

14 December 2015

Agenda Item: 6

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH FAMILIES AND CULTURE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY AND PARENTING STRATEGY 2015-17

Purpose of the Report

1. This report invites the Committee to comment on the proposed Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy 2015 – 2017, attached as **Appendix 1**.
2. The Committee is also asked to recommend the proposed Strategy to Policy Committee for approval at its meeting on 6 January 2016.

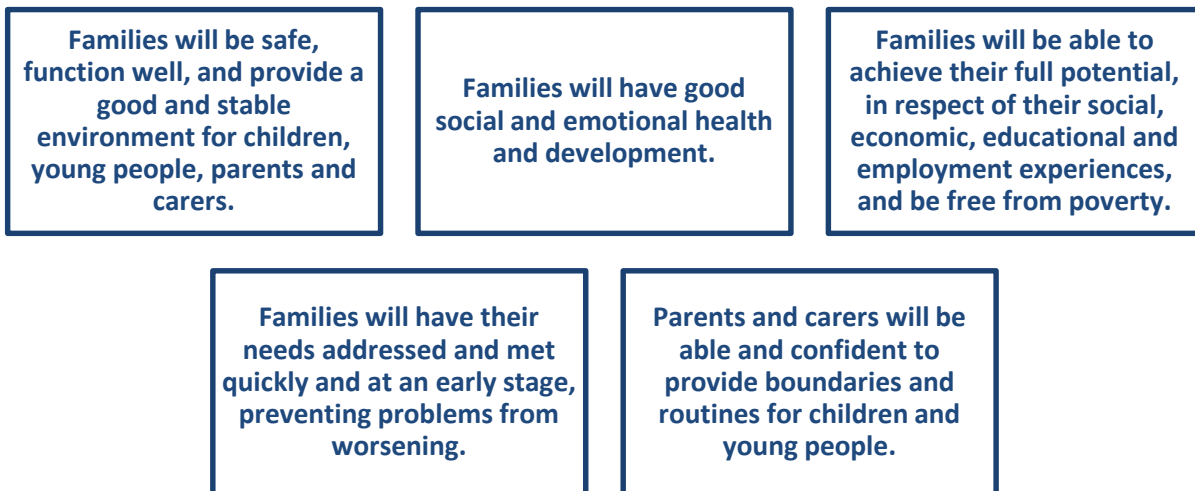
Information and Advice

3. The primary responsibility for a family's welfare will always rest with parents. The task of local services is to provide the best possible support to enable parents to fulfil that responsibility.
4. Parents learn about parenting primarily through their own parents. There is a clear transmission of parenting attitudes and capabilities between parent and child that starts at a very early age. Early intervention is not just about investment in children's outcomes, it is an investment in the next generation of parents.
5. Providing coordinated, consistent and multi-agency family and parenting support is crucial in making sure that Nottinghamshire families are safe, happy, secure, and can reach their full potential.

Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy

6. The Family and Parenting Strategy recognises that services across Nottinghamshire work hard to provide families and parents with excellent help and support. By employing a co-ordinated, integrated approach, the Council can ensure that this support is of a consistently high standard, sharing knowledge, experience and resources to benefit families.
7. The Family and Parenting Strategy reflects the priorities of Children, Families and Cultural Services, including work to close the educational attainment gap, improve health and wellbeing, reduce child poverty, safeguarding children, supporting the most vulnerable families and providing a range of early help interventions.

8. The Strategy describes five core outcomes which drive all work with families and parents:



9. The Strategy describes the actions that will be achieved in order to improve these outcomes, in particular for the most vulnerable families. Key actions include:
- to take a co-ordinated multi agency approach to planning and delivering parenting support at all levels
 - to influence commissioners to commission evidence based parenting support
 - to involve families in planning, design and delivery and evaluation of support
 - to improve and maintain data collection on family and parenting support
 - to ensure that services are available for target vulnerable groups i.e. fathers, teenage parents, those with learning disabilities, substance misuse, and domestic violence.
10. The Strategy will be performance managed and evaluated by the Family and Parenting Strategy Group. This group is chaired by Nottinghamshire County Council and includes a wide range of partners who are involved in parenting and family level interventions.

Other Options Considered

11. No other options were considered.

Reasons for Recommendation/s

12. The Family and Parenting Strategy co-ordinates local activity to improve outcomes for families across Nottinghamshire. The strategy has been developed with a range of partners and Nottinghamshire County Council is the lead agency responsible for the development and evaluation of the Strategy. It is therefore a requirement for appropriate approval of the Strategy by Nottinghamshire County Council following presentation at Nottinghamshire Children's Trust Board.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. 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.

Crime and Disorder Implications

14. There is a range of parenting programmes available for families affected by crime including those affected by domestic violence and abuse, or a young person's offending behaviour. There are also programmes specifically developed for parents in or exiting prison.

Financial Implications

15. All activity within the Family and Parenting Strategy is resourced by the organisations delivering elements of the strategy such as Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Homestart, NCC Family Service etc.

Public Sector Equality Duty Implications

16. The Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy targets parents and families most at risk of poor outcomes. For example, parents with a child with a special educational need or disability will be targeted for specific programmes and support.

Safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk Implications

17. Safeguarding is a central principle in the way all partners operate when working with children and families. All professionals facilitating parenting programmes or support have undergone all relevant safety checks and ensure their safeguarding training is up to date prior to the delivery of parenting interventions.

Implications for Service Users

18. Service users should see improved outcomes for their family. They will be able to identify support available with greater ease and access a broad level of support and specific programmes.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Committee:

- 1) comments on the proposed Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy 2015 – 2017, attached as **Appendix 1**
- 2) recommends the proposed Strategy to Policy Committee for approval at its meeting on 6 January 2016.

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Constitutional Comments (SMG 25/11/15)

19. The proposals set out in this report fall within the remit of this Committee

Financial Comments (SS 25/11/15)

20. There are no financial implications arising directly 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.

Equality Impact Assessment

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0725