

20 February 2017

Agenda Item: 10

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PLAN: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2016-2017 MID-YEAR REVIEW

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide a review of the progress with the priorities and key actions in the Children, Young People and Families (CYPF) Plan during the first six months of 2016 – 2017.

Information and Advice

2. The Children, Young People and Families Plan (CYPF Plan) 2016-2018 is the joint strategic plan of Nottinghamshire Children's Trust. It describes how Nottinghamshire County Council will fulfill its statutory responsibility, as the lead partner in the Children's Trust, to make arrangements to promote co-operation to improve children's well-being as outlined in Section 10, of the Children Act 2004.
3. The CYPF Plan identifies the key areas where by working together the partnership can make the greatest difference to the lives of children, young people and families in Nottinghamshire.
4. The CYPF Plan was approved by Nottinghamshire Children's Trust in March 2016, and by Nottinghamshire County Council's Policy Committee in May 2016.
5. The CYPF Plan identified four priorities for the period 2016-2018, as listed below:
 - Children and young people are safe
 - Children and young people are happy and healthy
 - Children and young people achieve their potential
 - Children, young people and families receive support when needed.
6. The Children's Trust has developed an annual continuous improvement plan which provides more detailed information about the work proposed in the CYPF Plan. **Appendix 1** provides a review of the annual delivery plan for 2016-2017, including the key performance indicators.

Children and young people are safe in Nottinghamshire

7. All children and young people need to be safe and feel safe so that they can achieve their full potential. Most children and young people are supported and cared for by their parents or carers but some parents or carers are unable to do this for a number

of reasons. In these situations, the involvement of all the relevant partners who could keep children and young people safe is vitally important.

8. In June 2015, Ofsted inspected the services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers in Nottinghamshire, together with a review of the effectiveness of the Nottinghamshire Local Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB). Ofsted judged both children's services in Nottinghamshire and the NSCB to be good.
9. To further develop the effectiveness of the joint working arrangements between Children's Social Care and Early Help services, the County Council is considering the integration of case holding services for children and young people from 1 April 2017. This proposal will bring together Children's Social Care and the Family Service under a single management framework. This builds on the work to integrate the services in previous years, including a common electronic client recording system and the co-location of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the Early Help Unit in August 2016.
10. Nationally and locally the identification and protection of children and young people at risk of threats, including child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a significant priority. The joint Tackling Emerging Threats to Children/School Health Team has been established. A Tackling Emerging Threats to Children section of the school's portal has been developed and will go live during the third quarter.
11. The training of taxi drivers by district councils in their role and responsibilities to recognise and respond to CSE is well underway and approximately 4,000 drivers had been trained by January 2017.
12. The contract for a specialist service to support child victims of sexual exploitation has been awarded to the Children's Society.
13. Since the introduction of market factor supplements in the recruitment of social workers in April 2016, the overall number of vacancies has been reduced by at least 50%, whilst staff turnover rates have reduced from 17% to 10.4%.
14. Nottinghamshire was inspected under the framework for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) local area inspections in June 2016; the narrative letter produced by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission highlighted a number of strengths, as well as areas for development which will be included in the SEND Action Plan.

Children and young people are happy and healthy in Nottinghamshire

15. Investing in children's health is an investment in the future. Children and young people who are healthy are able to enjoy life and achieve their full potential. They are more likely to go on to become healthy adults and parents who in turn promote better health in future generations.
16. A key priority is the further development of the mental health offer to children and young people. The Future in Mind Transformation Plan 2015-2020 outlines the areas for improvement over the next four years including a particular focus on the development of effective early help services. The Plan includes an additional annual investment of £1½ million to improve the effectiveness of services.

17. Progress to date includes the integration of CAMHS (Child & Adolescent mental Health Services) Tier 2 and 3, with more practitioners now working in the service. Primary Mental Health Workers have been introduced to provide advice, consultation and guidance to schools and GPs about children's mental health issues. The *Take 5* resilience programme is being rolled out across schools in mid and north Nottinghamshire, and the tender process is underway for south Nottinghamshire. The business case is being developed for the recurrent funding of the crisis team, which was introduced earlier this year. Finally in early 2017 an on-line counselling service will be available for children and young people in Nottinghamshire.
18. The contract for the Integrated Healthy Child Programme and Public Health Nursing Service was awarded to Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. The new service will be available from 1 April 2017.
19. As part of the Young People's Health Strategy, the Health and Wellbeing Board has launched the first Young People's Health and Wellbeing website for Nottinghamshire in January 2017.

Children and young people achieve their potential in Nottinghamshire

20. Educational success provides pupils with a greater range of opportunities for employment, further or higher education. It enables them to participate more fully in society, maximising their life chances and securing their future economic wellbeing.
21. Provisional data for 2016 indicated that the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics combined at the end of primary education in Nottinghamshire was 53.3%, compared with 53% nationally.
22. Provisional data for 2016 indicates Nottinghamshire had a 5.9% increase over the previous year in the percentage of pupils achieving A*-C in both English and mathematics at Key Stage 4. The percentage for Nottinghamshire is now 65.6%, compared to the national figure of 62.6%.
23. The analysis of educational attainment gaps based upon provisional data for 2016 provides the following key findings as outlined in Table 1 below:

Table 1 Educational Attainment Gaps in Nottinghamshire

Key Stage	Measure	Attainment Gap 2015	Attainment Gap 2016
Key Stage 2	FSM6* Attainment gap at age 11 for pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics	New Measure	24% (national figure not available)
Key Stage 4	FSM6* Gap for pupils achieving A*-C in English and mathematics at GCSE (KS4)	29.4%	30.4% (national figure not available)

*Eligible for Free School Meals in last 6 years

24. The Support to Schools Service (StSS) has now been restructured to incorporate an extended group of teams focusing on advocacy for all children, young people and their families, with many teams championing the most vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. As a result, the collaborative work of these teams is now more closely aligned to closing Nottinghamshire's attainment gaps.

Children, young people and families receive support when needed in Nottinghamshire

25. Providing access to support when children, young people and families need it is key to improving outcomes for children and young people. Earlier intervention also reduces the likelihood that families will need more costly specialist or statutory services, such as support from Children's Social Care.
26. Outcomes for the impact of Early Help services have been reviewed and reported to the CFCS Performance and Improvement Board every quarter. A draft workflow model which brings together Children's Social Care and early help services including the Family Service is being developed so that the journeys of children and young people are better understood, leading to service improvements.
27. The Youth Homelessness Prevention Plan (2016-2020) was approved by the Children & Young People's Committee on 19 December 2016.
28. The Integrated Children's Disability Service was launched in September 2016. This long-term ambition of the Children's Trust aims to improve the experiences of children, young people and their families, reduce duplication, share resources and identify efficiencies across Social Care, Education and Community Health Services.
29. Children and Young People's Committee approved the review of arrangements for Special Educational Needs and Disability at its meeting of 21 November 2016. The SEND Accountability Board will now be established in early 2017 to lead and co-ordinate the continuous improvement of Nottinghamshire's implementation of the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice. The Board will develop and monitor the delivery of a multi-agency local area SEND Strategic Action Plan. This Action Plan will include:
 - the recommendations required to progress the 'areas for development' as identified by Ofsted and Care Quality Commission Local area SEND Inspection in June 2016.
 - the recommendations of the 2015/16 Nottinghamshire SEND Review
 - the recommendations of Improving Outcomes for Children and Young People with Disabilities Programme.
30. The Nottinghamshire Transitions Protocol and Pathway for young people with disabilities has been approved by all key partners, and by Policy Committee on 21 September 2016. A work-stream under the SEND Accountability Board will be tasked with the effective implementation of the protocol.

Other Options Considered

31. Not providing a six-monthly review would carry a risk that key actions in the plan were not being monitored for delivery on the expected timescales.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

32. To make the Committee aware of progress with the priorities and key actions in the Children, Young People and Families Plan.

Statutory and Policy Implications

33. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) The Committee notes the progress with the priorities and key actions in the Children, Young People and Families Plan during the first six months of 2016-17.

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Constitutional Comments

34. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TMR 31/01/17)

35. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Children, Young People and Families Plan 2016-2018](#)

Nottinghamshire Transitions Protocol and Pathway – report to Policy Committee on 21 September 2016

Nottinghamshire review of arrangements for Special Educational Needs and Disability final report – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 21 November 2016

Youth Homelessness Prevention Plan 2016-2020 – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 19 December 2016

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.
C0938