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| NCC-l-head-black | Report to Children’s Trust BoardInsert name of Council Body (eg County Council) or Decision Maker (eg Cabinet Member for Finance and Property). |
| 19th November 2015Insert the date the report is to be considered (eg the date of County Council or Portfolio Meeting). **Must** be in the format “dd MMMM yyyy” (e.g. 10 August 2011). |
| Agenda Item: 3 Please leave this blank. |
| Children’s Trust Board Sponsor: Derek Higton, Service Director, Youth, Families and Culture Services |
| NOTTINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY AND PARENTING STRATEGY 2015-2017 |

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek approval of the Children’s Trust Board for the draft Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy 2015 – 2017.
2. To update Board members of progress in relation to the delivery of parenting programmes across Nottinghamshire.
3. To discuss with the Children’s Trust Board the governance and accountability for the Family and Parenting Strategy group.

Information and Advice

**Rationale for the Family and Parenting Strategy**

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 we can ensure that this support is of a consistently high standard, sharing knowledge, experience and resources to benefit local families. It is important to focus on good practice and use the best methods available to have the greatest impact on families’ lives.
5. By employing a range of methods for supporting families, ranging from the low level, universal forms of support, to targeted and specialised approaches, this strategy will help to ensure that we meet the needs of the range of families, in an effective and efficient way.

**Key Aims of the Family and Parenting Strategy**

1. The Strategy reflects the priorities of the Nottinghamshire Children’s Trust, 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.
2. The strategy describes five core outcomes which drive all work with families and parents:
3. The strategy describes the actions that will be achieved in order to improve these outcomes, in particular for the most vulnerable families.
4. 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 to target vulnerable groups –i.e. fathers, teenage parents, those with learning disabilities, substance misuse, and domestic violence

**Evidence Based Parenting Programmes**

1. Parenting programmes are a key element of the Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy. Parenting programmes are effective in tackling anti-social and challenging behaviours as well as developing family wellbeing. NICE clinical guidelines have also promoted the use of parenting programmes as a first step towards the treatment of ADHD and ADHD-type behaviours.
2. In Nottinghamshire a mapping exercise is being undertaken in order to provide a clear source of referral for professionals such as those within the new Family Service. A range of parenting programmes are available to parents and these vary across districts and the lead provider of the programme.
3. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham Trent University entered into a KTP, a Knowledge Transfer Partnership in January 2014. The project is designed to improve and innovate children and family services within the county, with a specific focus on family and parenting support. The KTP project will last until July 2016, employing Catherine Goodall as an analyst to lead the project.
4. To date, the KTP has been involved with a wide range of projects. Two literature reviews have been conducted, one on the evidence supporting parenting programmes, and the other on the approaches local authorities take to working with children and families, which was published in the academic journal Practice: Social Work In Action. The project has also been involved in establishing a validation process for locally developed or adapted programmes. This validation process gathers data on new programmes, evaluating for rigour, effectiveness and cost effectiveness, and provides guidance for improving delivery and impact for families.
5. Over the coming months we will be launching a targeting tool and an evaluations database for parenting programmes. The targeting tool is being developed by a local IT firm, and will improve the quality and consistency of identifying parenting programmes for families, as well as collecting data on needs across the county. This data can be used to directly inform commissioning of programmes going forward. The database will collect evaluation data on parenting programmes running across Nottinghamshire, and this data can be used to monitor the effectiveness of different interventions. In combination, the validation process, targeting tool and evaluations database will improve the allocation of, and data collection and analysis of parenting programmes, alongside monitoring effectiveness and impact.

**Governance Arrangements**

1. The Family and Parenting Strategy Group has representation from a wide range of partners, and is responsible for implementing the strategy and related action plan. This group currently reports to the Help and Protection Executive which is a sub group of the Children’s Trust Board. A governance structure is included in Appendix 1 of this report to clarify where the group relates to other bodies.
2. The group is supported by a Parenting Approaches sub group which will manage aspects directly related to parenting programmes and support. This sub group includes operational managers from a range of services involved in the delivery of parenting programmes.
3. The links with the Help and Protection Executive have yet to be made and it is currently unclear who requires an overview of this agenda.
4. Membership of the Family and Parenting Group is included in Appendix 2 of this report. A review is due to take place to ensure representation is effective and members are able to fulfil their roles.

RECOMMENDATION/S

The Children’s Trust Board:

1. approves the Nottinghamshire Family and Parenting Strategy 2015 – 17.
2. notes the work to gather a local evidence base for parenting programmes.
3. confirms the correct governance arrangements for the Family and Parenting Strategic group.

Irene Kakoullis

Group Manager Early Childhood and Early Help Locality Services

Rachel Clark

Child Poverty and Parenting Manager

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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Background Papers

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.

**Appendix One – Governance Arrangements**



**Appendix Two**

Membership of the Family and Parenting Strategy Group

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| Irene Kakoullis (chair) | Group Manager – Early Childhood and Early Help Locality Services | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Rachel Clark | Child Poverty and Parenting Lead, Early Childhood and Early Help Locality Services | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Karon Foulkes | Head of Service (South) , Health Partnerships | NCFP (Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust) |
| Sally Penn | District Manager, NCFP | NCFP (Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust) |
| Dawn Godfrey |  Group Manager, Children’s Social Care | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Jenny Spencer | Family Service | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Denis McCarthy  |  Service Manager, Family Service | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Catherine Goodall | Knowledge Transfer Partnership Associate | Nottingham Trent University and Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Rachel Towler | CAMHS | CAMHS (Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust) |
| Gary Eves | Public Health  | ICH  |
| Laurence Jones | Group Manager | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Ian Bond | ACLS | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Maggie Pape | Adult Social Care | Adults Social Care and Health (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Pom Bhogal  | Youth Service | Children, Families and Cultural Services (Nottinghamshire County Council) |
| Sue Fenton | Chief Executive | Homestart Nottinghamshire  |
| Sherrel Dudley | Head of Service(North) Health Partnerships | (Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust) |
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| Nicola Dykes | CAMHS | Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust |