

Date: 19 January 2017

Agenda Item: 7

MID-YEAR REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES PLAN’S CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR 2016-2017

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 Children Young People and Families (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. The plan, which was approved by Nottinghamshire Children’s Trust in March 2016 and by Nottinghamshire County Council’s Policy Committee in May 2016, identified four priorities for the period 2016-2018, which are listed in table 1 below:

Table 1 - the Children, Young People and Families Plan Priorities for 2016-2018

Priorities
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

4. 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 A** 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. Since the introduction of market factor supplements in April 2016, the overall number of social worker vacancies within Children's Social Care has been reduced by at least 50%, whilst staff turnover rates have reduced from 17% to 10.4%.
10. Nottinghamshire was also inspected under the framework for 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 partnership's SEND Action Plan.
11. 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 case recording system and the co-location of the MASH and the Early Help Unit in August 2016.
12. 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.
13. 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 will have been trained by January 2017.
14. The contract for a specialist service to support child victims of sexual exploitation has been awarded to the Children's Society.

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 for the partnership 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 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 is launching 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 maths 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 maths at Key Stage 4. The percentage in 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 2 below:

Table 2 Educational Attainment Gaps in Nottinghamshire

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

24. The Council's **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 workflow model incorporating 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) has been recently approved by the Children's Trust Board.
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. In early 2017, the SEND Accountability Board will be established 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 Transitions Protocol for young people with disabilities has been approved by all key partners. A work-stream under the SEND Accountability Board will be tasked with the effective implementation of the protocol.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1) The Children's Trust Executive notes the contents of the report.

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Background Papers

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

Appendix A – Mid-year review of the Children, Young People and Families Plan for 2016-2017