London and the East
Impact Report: Summary
2014/15
Welcome

The Children’s Society is dedicated to transforming the lives of vulnerable children and young people across London and the East of England, and in 2014/15 we worked with even more disadvantaged children, and achieved an even greater positive impact in the region.

Our research shows that areas of London suffering from the highest levels of deprivation have done so for decades, and that this is inextricably linked to poor educational and health outcomes as well as high levels of crime. We have therefore focussed our work on cluster areas where deprivation is markedly higher than average, and where the need is greatest. Our London Refugee and Migrant Services, for example, which supported 67 young people and families last year, concentrated particularly on the boroughs of Newham, Lewisham, Croydon and Hackney.

Across London we extended and developed our relationships with local authorities, the police, universities, schools, prisons, detention centres, and housing associations, working to improve outcomes for children, young people and families by finding innovative ways to tackle the issues that affect them.

We also have well-established integrated programmes of work in Essex and Central Bedfordshire. Our Bedfordshire Child and Family Support Service provides much added value to the social care teams in the area and seeks to prevent children being placed on the ‘at risk’ register. In Essex, we deliver a range of targeted support for young carers and children at risk of sexual exploitation, and last year our Essex Young People’s Drug and Alcohol Service (EYPDAS) supported 481 young people affected by drugs and alcohol.

There is however, much more we can do. By understanding local need we will continue to build on the strengths and expertise of our organisation whilst maintaining our collaborative work with partners. Across London and the East we are hoping to expand our work with new local authority partners who are interested in working with us to deliver evidence-based and needs-led services that make a real difference to vulnerable young people.

Moving forward, we will continue to build our response to pertinent issues such as child sexual exploitation, trafficking and unaccompanied refugees. With our dedicated workforce and a strong leadership team, we will drive this work forward, building strong partnerships as we go – and ensure that we put vulnerable children and young people at the very heart of what we do.

Sherry Peck
Area Director, London and the East

‘With our dedicated workforce and a strong leadership team, we will ensure that we put vulnerable children and young people at the very heart of what we do.’
How we supported children and young people in 2014/15
London and the East

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of children and young people we worked with</th>
<th>8,826</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total number of children and young people we gave intensive support to</td>
<td>3,783</td>
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<tr>
<th>Number of local policy changes</th>
<th>9</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of national policy changes</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of young people impacted by our policy changes (exceeded external commitment of over 1 million)</td>
<td>1,893,010</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **174** Number of young people and families we supported through The Children’s Society in Oxford

- **23** Number of targeted services for young people we offered

- **77%** Of the young people we worked with who experienced change, 77% experienced positive change

- **87%** Of the families we worked with who experienced change, 87% experienced positive change

- **1** Number of children’s centres we operated for under-fives and their families

- **11** Number of young people we supported through The Children’s Society in Oxford

- **18–24 years old**: 8% of young people
- **11–17 years old**: 8% of young people
- **5–10 years old**: 8% of young people
- **0–4 years old**: 82% of young people

### Our programmes

**London:**
- Camden Child Sexual Exploitation Service
- The US Project (understanding sexual exploitation)
- The Boys and Young Men Project (B&YM)
- Haringey Child Sexual Exploitation Service
- Camden Missing Service
- Haringey Missing Service
- Safe Choices: Leaving Care and Custody
- Family Voice
- Supported Options Project
- Destitution Project
- Tower Hamlets Independent Advocacy
- Haringey Advocacy Project
- Step and Connect
- Rise
- Let’s Communicate Together, Brighton & Hove

**East:**
- Community Hidden Harm Awareness Team (CHHAT)
  - Funded by Big Lottery
- CSE (child sexual exploitation) support, Essex
- Bedfordshire Child and Families Support Service
- The Children’s Society in Oxford
  - Funded by Essex County Council:
    - Choices, Integrated Substance Misuse Provision
    - Provided by The Children’s Society/EYPDAS and Open Road
    - Family Innovation Services delivering Safe in Essex Risky Behaviours Work and Parenting Support

### Our key aims for next year

- We will continue to build strong partnerships and ensure that we put vulnerable children and young people at the very heart of what we do.
- We are hoping to expand our work with new local authority partners who are interested in working with us to deliver evidence-based and needs-led services that make a real difference to vulnerable young people.

### Our contact details

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For further information on our impact for 2014/15, please visit [childrenssociety.org.uk/impact](http://childrenssociety.org.uk/impact)
We are determined to give every child in this country the greatest possible chance in life.

The Children's Society has helped change children’s lives since 1881.
We expose injustice and address hard truths, tackling child poverty and neglect head-on.

Find out more at childrenssociety.org.uk