

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD: 26th NOVEMBER 2020

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

LEICESTERSHIRE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP PLAN 2018 – 2021: PROGRESS UPDATE

Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Board a progress update on the Children and Families Partnership Plan 2018-21 and revised Terms of Reference for the Children and Families Partnership Board.

Link to the local Health and Care System

2. The Children and Families Partnership Plan is aligned to the Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan and focuses on the added value of approaching strategic priorities across the partnership to ensure consistent communication and service delivery to children and families.

Recommendation

3. The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:
 - a) Note the progress in delivery of the Children and Families Partnership Plan 2018-2021;
 - b) Approve the Children and Families Partnership Board's revised Terms of Reference.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

4. In November 2016 the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the Terms of Reference for a Children and Families Partnership to replace the Supporting Leicestershire Families Executive as a subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The expanded remit included oversight of how the priorities for children and families as set out in the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, are delivered.
5. In May 2018, the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the Children and Families Partnership Plan for 2018 – 21 and requested that it received regular progress updates.

Background

6. The Children and Families Partnership Plan is a strategic document which sets out the shared vision for children, young people and their families and the priority outcomes that need to be improved. The Plan is not intended to be a detailed

description of the individual work of each partner, but rather a summary of key areas of work that are best delivered together to have the biggest impact on the lives of children and young people.

7. The Partnership have adopted the five supporting outcomes of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy relating to children and young people as the priority areas for the Plan. The five priorities are:
 - i. *Ensure the best start in life*– by developing an integrated early years pathway which ensures needs are assessed to enable appropriate interventions are offered and the development of a communication strategy to promote the 1001 critical days;
 - ii. *Keep children safe and free from harm* – by developing and embedding an integrated model of services to prevent harm to children and young people and make children safe by raising awareness of universal safety messages;
 - iii. *Support children and families to be resilient* - by developing an integrated approach to family resilience and self-sufficiency, provide joined up information and guidance to enable families to be self-sufficient and navigate services and support families to progress towards work;
 - iv. *Ensure vulnerable families receive personalised, integrated care and support* – by providing integrated, outcome-based, high quality, cost-effective provision and developing a post-16 multi-agency delivery model;
 - v. *Enable children to have good physical and mental health* - by developing a whole system approach based on ‘Making obesity everyone’s business’ and developing a partnership approach to emotional and mental wellbeing;

Progress to date

8. Mrs D. Taylor CC was appointed as the Chair of the Children and Families Partnership in July following Mr I. D. Ould CC retirement as Lead Member for Children and Families. Mrs Taylor met with priority leads in September to request a review of current action plans in readiness for the refresh of the Partnership Plan, due in March 2021. Priority leads were asked to consider any action required in response to the Covid-19 pandemic as part of their updates. The Partnership agreed that the current five priority areas and key actions were still relevant for 2021-23, and the focus of actions should remain on identifying where improved partnership working would add value. The draft action plans (Appendix A) will be shared with the Partnership Board at its meeting on the 18 November 2020 for approval.
9. Priority leads have continued to work with partners and other key stakeholders to deliver the current action plans. It is important to note that the pace of delivery and progress of actions has been affected by Covid-19 due to resources being re-focussed on responding to the pandemic. Key progress from November 2019 includes;

Priority 1 - *Ensure the best start in life*

- The successful implementation of the “Graduated Approach” to assist children at risk of delay being identified early and referred to appropriate services for support,

including an Advice Line, support visits from Area SENCOs, half-termly drop-ins for providers to talk through concerns with a range of professionals and an online toolkit for schools and preschools. Face to face meetings have been paused due to the pandemic and advice is currently being provided remotely;

- Support to 35 children from Inclusion Practitioners to maintain their school place in reception classes. Support has increased children's attendance as well as staff confidence;
- Delivery of a 1001 critical days leaflet and poster campaign in December with 3000 leaflets sent to schools, surgeries and public-facing/community buildings around the county, public events and a social media campaign to promote the key messages. A campaign webpage was also established, which serves as a one-stop shop for information for new parents.

Priority 2 - Keep children safe and free from harm

- Implementation of a partnership delivery plan for Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) is in place. The plan contains 89 actions set to the 5P's – pursue, prevent, prepare, protect and partnership and is being monitored by the Child Vulnerability Ops group;
- The launch of LLR CCE Standards in November 2019;
- The update of the Terms of Reference and Strategy for the CCE hub;
- The compilation of a joint data set including all LLR authorities, Police and health data;
- Securing Violent Crime Surge monies to fund CCE co-ordinator, referral assistant and analyst posts to support the delivery of CCE work;
- The launch of a short video briefing to all GP's across LLR in October.

Priority 3 - Support children and families to be resilient

- Closure of the existing action plan in November 2019 due to all actions being completed or ended;
- Induction of Julia Smith, Chief Officer, Communities and Wellbeing, Harborough District Council as the new the lead for this priority;
- Work with the Early Help Partnership to develop a refreshed action plan, focussed on the effective partnership delivery of early help services. A workshop was held in July to begin discussions and a further workshop is planned for December to finalise governance processes and confirm shared priorities for action.

Priority 4 - Ensure vulnerable families receive personalised, integrated care and support

- Development of an LLR SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy due to go for consultation in December 2020;

- Development of the Inclusions Pathway and launch of the Inclusion Service website <https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/inclusion-service> ;
- Development of the new Assessment and Resource Team (ART) service due to be launched in January to provide therapeutic services that support step-downs from residential care;

Priority 5 - Enable children to have good physical and mental health

- Completion of maternal healthy weight Making Every Contact Count (MECC) training materials;
- Launch of the Make Your Move for a Healthy Pregnancy leaflet.
- In relation to ACEs/Trauma-Informed Practice workforce development:
 - i. Delivery of virtual workshops on 'An Introduction to ACEs and Trauma-Informed Practice' commissioned by the Violence Reduction Network (VRN) to 681 attendees from five different sectors. Post-training surveys are now being analysed and will be shared with the Partnership;
 - ii. Completion of the design of the Safeguarding Children Partnership's half-day training session. 12 colleagues from across the partnership have attended the train-the-trainers and delivery is being scheduled for 2020/21 and beyond;
 - iii. Delivery of the Childhood Adversity (ACEs) Project training offer by Leicestershire Partnership Trust (LPTs) to Early Help teams in local authorities;
 - iv. Three screenings of the Resilience film to Leicestershire County's Education team, Rutland School's Designated Safeguarding Leads and LPT Family, Young People and Children Service;
 - v. Development of a suite of supporting resources, available to all partners on the VRN website.

Youth Campaign Group

- In response to knife crime having been identified as the key issue in the 2019-20 national 'Make Your Mark' youth ballot, a script has been written by young people for a video to raise awareness of the impact of knife crime. Filming was due to take place in the spring but has been delayed due to the pandemic. The group are therefore working with the Council's communications team to produce the film in an animation format instead;
- The Youth Campaign Group have contributed to the consultation on the County Council's Environment Strategy and continues to work with officers to develop ideas for the 2020-21 campaign on the key issue affecting the environment.

Future Developments

10. Work over the next six months will include:
- The launch of the refreshed Partnership Plan for 2021-23;
 - Communications campaign to promote the benefits of early years provision for all children but especially those who are more vulnerable, including the launch of a school readiness video for parents of 3 and 4 year olds;
 - The introduction of an appointment system for virtual meetings to enable early years providers to receive multi-professional advice to support vulnerable children;
 - The development of a protocol for extending the CAMHS offer to aged 25 for care leavers;
 - The launch of the new Assessment and Resource Team (ART) service;
 - Approval and launch of the SEND Joint Commissioning Strategy;
 - Development of a trauma-informed strategy and workforce development plan to progress work around ACEs;
 - Roll out of the maternal healthy weight Making Every Contact Count (MECC) training.

Revised Terms of Reference

11. The Children and Families Partnership identified that an updated Terms of Reference was required in order to reflect the decision to strategically align the Leicestershire Education Excellence Partnership, SEND and Inclusion Board, Youth and Justice Partnership Board and the Early Help Partnership to the Children and Families Partnership. The draft terms of reference and governance diagram are included as Appendix B and will be presented to the Children and Families Partnership Board on the 18 November for approval prior to their consideration by the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Background papers

Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board – 24 May 2020 – Leicestershire Children and Families Partnership Plan 2018-2021

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1038&MId=5298&Ver=4>

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List of Appendices

Appendix A – Draft Action Plans

Appendix B - Draft Terms of Reference

Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality and Human Rights Implications

12. The Partnership has an interest in ensuring that there are effective arrangements in place so that the services provided meet the identified needs of local people. An EHIRA assessment has been carried out in relation to the impacts of the Plan.