

MEETING:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
MEETING DATE:	18 November 2014
TITLE OF REPORT:	Knowing our children: priority setting and progress of the children and young people's partnership
REPORT BY:	Assistant Director, Education and Commissioning

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not an executive decision.

This is not a key decision.

Wards Affected

County-wide

Purpose

To enable the health and wellbeing board to provide direction to the development of the children and young people's partnership (CYPP).

Recommendation(s)

THAT:

- (a) the health and wellbeing board note and endorse the development of the children and young people's partnership; and**
- (b) Consider how children and young people should influence the work of the health and wellbeing board; and**
- (c) Receive an update on the work of the children and young people's partnership in March 2015.**

Alternative options

- 1 No alternative options are provided as this is a report for consideration.

Reasons for recommendations

- 2 The health and wellbeing board has agreed that the children and young people's partnership forms parts of its governance arrangements and that it provides a specific focus on outcomes for children and young people in Herefordshire. This report enables the health and wellbeing board to oversee the work of the children and young people's partnership and to influence its development.

Key considerations

- 3 The health and wellbeing board has recognised the children and young people's partnership as a key group within its governance arrangements.
- 4 The children and young people's partnership is positioned to fulfil the existing legislative requirements of the local authority and its partners. Previously the children and young people's partnership fulfilled the statutory duties of a children's trust. For a period of time in Herefordshire the work of this partnership changed to reflect the new expectations of central government. In retrospect this resulted in an absence of system wide strategic leadership and direction specifically related to children and young people in Herefordshire, with a light touch approach to multi agency developments.
- 5 The lead member for children and the director of children's services have led the partnership approach over recent months and led the agreement from all parties that the partnership should take a much more proactive and planned approach to system wide change in key priorities in Herefordshire, driving improvement in outcomes, quality and cost reduction.
- 6 This has been informed by a joint planning session with the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children's Board and the Children and Young People's Partnership which considered the respective roles of each group, the progress on the priorities of the partnership over the past year, the needs analysis which was commissioned by the Partnership (Children Integrated Needs Assessment – CINA) and the current priorities from each agencies perspective.
- 7 The following key issues for children and young people in Herefordshire have been prioritised to be effectively addressed through a transformative partnership approach
 - **Improve outcomes for children with a disability** – including an integrated pathway to improve engagement with children, young people and families; improved information, advice and guidance to enable greater independence, choice and control of their lives, delivery of the children and families act 2014 in relation to education, health and care plans, the local offer, personalisation; transition into adulthood (presentation on content attached as Appendix 2)
 - **Develop a 'think family' approach and culture across the partnership** to target resources and support vulnerable families, including addressing the troubled families agenda. This builds on the successes already achieved - 204 families have reduced crime/anti social behaviour and children are attending school regularly, 38 families have adults into continuous employment, 57 families have progressed towards employment, £1.139m funding into the county
 - **Reduce the number of young people offending** – particularly those identified as offending for the first time where Herefordshire appears to have disproportionately high numbers. This mirrors the Community Safety Partnership

priority to reduce offending and reoffending to ensure there is only one priority with the different partnerships pooling their activity

- **Improve the emotional and mental health and wellbeing of children, young people and their parents and carers** – identified as a specific issue for children and young people in Herefordshire, across the continuum of need and age range. In the absence of an up to date strategy and approach, work has been done to establish an emotional health and wellbeing strategy for children and young people that will then contribute to the overall mental health needs analysis and strategy that is being developed. (attached as Appendix 3)
 - **Improve outcomes for our youngest children (aged 0-5 years)** – particularly those related to relatively poor dental health, vaccinations, readiness for school, development of language and communication, and the performance of vulnerable groups in a range of measures including end of foundation stage at school. The partnership has placed a strong emphasis on knowing our communities and the recent development of data packs and analysis for each children centre area has improved our understanding and clarity on specific changes that need to take place for specific communities.
- 8 The partnership is developing the plans to address these priorities over the next two months, with leadership for each priority coming from different members of the partnership. The expectation is that these pieces of work will necessarily look across the child, adult and community agendas. For example a key part of the children with disabilities priority is the development of an integrated pathway, through to adulthood and adult services, including adult social care and adult mental and physical health services, as well as employment and housing.
- 9 The partnership has established an executive group made up of the range of partners as set out in statutory guidance and is chaired by the lead member for children's wellbeing. The full list is attached at annexe 1.
- 10 The executive is supported in its work by a smaller steering group. The first task of the steering group is to develop plans to address each of the five priorities, building on work that is already in place for such areas such as children with disabilities. This work needs to be driven and actively supported and the partnership has agreed to the development of a business office to support the partnership work. This is being put in place using existing resources from the council. The development of these priorities will form the basis for the children and young people's plan for April 2015 onwards. This plan will be presented to the health and wellbeing board for its endorsement as part of the development of the plan.
- 11 The steering group is made up of the following:–
- Children with disabilities workstream lead – Chris Baird, Herefordshire Council
 - Think family workstream lead – Philippa Granthier, Herefordshire Council
 - Youth offending workstream lead – Phil Kendrick, Youth Justice Board
 - Mental health workstream lead – Mark Hemmings, 2gether NHS Foundation Trust
 - Early years 0-5 workstream lead – Emma Allen, Wye Valley NHS Trust
 - Assistant director, education and commissioning children's wellbeing, Herefordshire Council
 - Assistant director safeguarding and family support, children's wellbeing Herefordshire Council
- 12 The membership of the steering group will be reviewed as the work develops

Children's Voice

- 13 The partnership recognised that significant improvements have to be made to ensure that the voice of children and young people is at the heart of the work of the partnership and of individual agencies. The partnership has agreed the following statement to recognise the voice of children and young people:
- "We know our children and young people; their journey and what they need, because we have listened to them, learnt lessons...and acted on their views"*
- 14 There is a commitment from all partners to use this actively in their individual work.
- 15 The partnership has also agreed an approach to enable the voice of the child to be heard. The initial thinking for the approach was done in conjunction with HVOSS and will now be delivered through procurement. The approach is being funded by Healthwatch, the Herefordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, public health and children's wellbeing. There may be opportunities for work undertaken by the health and wellbeing board to utilise this approach and enhance how the voice of the child can influence the work of the board.
- 16 The partnership has also adopted the following logo which will be used as part of the approach to raise the profile of the work of the partnership: The logo was created by children and young people in Herefordshire as part of a competition to create art work to be used in children's services



Potential Impact of the Partnership

- 17 There are significant opportunities to develop the partnership approach and maximise the influence of individual partners and the use of resources. Partners within the CYPP are committed to developing such opportunities, recognising that this will change the nature of the partnership and the work that takes place. This should include changing models of service delivery (for example to address emotional health and wellbeing), enabling children and families to have more responsibility for their own wellbeing and outcomes alongside managing down demand and cost (for example the developments for children with disabilities including personal budgets, short breaks and respite) The children's wellbeing directorate is committed to working with the partnership on all significant developments such as the approach to early years, mental health etc. and will incorporate its Children in Herefordshire Improvement and Partnership Programme (CHIPP) into the children and young people's partnership Herefordshire's approach to Families First (troubled families) has been discussed previously at the Health and Wellbeing Board, alongside the commissioning priorities for children and young people. Government has approved the extension of the national troubled families programme for a further five years from 2015/16, indicating that potentially up to £2.6m could be brought into Herefordshire to support families and fundamentally turn around their lives. The new programme will also provide much more local opportunity and determination to focus on local needs of families.

- 18 The agreement to join the extended programme will require a formal decision through council governance routes, but that decision must be supported by partners on the Health and Wellbeing Board actively signing up to support the extended programme. A further detailed report on the extended programme will come to the Board in early 2015 This is a particular area where the Health and Wellbeing Board could play a more active role in ensuring effective partnership work.

Community impact

- 19 The work of the partnership contributes to the health and wellbeing strategy of Herefordshire by providing a specific and dedicated focus on improvement for children, young people and their families. The work of the partnership will necessarily focus and engage with communities, including communities of interest such as those involved with children with disabilities.

Equality and human rights

- 20 The work of the partnership will support the council in its equality duty as it will demonstrates the advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between young people. This would support the General aims of the Equality Act.

- 21 All partners have to pay due regard to the public sector equality duty as set out below:

Note: Under Section 149, the "General Duty" on public authorities is set out thus:

"A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to -

eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct ... prohibited by or under this Act;

advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it."

Partnership developments will be expected to conform to the requirements of the duty.

Financial implications

- 22 There are no specific financial implications contained within the recommendations. There are significant financial resources across partners focused on the priorities of the children and young people's partnership, and specific proposals on the use of and reshaping of resources will form part of the partnership plan.

Legal implications

- 23 Children Act 2004 Section 10 places a duty on Local Authorities to make arrangements to promote co-operation with its relevant partners (as outlined below) in promoting the wellbeing of children and young people under 18 which includes

safeguarding and welfare of children. The duty to co-operate normally takes the form of a Board or group ie Children's Trust Board.

24 The Children and Families Act 2014 Section 28 provides that a local authority must co-operate with each of its local partners to work together to deliver support and services to the children and young people with SEN and/or disability they are responsible for.

25 ***'Relevant partners' under section 10 of the Children Act 2004 continue to be:***

- *District councils*
- *Strategic health authorities*
- *Primary Care Trusts*
- *Youth offending teams*
- *Police*
- *Probation services*
- *Persons providing 'Connexions' services in pursuance of section 68 of the Education and Skills Act 2008*
- *Jobcentre Plus*
- *Maintained schools*
- *FE and sixth-form colleges*
- *Non-maintained special schools*
- *Academies, city technology colleges and city colleges for the technology of arts*

Risk management

26 The risk of the health and wellbeing board not endorsing the approach is that specific issues for children and young people will not be addressed as part of the overall approach to improving the health and wellbeing of Herefordshire communities. There are a number of specific issues which need to be improved in Herefordshire and the CYP approach provides a vehicle for dedicating partnership activity and impact to these.

Consultees

27 The developments represent the consultation with the partnership members and the Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board members that took part in the away day session and further partnership meetings throughout summer and autumn 2014.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Executive Group Membership

Appendix 2 – Briefing presentation on Children with Disabilities Strategy

Appendix 3 – Emotional health and wellbeing strategy

Background papers

- None identified.