

Meeting:	Council
Meeting date:	25 September 2015
Title of report:	Children and young people's plan
Report by:	Cabinet member young people and children's wellbeing

Classification

Open

Key Decision

This is not an executive decision

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

To approve the children and young people's plan 2015-2018

Recommendation

THAT: the children and young people's plan 2015-2018 is approved.

Alternative options

1. The children and young people's partnership (CYPP) could continue to work without a plan, but this would significantly reduce the effectiveness of the partnership in delivering multi agency improvements for children, young people and families in Herefordshire.

Reasons for recommendations

2. The health and wellbeing board delegated responsibility for the development of a children and young people's plan to the children and young people's partnership. The partnership has been undertaking development work on the plan, using the joint strategic needs assessment, consulting with partner stakeholders as to the priorities of the plan and providing the health and wellbeing board with regular updates. The plan has been approved by the children and young people's partnership, and now requires approval by each constituent agency. Attached to the plan is the outcomes framework for the national troubled families' programme, which forms part of Herefordshire's approach to prevention and early help and also could provide significant funding into

Herefordshire.

3. The plan will then become the vehicle to deliver improvement for children, young people and their families within the financial context families, communities, and the public sector operate in, as well as delivering against the health and wellbeing strategy and contributing to the wider health and wellbeing agenda in Herefordshire. The plan was considered by Cabinet on 11 September 2015 and recommended to Council for approval as it forms part of the budget and policy framework.

Key considerations

4. The children and young people's partnership (CYPP) has been given key responsibility by the health and wellbeing board to develop the Children and Young People's Plan (CYP plan).
5. The partnership has developed a plan which reflects the priorities that have previously been agreed by the health and wellbeing board at the meeting on 28 January 2015 and have been set out in the joint strategic needs analysis, the children's integrated needs analysis and Herefordshire's health and wellbeing strategy, namely:
 - Early help – developing the "Think Family" approach and culture across the partnership
 - Improving outcomes for our youngest children (0 to 5 years)
 - Improving the emotional and mental health and wellbeing of children, young people, and their parents and carers
 - Meeting the needs of children and young people requiring safeguarding
 - Addressing challenges for adolescents
 - Improving the outcomes for children with a disability
6. These priorities have been closely examined by partner agencies and overseen, co-ordinated and brought together in the plan by the CYPP Steering Group.
7. Our underlying strategic approach is to strengthen the capacity of children and young people, families and communities and universal services to help themselves, building on the strengths that currently exist in Herefordshire. Strategically we will also focus on supporting stronger, community based provision targeted to specific needs which will move resources from some higher cost, specialist services.
8. The plan recognises the inter-relationships across the priority areas and identifies the need for smarter co-ordinated working across the partnership in order to meet the objectives of the plan. The partners are well aware of the challenges to make the partnership a meaningful driver of change. The plan also recognises the significance of developments in wider adult, community, education and health services which will impact upon the capabilities and capacities of children and young people, parents and carers.
9. The plan has been developed in the context of the improvement work underway to address safeguarding of children in Herefordshire, and also recognising the existing Herefordshire education strategy which provides specific strategic developments to improve education in Herefordshire. These developments are referenced in the CYP plan, but encapsulated in the education strategy and action plans.
10. The plan recognises that it will operate within the first three years of austerity measures for the public sector. It therefore identifies some significant cost savings to be

achieved, alongside a more effective use of resources. There is further work to be done to address the funding challenges ahead and to do so for all agencies involved in a way that makes the most of collective resource. This has been recognised as a development area for the partnership.

11. The plan will be delivered through an annual business plan. Having identified the strategic planning priorities and goals to be attained by March 2018, business plans are being put in place for the first period of the plan's implementation (i.e. up to March 2016) so that the partnership and the plan may be seen to be an effective commissioning and delivery framework to both service users and the children's workforce. Whilst the plan is being progressed to endorsement by the relevant governing bodies of the council and the management boards of the contributor partners (to be completed by the end of September 2015), six operational business plans are being developed, building on work already set out, and reflecting the six priority need groups contained within the plan. These business plans will be confirmed once endorsement of the CYP plan has been achieved, but work is already taking place on some of the plan activities.
12. The plan has been produced in executive summary format as well as in a full version. The executive summary sets out the key areas of change and what will be delivered by 2018. Both are attached as appendices, as is the outcomes framework for troubled families. The plan will be web based plans with a small number of hard copies. The design work will involve children and young people.
13. The composition and remit of the partnership steering group will be revised to reflect that its primary function will change to overseeing the implementation of the plan and to:
 - Endorse the business planning priorities chosen for each need area
 - Monitor implementation of the business plans
 - Resolve any difficulties or impediments to successful implementation across the partnership
14. In order to operate successfully it is important that the partnership recognises the need to strengthen the coordinated project and business management approach of the partnership. The partnership executive is exploring a proposal to pool and align resources across the partnership to deliver the plan.

Community impact

15. The children and young people's plan is a key component of Herefordshire's health and wellbeing strategy and provides priorities for service improvement for children and young people and their families. A core objective of the plan is that of building resilience in individuals, families and communities.

Equality duty

16. The partnership's plan will support the council in its overall duty to promote equality. In particular the plan makes proposals to maximise access to universal services among the most disadvantaged, reduce inequalities between persons with a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and enhance opportunities for social inclusion among those experiencing barriers to participation.

Financial implications

17. There are significant financial pressures that will impact on public sector services over the life of the plan. These will be confirmed through the budget statement in the autumn but may include c.40% reductions for the local authority, c.16% for school budgets, and health funding pressures. At the same time there may be specific funding streams which partners can access; troubled families being one of them. The table below sets out draft indications of finances in relation to each of the plan's priority areas. More development needs to take place to make the most of collective resources at a time when these are shrinking significantly in some areas and that this is a partnership-wide responsibility. There is therefore no binding commitment at this stage to the funding below remaining as set out for the three years of the plan and funding will have to be adjusted to meet the requirements to reduce budgets for some partners, including the council.

	No. of Children / Families	Budgets	Savings	Commentary
Priorities		£000's	£000's	
Early Help	600	1,800	450	£1.8m is potential income if we can evidence 600 families are "turned around". Troubled Families funding over 3 years (15/16 - 17/18). The national cost calculator will be used to identifying savings. Savings are expected for all partners
0-5 Early Years	9,800	3,500	400	Health Visitors, School Nursing, Children's Centres, funding is from Public Health & Council. The savings will be in safeguarding if prevention is successful.
Mental health and emotional wellbeing	8,620	1,400	TBC	funding by Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) £1.4m ZigZag £57k
Children and young people in need of safeguarding	2,100	7,288	2,800	The savings are profiled over the next 5 years.
Addressing challenges for young people	1,600	TBC	300	Costs could relate to providing youth offending services (YOS) and not in education, employment or training (NEET) services. Development of Adolescents services.

Children and young people with disabilities	5,000	4,197	350	Complex needs solutions is funded by the CCG £500k, dedicated schools grant £1.5m and safeguarding £1.5m and short breaks funded by the council. In addition to this funding health contribute £1.1m. Adults have invested £250k in transition team to generate savings of £350k
Totals		18,185	4,300	

Legal implications

18. The children and young people’s plan and the process of joint planning should support local authorities and their partners as they work together to agree clear targets and priorities for all their services to children and young people, identify the actions and activities needed to achieve them and ensure delivery. The plan needs to be approved by the children and young people’s partnership and subsequently the health and wellbeing Board and each constituent agency to ensure the plan is monitored and progress reviewed.

Risk management

19. The risk of the plan not being approved is that specific issues that confront children, young people and their families will not be addressed as part of the overall approach to improving the health and wellbeing of Herefordshire communities as proposed in the strategy of the health and wellbeing board. The CYPP and its plan are the key vehicles to drive and deliver priority service improvements for children, young people and their families in Herefordshire. There is also a significant financial risk to each constituent organisation if clear partnership approaches are not delivered, including the potential for unintended cost pressure.

Consultees

20. The plan has been the subject of extensive consultation with CYPP members, their governance bodies and their workforce over the past nine months. Further consultation with children and young people is proposed between now and the time of the full Council meeting. The activities to deliver the plan will be subject to further consultation and engagement as they take place.

Appendices

Appendix 1 Executive summary – Children and Young People’s Plan Headlines

Appendix 2 Herefordshire Children and Young People’s Plan 2015 – 2018

Background papers

- None identified.