



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE: 2 JUNE 2020

LEICESTERSHIRE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP PLAN
2018/21: PROGRESS UPDATE

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY
SERVICES

Purpose of 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. In November 2016 the Health and Wellbeing Board approved the terms of reference for the Leicestershire Children and Families Partnership. This was established as a subgroup of the Health and Wellbeing Board, replacing the Supporting Leicestershire Families Executive with an expanded remit to include oversight of delivery of all the priorities for children and families as set out in the draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Background

3. The Leicestershire Children and Families Partnership is made up of the key organisations that work with children, young people and their families across Leicestershire, including Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Police, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, NHS health partners, District and Borough Councils, Schools, Probation Service, Department of Work and Pensions and the voluntary sector.
4. Its purpose is to champion effective partnership working, so that there are shared priorities and partners deliver outcomes that make a real difference to the lives of children and young people.
5. The Children and Families Partnership Plan is a strategic document that sets out the shared vision for children, young people and their families and the priorities that need to be achieved. The Plan is not a detailed description of the individual work of each partner, but rather a summary of key areas of work that

are best delivered together in order 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. The five priorities are:
 - 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;

7. **Progress to date**

Priority leads are working with partners and other key stakeholders to deliver the action plans agreed against each outcome. Key progress from November 2019 includes:-

Priority 1 - *Ensure the best start in life*

- Launch of a “Graduated Approach” in September 2019 to assist children at risk of delay being identified early and referred to appropriate services for support. The approach includes an Advice Line, support visits from Area Special Educational Needs Co-ordinators (SENCOs), half-termly drop-ins for providers to talk through concerns with a range of professionals and an online toolkit for schools and pre-schools;
- Launch of a leaflet targeted at parents to promote awareness and understanding of 1001 Critical Days key messages. The leaflet is available at all primary schools and will be distributed to expectant and new parents through key health contacts; (www.leicestershire.gov.uk/first-1001-days)

- Launch of a School Readiness online toolkit for early years professionals (www.leicestershire.gov.uk/school-readiness)

Priority 2 - Keep children safe and free from harm

- The appointment of a Strategic Lead for Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR), who will work with operational leads across LLR to develop a joint strategy and delivery plan in response to CCE;
- The launch of LLR CCE Standards;
- The implementation of a daily partnership risk assessment process at the CCE hub;
- The launch of a communication campaign to raise awareness of CCE.

Priority 3 - Support children and families to be resilient

- Work with secondary schools and the Local Enterprise Partnership to promote take up of the Enterprise Adviser Programme to support the delivery of effective careers guidance. The majority of secondary schools and colleges are now working with an Adviser.

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

- Establishment of a Joint Solutions Panel to review joint funding arrangements;
- Remodelling of the Leicestershire County Council Inclusion Service and launch of a new Inclusion Pathway in September 2019. The Pathway includes early years, primary and secondary advice surgeries (Inclusion Forums) across the county;
- Approval of a multi-agency Housing Protocol for 16 and 17 year olds at risk of homelessness in November 2019;
- Recruitment of nine care leaver apprentices to the County Council as part of the offer to care leavers

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

- Development of a face to face and online Make Every Contact Count PLUS training module on maternal obesity for practitioners operating across different agencies;
- Development of resources for practitioners to use with service users to discuss healthy weight before, during and post pregnancy;

- Successful completion of the first year of the active travel to and from school 'Choose How You Move' programme;
- Roll-out of the Sport England funded Active Families project to all seven districts following a successful pilot phase in two districts;
- Multi-agency events to raise awareness of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and to agree how a trauma informed approach could be progressed across Leicestershire;
- Securing of funding from the Violence Reduction Network to deliver workforce development activity in relation to ACEs

Youth Campaign Group

- A Youth Campaign Group (YCG) was developed in November 2018 to involve young people in developing and delivering the Leicestershire Children and Families Partnership Plan. The focus is undertaking campaign activity aligned to key issues identified by young people in the county through the national Make Your Mark youth ballot.
- Knife crime was identified as the number one issue for 2018/19 and the YCG has been working with partners including Mike Kapur, the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Public Health to discuss knife crime and ideas for campaign activity.
- Members of the YCG have worked with Words Over Weapons (WOW), a Home Office-funded project aimed at raising awareness of knife crime. These young people have gone on to become WOW ambassadors and joined others to write poems about their personal experiences around knife crime. A showcase evening was held at the Y Theatre in Leicester to launch a video of the young people reading their poems.
- YCG is currently working with Leicester City Football Club's Community charity to produce a video and to run a slogan competition aimed at raising awareness of the impact of knife crime.

Communications

- As part of the Partnership communications plan, an electronic newsletter has been introduced to improve cross-partnership and wider communication on progress against the partnership plan and to share other relevant information and updates clearly and consistently. The first issue was released in September 2019
- A partnership logo has been developed for use on partnership related resources and communications have been made available to be used by partners.

8. **Future Developments**

Work proposed over the next six months will include:

- Development of a joint CCG/LCC neo-natal pathway to offer contact with the Children and Family Wellbeing Service and referral to portage home-based teaching service if appropriate.
- Pilot of a “2 to School” programme by the Children and Family Wellbeing Service and early years providers in Oadby, which will include the delivery of workshops and interactive displays providing advice and information for parent/carers to support their child to be school ready
- Adoption of the Trauma Aware System Change (TASC) Model as a framework for the development of a trauma aware whole system approach for Leicestershire
- Support from the Youth Campaign Group for the programme of activities that will be delivered as part of the “Knife Angel” residency at Leicester Cathedral during 2020
- Refresh of the Children and Families Partnership Plan

Consultation

9. Consultation with children and young people was undertaken to inform the development of the Children and Families Partnership Plan. The Children’s Youth Council for Leicestershire (CYCLE) continue to attend the Partnership Board bi-annually to share key themes for Leicestershire emerging from the annual Make Your Mark national youth ballot and other local consultation activity.
10. Feedback from the consultation with children and young people will be incorporated into the refresh of the Children and Families Partnership Plan, due in 2021.

Conclusion

11. The Committee is asked to consider the update on the Plan.

Equality and Human Rights Implications

12. There are no specific equality or human rights implications arising from this report. 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 children, young people and families. An EHIRA assessment has been carried out in relation to the impacts of the Plan.

Partnership Working and Associated Issues

13. The purpose of the Plan is to improve outcomes for children and young people and their families and to use partnership resources as effectively as possible.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

14. None

Background Papers

Children and Families Partnership Plan - www.leicestershire.gov.uk/LCFP

Officers to Contact

Jane Moore
Director of Children and Family Services
Tel: 0116 3052649
Email: jane.moore@leics.gov.uk

Liz Perfect
Head of Service - Commissioning & Planning
Tel: 0116 3054814
Email: liz.perfect@leics.gov.uk

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