

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING BOARD

14 FEBRUARY 2017

Children and Young People's Plan and Governance

Board Sponsor

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Author

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Priorities

Older people & long term conditions

Mental health & well-being

Obesity

Alcohol

Other (specify below)

(Please click below
then on down arrow)

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

Educational attainment

Groups of particular interest

Children & young people

Communities & groups with poor health outcomes

People with learning disabilities

Yes

Yes

Yes

Safeguarding

Impact on Safeguarding Children

If yes please give details

Yes

Impact on Safeguarding Adults

If yes please give details

Yes

Item for Decision, Consideration or Information

Decision

Recommendation**1. The Health and Well-being Board is asked to:**

- a) Approve the proposals to refresh the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2017 to 2021 and for the plan to act as framework for a whole-system response to improving outcomes for children, young people and their families;
- b) Approve the proposal to strengthen the, already well-established, Connecting Families Strategy Group and for this group to take responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the refreshed CYPP. This effectively replaces the proposed Children and Families Strategic Group which was never fully implemented; and

- c) Note the timescales for consultation to inform the refresh of the Children and Young People's Plan which includes seeking the views of children, young people and families**

Background

2. The Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2014 – 2017 was approved by the Health and Well Being Board in July 2014. The Plan was developed and owned by the Children's Trust and was a joint, strategic overarching plan for all agencies that work with children and young people. It outlined how partners will work together to improve outcomes for children and young people and set out the vision of how to improve outcomes up to 2017. The CYPP had seven priorities:-

- Children and young people have a healthy lifestyle
- Children and young people reach their full potential in education
- Children and young people are helped at an early stage
- Children and young people are protected from abuse and neglect
- Children and young people grow up in secure and stable homes
- Young people have the life skills they need so they feel ready for adult life
- Children, young people and their parent/carers know where to go for information about services.

3. Since the approval of the plan in 2014, the Health and Well Being Board has received an update around performance in July 2015 and February 2016. The Health and Well Being Board also approved, in May 2015, plans to refresh the Children's Trust governance arrangements and form a Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership – this group was never fully implemented due to changes in leadership and a greater focus on establishing Connecting Families governance.

4. In February 2016, the Health and Well Being Board noted the need to refresh the Children and Young People's Plan in light of the refreshed Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the wider prevention agenda. The Joint Health and Well Being Strategy is an all-age strategy and has three key priorities. The Strategy also outlines the five main approaches to prevention. These are listed below.

- Working together to promote healthy lifestyles
- Helping people to take charge of their health and wellbeing
- Giving good clear information to people
- Planning and buying services that work to prevent people becoming ill.
- Making sure our help goes to those that need it most.

5. Since February 2016 there has also been a number of other changes and developments across the children and young people's sector including:

- Launch of Connecting Families, establishment of a Connecting Families Strategic Group and piloting of new ways of working across Redditch
- Political and Senior Officer Leadership Changes (new Cabinet Member, Director and Assistant Director posts)
- Refocus of the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Board governance arrangements including monitoring the effectiveness of early help arrangements

- Single safeguarding Ofsted inspection with regard to the help, care and protection of children and young people
- Development and launch of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan which has a clear focus on prevention
- Launch of Worcestershire County Council's Corporate Plan 2017-2022
- Development of the Children and Families integrated commissioning group which brings together commissioners of services for children and families to work collaboratively in commissioning efficient and effective services
- A plethora of commissioning and service re-design activity across children and family focused services including the 0-19 prevention service re-design which was underpinned by an early help needs assessment

6. It is now intended to refresh the current CYPP in order to create a framework for a whole-system response in improving outcomes for children, young people and families. The Health and Well Being Board are asked to approve this approach.

Children and Young People's Plan 2017 – 2021

7. Throughout the life of the previous CYPP there have been a number of improvements that have been made including:-

- The number of young people who are in education, employment or training has increased from 95% to 97%;
- 9 out of 10 of schools are now judged as good or better by Ofsted;
- The rate at which under-18s are admitted to hospital for alcohol-specific conditions has decreased in Worcestershire, bringing us into line with the national average and other similar areas;
- There has been an 18% rise in the number of children adopted since 2014/15
- 70% of young people are now achieving 5 or more good GCSEs
- Waiting times for Children's mental health services has reduced from an average of 23 weeks (referral to partnership appointment) as at June 2015 to an average of 11 weeks as at November 2016. Average wait for a first appointment (Choice appointment) was 3 weeks in Nov 2016.

8. However, there are still a number of areas of concern and potential priorities for greater scrutiny and oversight within the refreshed CYPP. These include:-

- School readiness (Early Years Foundation Stage Profiles) and the broader range of health inequalities for the under 5s;
- Key Stage 2 results continue to be below expectations;
- Growing prevalence of children diagnosed with special education needs and disabilities and understanding what support may be needed to meet their needs;
- Education attainment of vulnerable pupils including those eligible for free school meals, looked after children and children with special education needs and disabilities. The gap is still too big between these vulnerable groups and their peers;
- Progress of Care Leavers into suitable accommodation and education, employment and/or training. 48% of care leavers are currently not in education, employment or training;
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of children and young people;

- Demand on social care at every level (Children in Need, Child Protection and Looked After Children) and the capacity, capability and quality of social care practice;
- Greater focus on working with communities and those organisations that work closely with communities (e.g. Parish Councils and the Voluntary and Community Sector) to find solutions to enable them to help themselves; and
- Rapid growth in housing planned across Worcestershire. This is important as it will potentially mean large changes in the population of the county, most likely a steeper increase than is currently being projected.

9. Improving outcomes for children and families and tackling the challenges outlined in section 6 will require partners and service users to work collaboratively and co-operatively. The refreshed CYPP will need to focus on values and creating the right conditions and relationships for a whole-system response. For example consideration will need to be given to:

- Taking the children, families, communities' perspective and understanding the system and services through their eyes
- A focus on putting people (i.e. children, young people and families) first and agency second
- Making changes based on data and knowledge
- Considering the whole system end-to-end so everyone plays their full part and is adding value
- Putting solutions in the hands of those that need to deliver change

Strengthening the governance across the Children and Families Sector

10. Ofsted carry out inspections of Local Authority services with regard to the help, care and protection of children and young people. Worcestershire's inspection took place from 24 October to 17 November 2016. The report was published on the 24th January 2017 with the overall judgement being inadequate. Within the report, Ofsted highlighted the Connecting Families programme as a positive new way of working in Redditch. They state that this needs further strategic ownership by partners to implement the model (whole-system approach to improving the way in which agencies work together) across the county.

11. Ofsted also highlighted that without a up to date CYPP and functioning Strategic Group there is ***"a lack of strategic drive and reviewing mechanisms that ensure effective progress of partners individually and collectively to make sure services for children and families are integrated and outcomes for children are improving"***

12. To respond to this feedback it is proposed that the existing Connecting Families Strategic Group take ownership of the development and implementation of the CYPP. This forms part of their existing remit and ambition of taking a whole-system response to overcome challenges that prevent and/or delay positive outcomes for children, families and vulnerable individuals and transform the way public services are delivered to improve outcomes, reduce demand and use 'Worcestershire Pound' more effectively.

13. To do this the membership of the Group will need to be strengthened so key individuals such as the Director of Children, Families and Communities and equivalents within partners agencies e.g. Health and Police are playing their full part. It is also

proposed that the Connecting Families Strategic Group is a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing board and replaces what was the intended Children and Families Strategic Group. A draft terms of reference are attached in the Appendix and the Health and Well Being Board are asked to approve this approach.

Next Steps and Consultation

14. There are a wide range of strategies, plans and partnerships, both owned by Worcestershire County Council and wider partners, that need to be embedded within the new CYPP; these are all inextricably linked and critical to the delivery of our future vision for Children and Young People.

15. These strategies, plans and partnerships need to be identified and links made to any ongoing priorities and engagement with children, families and communities. They will include for example

- Strategies – Prevention and Early Intervention, Corporate Parenting, Care Leavers
- Partner plans – Clinical Commissioning Groups, Police, and District Councils
- Partnerships – Health and Wellbeing, Safeguarding, Crime and Disorder, Schools

16. As part of the current Connecting Families work data is being pulled together to help determine where focus and effort should be place in improving outcomes. This work also includes drawing on the knowledge and experience of partners across Worcestershire in terms of their understanding of the needs, issues and concerns evident in the county. The data, knowledge and evidence gathered will be used to inform the future priorities for the CYPP.

17. A wide ranging consultation and co-production plan will be drawn up which will include engagement with children, young people, parents, carers and staff who work with them including:

- Social Care Teams
- CCGs
- Health Visitors
- Police
- Schools
- Family Support
- CAMHs
- Speech and Language
- Voluntary Sector
- Districts
- Parenting
- Housing Providers
- Sexual Health

18. A variety of consultation methods will be used to maximise the level of engagement. These will include

- surveys – linking to those already done by WCC and partners eg Viewpoint
- workshops
- practical sessions with established groups
- interviews
- and focus groups.

Timescales	Action
February 2017 – April 2017	Identification of strategies, plans and partnerships links made to any ongoing priorities and engagement with children, families and communities

Feb 2017 – April 2017	Mapping against other strategies, plans and partnerships - to build on existing plans and events
April 2017	Detailed consultation plan will be in place and shared with the Health and Well Being Board
Feb 2017 - August 2017	Consultation activities take place
August 2017	Plan is collated
October 2017	New CYPP Launched

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Supporting Information

- Children and Young People's Plan 2014-2017
- Draft terms of reference for Connecting Families Strategic Group