15. In conclusion, the value for money analysis shown here suggests the following;

Service	Costs compared with other LBs	Performance compared with other LBs
Primary Education	LOW	GOOD
Secondary Education	LOW	AVERAGE
Social Care for Children	HIGH	RELATIVELY LOW

3.8.16. The recommendations are as follows:

- value for money analysis should be widened in future to other children’s services beyond those delivered by the council to give a broader picture of services
- the focus in the immediate future should be on improving the value for money of children’s social care. The analysis shown here should be used as a benchmark to monitor the impact of, for example, implementing different delivery models and embedding early intervention.

4. Croydon Children and Families Partnership priorities for 2012-13 *(Priorities shared with Youth Council in italics)*

BE HEALTHY	STAY SAFE	ENJOY AND ACHIEVE	POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION	ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
Reduce <i>childhood obesity</i>	Continue to reduce all aspects of bullying	Raise outcomes at key stage 1 and key stage 2 to better than national and statistical neighbours	All agencies <i>improve meaningful participation by and influence of young people</i>	Reduce NEET rates
Improve <i>emotional health and wellbeing</i>	<i>Young people are safe on the streets and on transport</i>	Improve attainment for specific groups, <i>continuing to narrow gaps for vulnerable groups</i>	Young people are enabled to make a positive contribution to society.	Provide appropriate housing for young people, tackling homelessness and improving suitability of accommodation for vulnerable groups
Reduce Infant Mortality	The LSCB also works on priorities to ensure that all agencies make sure that children are safe from maltreatment, neglect and abuse.	Reduce further the levels of fixed term and permanent exclusion	Complete and implement the revision of the gangs strategy	Ensure effective transition for delivery of careers education and improve <i>opportunities for developing work readiness</i>
Reduce risk taking behaviours and the incidence of teenage pregnancy and drug and alcohol misuse		Continue to raise the proportion of schools judged good and outstanding by OFSTED	Continue to reduce serious youth violence	Improve the quality of local post 16 provision

Cross cutting priorities

PARTNERSHIP WORKING	Reduce child poverty	Support strengthening of CAF through communication and learning and development	Support strengthening of joint commissioning through communication and learning and development	Complete and implement revised workforce development strategy
EARLY INTERVENTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT	Strengthen early help through eg redesign and implement children's centre delivery, ensuring effective working of Family Engagement Partnerships for 0-5 year-olds	Strengthen resilience of families with complex needs eg extend Family Resilience Programme to full size, taking into account Troubled Families initiative	Extend the multi-agency front door for early intervention.	Strengthen provision for those in families with domestic violence.
CHILDREN WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES AND/OR DISABILITIES	Implement expansion of local educational provision, supporting local schools to become more inclusive and improve outcomes	Build on multi-agency decision-making for support packages to develop single health, care and education plans	Complete multi-agency LDD strategy to strengthen joint delivery of commissioning and provision development	Further strengthen transition to adult services
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN	Deliver strengthened permanency planning and adoption and improve placement opportunities	Improve physical and mental health outcomes for looked after children	Improve the use of PEPs, educational attainment and participation of care leavers in EET	Improve service user involvement

4.1 Our priorities reflect the key areas for improvement and where we can make most difference by working in Partnership.

5. Action Plans

5.1 To ensure we deliver on our priorities each of our sub-groups have developed detailed action plans. The high level strategic action plan for the Partnership is below.

Children and Families Partnership Action Plan

Be Healthy Action Plan

Partnership Priorities

- Reduce childhood obesity
- Improve emotional health and wellbeing
- Reduce Infant Mortality
- Reduce risk taking behaviours and the incidence of teenage pregnancy and drug and alcohol misuse

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
Reduce Child Obesity	<p>Implementation of childhood obesity action plan.</p> <p>Commission a community multi-component child healthy weight service.</p> <p>Implement health promotion including physical activity, emotional wellbeing and healthy eating for Primary school aged children.</p>	<p>Multi-agency work across 7 Children Centre collaborations; a minimum of 2 prevention and 1 treatment programmes will run in target (high prevalence) areas</p> <p>A locally developed Healthy Schools programme will be rolled-out to all primary schools</p> <p>targeted schools participate in the Food for Life programme.</p> <p>95% of pupils in schools working with School Sports Partnership have at least</p>	<p>Nov 2012</p> <p>Dec 2012</p> <p>March 2013</p>	<p>Steve Morton</p> <p>Health and Well Being Officer</p>	<p>Reduce health inequalities.</p> <p>Schools targeted according to levels of deprivation.</p>

		<p>60minutes of physical activity per day</p> <p>100% primary schools involved in Get Active challenge</p>	March 2013		
Reduce Infant Mortality Rates	<p>To improve patient experience – prior to, during and following child birth</p> <p>To develop an Infant Mortality Strategy which integrates responsibilities of all agencies involved in improving care and outcomes for pregnant women and their infants within three prioritised themes as identified by the Infant Mortality Strategy Working Group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service User experience: <i>from pre-conception, through to the baby's early years</i> 2. Service improvement and engagement: <i>smoking, diet, breastfeeding, signposting to enhanced services, fertility etc</i> 3. Target and support for higher risk groups: <i>service users with complex social factors and needs</i> <p>In addition the themes will each be supported through partnership working and improved data availability, to enable current positions in terms of gaps, needs and successes to be audited and monitored.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan in place with clear objectives; milestones; leads in place 	March 2012		Infant mortality increases for women with complex social factors.

Improve Emotional Health and Well-Being of Children and Young People	Develop Children's and Young People's Emotional Health and Well-Being Strategy 2012-14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan in place with clear objectives; milestones; leads in place. 	Sept 2012	TBC	Children and young people at particular risk of poor emotional health and well-being.
Reduce risk taking behaviours and the incidence of teenage pregnancy and drug and alcohol misuse amongst young people	Implement 2012-13 Teenage Pregnancy Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions implemented as planned. Exception reports identify significant problems. 	March 2013	Public Health Strategic Lead - Young People	Children and young people at particular risk of becoming teenage parents:
	Commission appropriate services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service specifications and SLAs developed and agreed 	April 2012	Public Health Strategic Lead - Young People	
	Develop a Young People's Drug and Alcohol Prevention, Education and Treatment Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action Plan in place with clear objectives; milestones; leads in place 	April 2012	Specialist Strand Manager	Children and young people at particular risk of developing drug and alcohol problems.
	Increase use of DAAT screening tool by local practitioners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % increase in numbers of young people requiring treatment receiving appropriate interventions 	March 2013	TBA	

Stay Safe Action Plan

Partnership Priorities

- Continue to **reduce all aspects of bullying**
- *Young people are **safe on the streets and on transport***

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
Priority 1: Gather information and manage the use of data to further improve our understanding of bullying in Croydon (Equality Objective)	Conduct Social Norms survey 2012	Results from social norm survey helps to identify successes and future priorities.	July 2012	Health and Wellbeing Officer	Schools involved in the survey will reflect the diversity of Croydon.
Priority 2: Involve children and young people so they can inform the strategy. (Equality Objective)	Stay Safe group adopts four school councils that can represent the views of children and those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Schools council, youth council and vulnerable groups contribute to development of strategy	The anti-bullying strategy is informed by the views of children, young people.	Feb 2012	Health and Wellbeing Officer	Through Youth Council, schools councils and other methods of engagement views of range of vulnerable groups contribute to strategy.
Priority 3: Develop and embed best practice in schools and other settings through workforce development, implementation and development of proven researched based interventions and activities.	Support schools to be confident in addressing bullying within their settings including developing campaigns, using curriculum strategies and using restorative approaches through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training • Network events • Directory of practitioners 	Schools have a good understanding of the bullying priorities for their schools and can use a range of strategies to address them. Increase in number of settings using restorative approaches	July 2012 June 2012	Health and Wellbeing Officer	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peer mentoring <p>All educational settings are aware of their responsibility regarding e-safety and practice conforms to guidance.</p>	Croydon E-safety Guidance for schools and educational settings produced and disseminated	Mar 2012		
Priority 4: Maintain and develop communication systems to ensure that schools and other settings are kept updated.	Use Fronter, website, schools bulletin, network events and other media to ensure professionals are kept informed of current developments	Website hits and feedback from professionals on effectiveness of communication is positive.	Ongoing	Health and Wellbeing Officer	
Priority 5: Monitor, review, and evaluate the impact of the strategy.	Analysis and review of Social Norms Bullying Survey, Safeguarding audit and Healthy Schools annual review.	Strategy updated to reflect findings of review	July 2012	Stay Safe sub-group	
Priority 6: Children and young people are safe on the street and on transport (Equality Objective)	Consultation with partners and young people to identify specific priorities	Priorities identified and action plan developed to address these.	March 2012	Stay Safe sub-group Health and Wellbeing Officer	

Enjoy and Achieve Action Plan

Partnership Priorities

- Raise **outcomes at key stage1 and key stage 2** to better than national and statistical neighbours
- Improve attainment for specific groups, *continuing to narrow gaps for vulnerable groups*
- Reduce further the levels of fixed term and permanent **exclusion**
- Continue to raise the proportion of **schools judged good and outstanding by OFSTED**

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
Raise outcomes at key stage1 and key stage 2 to better than national and statistical neighbours (Equality Objective)	Provide bespoke development of the leadership capacity to schools according to need.	Reduce number of schools in categories 3b and 4.	Mar 2012	Cathy Moore	
	Provide literacy and numeracy teaching and learning support and training according to need.	Increased L2 percentage in English and Maths at KS1 and L5 at KS2	July 2012		
Improve attainment for specific groups, <i>continuing to narrow gaps for vulnerable groups</i> (Equality Objective)	Close the attainment gaps for all identified underperforming groups	Lower attainment gap for White FSM pupils as evident at key stages 2 and 4 (KS2 gap currently 34.9%)	July 2012	Helen Powell	Narrowing gaps
	Effective sharing of good practice between schools benefits all pupils regardless of background	Narrow attainment gap at KS2 for BME children (gap fluctuated over time between 5% and 12%).	July 2012		
		Increasing the number of A/A* grades at GCSE gained by students in the borough	August 2012		
Reduce further the levels of fixed term and permanent	Provide further training in 2012-13 on 'behaviour for learning'	Consistently downward trajectory of	July 2013	Paul	Equality objective

<p>exclusion (Equality Objective)</p>	<p>Improved understanding of exclusion statistics and trends</p> <p>Regular school level monitoring of exclusions.</p> <p>Identify and share good practice to reduce exclusion rates between schools, including Academies.</p>	<p>exclusions both fixed and permanent established by July 2013.</p> <p>Reduction in exclusions from target groups</p>		<p>Brightly-Jones</p>	
<p>Continue to raise the proportion of schools judged good and outstanding by OFSTED</p>	<p>Develop leadership capacity and improve the quality of teaching and learning through partnership working</p> <p>All schools are able to access high quality school to school support according to need</p> <p>Raise governors' awareness of the potential benefits of new ways of working to provide more effective leadership</p>	<p>Improved performance at EYFSP, KS2, KS3 and KS4.</p> <p>Gaps reduced between performance of pupils in vulnerable and under achieving groups.</p> <p>Improved average Ofsted leadership grades</p>	<p>August 2012</p>	<p>Carol Nicholls</p>	

Positive Contribution Action Plan

Partnership Priorities

- All agencies **improve meaningful participation by and influence** of young people
- Young people **inform partnership activity** as a matter of course

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
Improve understanding of current practice	Map existing youth participation work within the borough to maximise current opportunities and minimise duplication	Existing participation work collated and centrally accessible.	Mar 2012	Youth Service	Mapping identifies where particular vulnerable groups are under represented within current participation work and so inform planning.
Mechanism to measure how effectively children and young people are influencing provision	Identify a range of indicators to measure how effectively children and young people are influencing provision	Indicators developed and performance against indicators reported to CFP Board quarterly	Ongoing		Performance indicators to include participation of vulnerable groups and those with protected characteristics to ensure that all groups have the opportunity to influence

					provision.
To ensure that the views of children and young people inform the issues and priorities identified in the Children's Services Needs Analysis (CSNA) (Equality Objective)	Structured engagement of children & young people in reviewing progress against priorities in CSNA & informing future issues/priorities	Children and young people's views reflected in CSNA	Sept 2012	CFP sub-groups Children and Families Partnership Manager	Structured engagement of children and young people to ensure that all vulnerable groups and those with protected characteristics inform the review of existing priorities and influence future issues / priorities.
Participation tools to support meaningful participation of children and young people in influencing provision	Identify a range of participation tools to maximise engagement of children and young people in influencing provision	Examples of youth participation tools /resources collated, evaluated and centrally available Forum for identifying and sharing good practice established and used	June 2012 June 2012	Youth Service Croydon Xpress	
Youth Participation Strategy/ Framework (Equality Objective)	To develop a youth participation strategy/framework to ensure children & young people's voices are integral in influencing planning and provision	Strategy published and launched	April 2012		Strategy to reflect participation of vulnerable groups
Youth Council (Equality Objective)	To enhance the role of the Youth Council to ensure that young people influence decision making at all levels.	Members of youth council contribute to planning and decision making across the Children and Families Partnership	Ongoing	CFP Board and sub-groups	

Economic Well Being Action Plan

Partnership Priorities

- Reduce **NEET** rates
- Ensure effective transition for delivery of **careers education** and improve *opportunities for developing work readiness*
- Improving the **quality of local post 16 provision**

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
Reducing NEET and raising participation in Education, Employment and Training (EET), focusing upon those most vulnerable young people (Equality Objective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Early identification and intervention of those young people most at risk of becoming NEET ▪ Commission/provide appropriate EET provision ▪ All service providers in Croydon work in collaboration to contact, engage with and support young people from our most vulnerable groups in a way that suits their individual needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Data collection, sharing tracking and reporting to identify potential NEETs and inform appropriate interventions to reduce the number of young people who become NEET ▪ A broader, more inclusive range of local provision is available providing young people with more choice ▪ Reduced number (% of NEET) of young people, including vulnerable young people, who are NEET: 	<p>April 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Data Protocol task and finish group</p> <p>LA (CFL) Commissioners</p> <p>Participation & IAG task group</p>	<p>Increased participation in education, employment and training will be evidenced across all groups, but significantly in those vulnerable groups of young people who account for large proportions of NEET</p> <p>Evidence of engagement with young people in the development and implementation of services.</p>
Ensure effective transition for delivery of careers education and improve opportunities for developing work readiness (Equality Objective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High quality and appropriate Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) is available to all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ All young people have access to an approved range of IAG tools and materials at local schools, colleges and other partners 	<p>May 2012</p>	<p>Participation & IAG task group</p>	<p>Increased participation in education, employment and training will be</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Young people are ready for employment ▪ There is an effective transition process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A seamless referral process for vulnerable young people is agreed and implemented ▪ Reduced Number (% of NEET) of young people, including vulnerable young people, who are NEET: 			evidenced across all groups, but significantly in those vulnerable groups of young people who account for large proportions of NEET
Improving the quality of local post 16 provision, improving attainment and reducing the inequality gap from KS4 onwards (Equality Objective)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve the quality and increase the volume of high quality places in post-16 education ▪ All partners and providers to provide appropriate targeted support to disadvantaged young people ▪ Share good practice and work collaboratively to improve the quality of local provision, attainment and progression for all young people ▪ Improve accessibility to performance information ▪ Raise the aspirations of all young people to achieve their potential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustain improvement in achievement of 5 good GCSEs, including English and maths ▪ Increase the number of high grades achieved at A level (A*-B) BTEC (Distinction) and apprenticeship completions ▪ Increased number of schools and colleges with post-16 provision graded good or better 	<p>August 2012</p> <p>August 2012</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	Data & Quality task group	<p>Improved attainment levels from KS4 for all young people, but particularly amongst disadvantaged (FSM cohort), vulnerable learners and gifted & talented.</p> <p>Evidence of engagement with young people in the development and implementation of services.</p>

Learning Difficulties and/or Disabilities Action Plan

Partnership priorities

- Implement expansion of local educational provision, supporting **local schools to become more inclusive** and improve outcomes
- Build on multi-agency decision-making for support packages to **develop single health, care and education plans**
- Complete **multi-agency LDD strategy** to strengthen joint delivery of commissioning and provision development
- Further strengthen **transition to adult services**

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
1. Implement expansion of local educational provision, supporting local schools to become more inclusive and improve outcomes (Equality Objective)	Ensure that building programme is completed on time and delivers high quality additional SEN provision	Parents informed about opportunities and demonstrate confidence in local provision	2015	Linda Wright, Anne Moore, Helen Powell	Increased choice for parents and children, access to learning within community
	Establish the education vision for all new and existing provision	10 schools identified across primary and secondary phases for resource bases to deliver enhanced learning provision	May 2012		
	Identify pupils to benefit from new provision	Placement review identifies pupils for expansion in provision learning pathways post 16	From Sept 2012	Liz Webster	
	Increase the range of post 16 education, training employment options available locally that meet the needs of young people with LDD	Additional capacity in place Wider range of learning pathways post 16 Reduction in % of LDD YP NEET.	From Sept 2013		
2. Build on multi-agency	Develop plan for integrated joint commissioning of education, health and	Terms of reference and new joint processes agreed	March 2012	Jane McAllister,	Families experiencing

<p>decision-making for support packages to develop single health, care and education plans</p>	<p>care placements, backed up by a single education, health and care plan for each child</p> <p>Align Continuing Care arrangements within Croydon's new staged intervention process</p>	<p>Financial commitment from all partners</p> <p>Jointly funded packages of support in place</p> <p>Draft single plan developed</p>	<p>April 2012</p> <p>Sept 2013</p>	<p>Linda Wright, John McNally, Mike Corrigan</p>	<p>coherent service response and single interface</p>
<p>3. Complete multi-agency LDD strategy to strengthen joint delivery of commissioning and provision development (Equality Objective)</p>	<p>Develop an inclusion strategy to drive improvement in outcomes for vulnerable young people and implement through service development.</p>	<p>Clear framework in place to guide service development</p> <p>Published first draft of local offer</p>	<p>March 2012</p> <p>July 2012</p>	<p>Helen Powell</p>	<p>The strategy will identify barriers to inclusion for specific groups of children and young people and drive action to address these</p>
<p>4. Further strengthen transition to adult services (Equality Objective)</p>	<p>Finalise and publish transitions protocol to improve outcomes for YP transitioning to adult services.</p> <p>Clarify interface with YPLA</p>	<p>Transition protocol fully embedded in local practice</p>		<p>John McNally, Anne Moore, Mike Corrigan</p>	<p>Young people with LDD experience a positive progression to adulthood</p>

Looked After Children Action Plan

Partnership priorities

Priority 1: Deliver strengthened permanency planning and adoption and improve placement opportunities (Equality Objective)

Priority 2: Improve physical and mental health outcomes for looked after children (Equality Objective)

Priority 3: Improve the use of Personal Education Plans, educational attainment and participation of care leavers in employment, education and training. (Equality Objective)

Priority 4: Improve service user involvement (Equality Objective)

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
1	Implement Commissioning strategy for Sufficiency and Placement Stability to deliver improved outcomes for LAC.	Increased numbers and quality of placements. Improvements in measures of permanence.	July 2012	Paul Chadwick/David Worlock /Procurement Taskforce	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
1	Implement Placement Stability Action Plan to deliver improved outcomes for LAC.	Improvement in measures of placement stability	Dec 2012	Paul Chadwick/Sarah Daly	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
2	Identify ways for embedding the SDQ as a tool for assessing emotional needs of LAC and using this information to inform reviewing and care planning	SDQ's integrated with LAC reviews and care planning	July 2012	Paul Calaminus / Sarah Daly / Paul Chadwick	
2	Develop clear actions to ensure health outcome targets are met for LAC entitlements to: access to health services, healthy diet, obesity reduction, and increased physical activity	Clear actions in place	June 2012	Kate Naish / LAC Health Team / Paul Chadwick	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics

2	Identify gaps in information exchange, protocols, and IT incompatibility to map changes needed to ensure information systems join up	Information shared effectively	July 2012	Kate Naish / Alison Brett / Steve Hall / Paul Chadwick	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
2	Map partnerships in delivery of be healthy outcomes and role of extended partners and accountability / governance for healthy outcomes delivery for LAC and explore potential for shared training opportunities across all partners	Increased clarity of role of partners including schools, housing and policy.	July 2012	Kate Naish	
2	Conduct multi-agency audit of LAC Health Needs and service delivery using the NICE LAC Health Audit Tool	Shared view of health needs	April 2012	Kate Naish	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
3	Develop partnerships with schools in delivering LAC Strategy:	School Heads and governors champion and promote LAC attainment in schools Delegated Teachers are meeting role expectations.	July 2012	Lisa Fenaroli/School heads	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
3	Identify the pattern and duration of exclusions of LAC from schools to identify examples of good practice where exclusion of LAC is low and develop strategies to reduce exclusions	Numbers of LAC exclusions	July 2012	Linda Wright	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
3	Ensure that timeliness and quality of PEPs	95% of PEPs completed within	March 2012	Lisa Fenaroli	

	are monitored to contribute to better enjoying and achieving outcomes for LAC	timescale and reviewed within timescale			
3	Develop coordinated strategy with partners to increase LAC participation: extra curricular activities <u>and</u> in arts and cultural events <u>and</u> organised sports activities to contribute to better enjoying and achieving outcomes for LAC	% LAC engagement in extra-curricular activities Increased engagement in arts and cultural activities Increase engagement in sports activities	July 2012	Children in Care Council/LAC service manager/ Lisa Fenaroli	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics
4	Develop and implement a LAC and Carer Participation Strategy to ensure service users contribute to improvements in services.	Annual report of impact of participation strategy including evidence of how the views of LAC have impacted on the management, planning, and delivery of services. Involvement of Foster Carers in relevant meetings.	April 2012	Paul Chadwick	Relevance for sub groups with protected characteristics

Early Intervention and Family Support

Partnership Priorities

- Strengthen early help through eg redesign and implement **children's centre** delivery, ensuring effective working of **Family Engagement Partnerships** for 0-5 year-olds
- Strengthen resilience of families with complex needs eg extend **Family Resilience Programme** to full size, taking into account Troubled Families initiative
- Extend the **multi-agency front door for early intervention**
- Strengthen provision for those in families with **domestic violence**.

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
1. Re-design children's centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborations ensure all families who can benefit from a service have the opportunity to do so • Vulnerable families (children -9 to 35mths) are identified early and children supported 	<p>Increased reach of vulnerable families</p> <p>All health partners engaged in FEP</p> <p>Learning Communities improve learning outcomes</p>	<p>23.4.12 Cabinet approval</p> <p>Sept 2012</p> <p>2013 LC plans in place</p>	<p>Debby MacCormack, PCT, CHS, GP</p> <p>Denise Clements</p> <p>Pauline Goldrick</p>	Improved targeting of vulnerable young children
2. Extend the Family Resilience Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 complex families with improved outcomes 2013 • Strategy for supporting 785 'troubled families' 	<p>Total 200 families supported March 2013</p> <p>785 troubled families identified</p> <p>Improved service integration for families</p>	<p>March 2013</p> <p>April 2012</p> <p>April 2013</p>	<p>Paula Doherty</p> <p>Paula Doherty</p> <p>Dwynwen Stepien</p>	Improved targeting of vulnerable families

3. Multi-agency 'front door' in place underpinned by effective 'Early Help' model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Early Help' model so that families receive help early • Effective triage and referral to improve targeting and reduce in appropriate referrals 	<p>Increase in nos & quality of CAFs with evidence of improved outcomes where CAFs</p> <p>Phases agreed and 1st phase begun</p>	<p>Oct 2012 – 6 month review on progress</p> <p>Oct 2012</p>	<p>Laura McRoberts</p> <p>Sarah Bright/ Sukriti Sen</p>	<p>Improved early identification of vulnerable and complex families</p>
4. Development of Domestic Violence Strategy incorporating Violence against Women and Girls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preventative strategy that aims to reduce the incidence of DV • Strategy that reduces the impact of DV on lives of victims 	<p>Needs and gaps clear for all partners</p> <p>Service redesign leading to improved services that reduces risk and prevents DV</p>	<p>June 2012 strategy and plan agreed</p> <p>Oct-Dec new services developed</p>	<p>Dwynwen Stepien</p>	<p>Improved outcomes for families experiencing violence and at risk of poorer outcomes</p>

Partnership Working Action Plan

Partnership Priorities

- Reduce child poverty
- Support strengthening of CAF through communication and learning and development
- Support strengthening of joint commissioning through communication and learning and development
- Complete and implement revised workforce development strategy

Priority	High level actions	Measures of achievement	Completion Date	Lead	Equality Impact
Reduce child poverty (Equality Objective)	Following the JSNA deep dive on Child Poverty in Croydon, develop an effective child poverty strategy for agreement by the Partnership to improve outcomes for children and young people living in poverty.	Agreed child poverty strategy place. Evidence of the impact of the strategy on reducing child poverty.	Sep 2012	Sub group members	Strategy must take account needs of groups with protected characteristics
Strengthen CAF through communication and learning and development	Ensure all communication channels including learning and development used to reinforce the Partnership commitment to integrated working and CAF.	Include as key message in Comms strategy. Communications routinely reinforce messages. Reinforcement in most training modules.	Ongoing	LA integrated working manager. Partner reps on PW sub group	
Support joint commissioning work through communication and learning and development	Contribute to the successful setting up of an effective joint commissioning unit.	Unit and operating model agreed and implemented.	To be confirmed	Head of Partnerships and Business Development. LA integrated working manager. Partner reps	

				on PW sub group	
Develop and implement a Partnership workforce strategy	Communicate the final workforce strategy effectively across the Croydon children's workforce.	Strategy widely understood in different sectors.	Sep 2012	LA integrated working manager Partner reps on PW sub group.	Strategy must take account needs of groups with protected characteristics
Develop and implement a Partnership workforce strategy	Communicate the learning and development plan in support of the workforce	Plan widely understood in different sectors. Increased take up of learning and development on offer.	Sep 2012	LA integrated working manager. Partner reps on PW sub group	Plan must take account needs of groups with protected characteristics

Table of Acronyms

ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
ASD	Autistic Spectrum Disorder
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
BMI	Body Mass Index
CAF	Common Assessment Framework
CAMHS	Croydon Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CASH	Contraception and Sexual Health
CiCC	Croydon Children in Care Council
CFP	Children and Families Partnership
CHaH	Children Hospital At Home service
CHS	Croydon Health Services
CiCC	Children in Care Council
CIN	Child in need
CLL	Communication, language and literacy
CPP	Child protection plan
CRB	Criminal records bureau
CUH	Croydon University Hospital

CYP	Children and young people
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DfE	Department for Education
DofE	Duke of Edinburgh
ECM	Every Child Matters
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
EYFS	Early Years and Family Support
FCEs	Finished consultant episodes
FE	Further Education
FNP	Family Nurse Partnership
FSM	Free school meals
GCSE	General certificate of secondary education
GP	General Practice
HE	Higher Education
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue and Custom
HR	Human Resources
HYPE	How Young people Evaluate
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation

IROs	Independent Reviewing Officer
JAM	Just A Minute (Service user feedback card)
JSA	Job Seekers Allowance
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
KS1	Key Stage 1
KS2	Key Stage 2
KS3	Key Stage 3
KS4	Key Stage 4
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Child
LAPS	London Area Performance Solution
LBs	London Boroughs
LD	Learning disabilities
LDD	Learning difficulties and/or disabilities
LEA	Local Education Authority
LSOAs	Lower Super Output Areas
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MMR	Measles, Mumps and Rubella

NCMP	National Child Measurement Programme
NDTMS	National Drug Treatment Monitoring System
NEET	Not in Employment, Education or Training
NFA	No Fixed Abode
NHS SWL	National Health Service South West London
NICE	National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence
NTA	National Treatment Agency
OC2	Outcome Indicators for Looked After Children
OCU	Opiate and/or crack user
OfSTED	Office for Standards in Education
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PEPs	Personal Education Plans
PRU	Pupils Referral Unit
PSE	Personal and Social Education
PSED	Personal, social and emotional development
SEAL	Social and emotional aspects of learning
SEN	Special Educational Needs
SLaM	South London and Maudsley
SM	Substance Misuse

SRE	Sex and Relationship Education
TaMHS	Targeted Mental Health in Schools
TPSPB	Teenage Pregnancy Strategic Partnership Board
UAM	Unaccompanied Minors
UASC	Unaccompanied asylum seeking children
UKYP	UK Youth Parliament
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
VfM	Value for Money
YMCA	Young Men's Christian Association
YOS	Youth Offending Service
YOT	Youth Offending Team
YPLA	Young People's Learning Agency