

Title of report: UPDATE ON THE BEST START IN LIFE ACTION PLAN

Meeting: Health and Wellbeing Board

Meeting date: Monday 16 September 2024

Report By: Julia Stephens Public Health Lead

Classification

Open

Decision type

This is not an executive decision

Wards affected

(All Wards);

Purpose

To provide an update on the progress of the implementation plan for the Board's strategic priority of "Best Start In Life".

Recommendation(s)

That:

- a) That the Board considers the report and updated action plan and progress to date.**
- b) That the Board considers how to ensure that all partnership organisations are clearly sighted on the implementation plan and reference it across their own strategies and plans.**

Alternative options

1. The Board could choose not to adopt and support the plan but this is key to demonstrating delivery of the actions and supporting the best start in life for children 0-5 years.

Key considerations

2. The purpose of the Best Start in Life (BSIL) Implementation Plan is to specify the actions and activity that will improve outcomes for children aged 0-5 years across the county.

3. There has been a considerable amount of engagement and development since the last update to the Board in March 2024.
4. Leads from across a range of partners including health and council colleagues have been identified and confirmed against the actions listed in the implementation plan.
5. Actions have been made smarter and modified slightly to ensure that meaningful, measurable targets are set.
6. Targets for each action have been set and strategic leads feedback on progress through the Early Years Partnership Group.
7. A comprehensive performance monitoring framework has been developed and adopted by the Early Years Partnership Group. This Board is responsible for delivery of the plan.
8. An “outcomes dashboard” is being established. Additional work with our partners is needed to ensure that the actions, targets and outcomes sequence is aligned, with each of these being ambitious but realistic within specified timescales and measurable.
9. A revised schedule of meetings has been put in place to ensure effective oversight and governance of the plan.
10. There is a continued commitment and enthusiasm for the BSIL from partners and a desire to ensure that all partnership organisations are clearly sighted on the implementation plan and reference it across their own strategies and plans.
11. The updated action plan (Appendix 1) has been rag rated to clearly demonstrate progress against targets.

Community impact

12. The purpose of the BSIL implementation plan is to specify the actions and activity that will improve the outcomes of children aged 0-5 years. The plan supports the Children’s Services transformation work and ambitions in the Council Plan. It also contributes to the 2024 to 2025 Delivery Plan objective to enable people to support themselves and each other by providing the right help at the right time. And, helps to deliver implementation plans for best start in life and good mental wellbeing within the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
13. The purpose of this work is to collect and review data on the outcomes of 0-5 year olds, engage with and map local stakeholders and produce recommendations that will support the improvement of the health and educational outcomes in the early years and reduce inequalities.

Environmental Impact

14. There are no general implications arising from this report, however the plan includes support to increase physical activity through the Healthy Schools Programme, including through active travel which may have a positive environmental benefit.

Equality duty

15. Under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, the 'general duty' on public authorities is set out as follows:

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

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
16. The public sector equality duty (specific duty) requires us to consider how we can positively contribute to the advancement of equality and good relations, and demonstrate that we are paying 'due regard' in our decision making in the design of policies and in the delivery of services
17. The principles of equality and the reversal of health inequalities are key strands of the plan. The BSIL will provide an assessment of our system need and ongoing engagement with a wide range of partners will also support this. The completion of the Equality Impact Assessment will be considered within the coming weeks.
18. To be effective in delivering good population outcomes and helping those most in need, including those most in need or with protected characteristics the plan calls for intervention by working together as a whole system across education, health & social care.

Resource implications

19. There are no resource implications associated with this report. However, the resource implications of any recommendations made by the H&WB will need to be considered by the responsible party in response to those recommendations or subsequent decisions.

Legal implications

20. There is a clear statutory duty, under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, that a Health and Wellbeing board is established. The role for the board is set out in Part 3.5.25 of the Constitution. Consideration of this report should ensure that the board is fulfilling its statutory responsibilities.

Risk management

- 21.

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
That funding for certain initiatives within the plan will not be continued or have reduced budget implications	Continue to raise awareness and evidence outcomes from the initiatives to ensure continued funding
The Children & Young Peoples Partnership Board is under review. This is a vital Board that drives improvement. Health Partners within Primary Care are stepping back and this could result in missed opportunities and integrated working.	The infrastructure to support childrens' health and wellbeing and the activity within this plan will need to be reviewed.

Consultees

21. Consultation on action planning and setting targets were undertaken with a range of stakeholders across Health, Education, Social Care, The Early Years Partnership Board, 1HP.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – The BSIL Implementation Plan

Background papers

'None identified'

Report Reviewers Used for appraising this report:

Please note this section must be completed before the report can be published		
Governance	John Coleman	Date 04/09/2024
Finance	Click or tap here to enter text.	Date Click or tap to enter a date.
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Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.