



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE: 4
JUNE 2019

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY
SERVICES

LEICESTERSHIRE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP
PLAN 2018 – 2021 PROGRESS UPDATE

Purpose of the report

1. The purpose of this report is to present a progress update on the Children and Families Partnership Plan 2018-21.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

2. The Children and Families Partnership Plan is aligned to the Leicestershire County Council Strategic Plan and focuses on the added value of approaching strategic priorities across the partnership to ensure consistent communication and service delivery to children and families.
3. In November 2016 the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the terms of reference for a Children and Families Partnership to replace the Supporting Leicestershire Families Executive as a subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The expanded remit included oversight of how the priorities for children and families as set out in the draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy, are delivered.
4. In May 2018, the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the Children and Families Partnership Plan for 2018-21. In June 2018, the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Plan prior to it being approved by the Cabinet on 12 June 2018. It was agreed that progress on the delivery of the Plan would be received regularly.

Background

5. The Children and Families Partnership Plan is a strategic document which sets out the shared vision for children, young people and their families and the priority outcomes that need to be improved. The Plan is not intended to be a detailed description of the individual work of each partner, but rather a summary of key areas of work that are best delivered together to have the biggest impact on the lives of children and young people.
6. The Partnership has adopted the five supporting outcomes of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy relating to children and young people as the priority areas for the Plan:

- i. *Ensure the best start in life*– by developing an integrated early years pathway which ensures needs are assessed to enable appropriate interventions are offered and the development of a communication strategy to promote the 1001 critical days;
- ii. *Keep children safe and free from harm* – by developing and embedding an integrated model of services to prevent harm to children and young people and make children safe by raising awareness of universal safety messages;
- iii. *Support children and families to be resilient* - by developing an integrated approach to family resilience and self-sufficiency, provide joined up information and guidance to enable families to be self-sufficient and navigate services and support families to progress towards work;
- iv. *Ensure vulnerable families receive personalised, integrated care and support* – by providing integrated, outcome-based, high quality, cost-effective provision and developing a post-16 multi-agency delivery model;
- v. *Enable children to have good physical and mental health* - by developing a whole system approach based on 'Making obesity everyone's business' and developing a partnership approach to emotional and mental wellbeing;

Progress to date

7. The Plan was officially launched on 20 September 2018, with representatives from local councils, the police, schools, NHS, the voluntary sector and other agencies attending a special event at County Hall.
8. Priority leads are working with partners and other key stakeholders to deliver the action plans agreed against each outcome. The full action plan, including progress against each outcome at the end of year one of the plan (2018 – 19) is detailed at Appendix A. Key progress highlights are as follows;

Priority 1 - *Ensure the best start in life*

- Work has started on an e-learning module for the 0 - 5 sector for a graduated 4 step approach (Advice line, Drop-ins, Area SENCO support and Specialist Teaching input via panel);
- The training of Improvement Advisors to take on an Area SENCO role to provide support to early years providers;
- The release of the next stages of communications on school readiness, aimed at educating parents, which resulted in:
 - i. September 2018 to April 2019 - a total of 1,440 views resulting in 416 requests for more information via Facebook and 17 via Twitter (mobile 56%, desktop 37%, tablet 7%).
 - ii. 16 January to 28 February 2019 spring campaign – a total of 2,840 views via Facebook and 19,317 Twitter impressions (representing the number of times the post showed up on a person's device, including mobile and tablet).

Priority 2 - Keep children safe and free from harm

- The Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Operations Group has met to agree plans for expanding the CSE hub remit to include Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE);
- The Vulnerabilities Executive has agreed that the CSE Operations Group be re-formed into a Vulnerabilities Operations Group, following wide recognition across the partnership that there is a need to develop and align operational responses to CCE;
- Funding has been secured for a partnership position of Strategic Lead for CCE which will work to develop the operational responses and make sure these are aligned across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

Priority 3 - Support children and families to be resilient

- Workshops led by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) are taking place in the Hinckley and Bosworth area to understand the barriers to work for people living in the district. If this approach proves successful it will be rolled out across the County.

Priority 4 - Ensure vulnerable families receive personalised, integrated care and support

- A new 'Promise' to children in care and care leavers has been launched by Leicestershire County Council and its partners. The development of the promise, which has involved considerable input from young people from within the care system, accompanies a series of measures agreed by partners, including the county's seven district councils, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Combined Fire Authority to support young people in, or who have left, the care system.

Priority 5 - Enable children to have good physical and mental health

- Public Health England has published a suite of Maternal Health resources which are being adapted for use at a local level (from pre-conception to post-natal);
- A Maternal Obesity stakeholder event held on 31 October 2018 has informed actions concerning how to raise the issue before, during and after pregnancy;
- Meetings have been held with Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire County Councils to learn from how they have developed an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) trauma informed approach across their counties. A stakeholder event took place on 21 May 2019 to agree the first steps for developing a Leicestershire approach to ACEs.

Future Developments

9. Action Plans for 2019 – 20 are being developed for the five priority areas and it is expected that by June 2019 progress will include:-
 - The launch of a leaflet to promote '1001 Critical Days' key messages to parents;
 - The launch of a new school readiness social media campaign and "toolkit" for professionals;

- The remodelling of the LCC Inclusion Service and the Inclusion Pathway;
 - The agreement of a new Housing Protocol to enable housing applications from 17.5 year olds
10. A communications plan for 2019 – 20 is also being developed to improve cross-partnership and wider communication on progress against the partnership plan and to share other relevant information and updates, clearly and consistently across the partnership. A partnership logo is being developed for use on partnership related resources and communications and will be made available for use by partners.
11. The partnership's webpage will also be refreshed. The current partnership page is hosted on the Leicestershire County Council website:
<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leicestershire-children-and-families-partnership>
 The page incorporates the partnership's branding and makes reference to the wide membership of the Board; however it has been acknowledged that it has the County Council's corporate look. The 'Better Care Together' microsite has been identified by partners as a good example of a partnership approach. The Council expects the creation of a similar microsite would cost in the region of £10,000. Other options being considered are for a partner to develop and administer a microsite or for the Council to re-develop the current partnership page so that the look and feel is less corporate, as has already been done for the special needs and disability page:
<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs-and-disability>
 It is expected that a decision concerning the refresh of the partnership's webpage will be made following further discussion at the Children and Families Partnership Board meeting on 26 June 2019.

Background papers

Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board – May 2018 - Leicestershire Children and Families Partnership Plan 2018/2021.

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1038&MId=5298&Ver=4>

Report to the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – June 2018 – Draft Children and Families Partnership Plan 2018-21.

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1043&MId=5323&Ver=4>

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

Equality and Human Rights Implications

12. The Partnership has an interest in ensuring that there are effective arrangements in place so that the services provided meet the identified needs of local people. An EHRA assessment has been carried out in relation to the impacts of the Plan.

List of Appendices

Appendix A – Children and Families Partnership Plan Annual Progress Update (2018 - 2019)

Appendix B – Leicestershire Children and Families Partnership plan on a page

Officer to Contact

Jane Moore
Director of Children and Family Services
Tel: 0116 305 2649
Email: jane.moore@leics.gov.uk

Liz Perfect
Head of Service - Commissioning & Planning
Tel: 0116 305 4814
Email: liz.perfect@leics.gov.uk

Mala Razak
Children and Families Partnership Manager
Tel: 0116 305 8055
Email: mala.razak@leics.gov.uk

This page is intentionally left blank