

Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

29 September 2016

Summary of Minutes from Children and Families Partnership

29 June 2016



**County Durham Children
and Families Partnership**

Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) Update

The Children and Families Partnership received an update on the YEI. In January 2016, approval was received for the Durham County Council led partnership bid to deliver the Youth Employment Initiative – DurhamWorks, which is a European funded programme targeting young people aged 16-24 who are unemployed and living in County Durham. The aim of the programme is to work with employers and young people to progress young people into employment.

Delivery of the programme is until July 2018, and links are being established to provide specialist support to young people with SEND and mental health difficulties.

There are three strands of the DurhamWorks journey:

- Strand 1 will focus on providing one to one support to each young person, and support for employers.
- Strand 2 will provide a wide range of targeted activities, programmes and projects to engage young people and support their progression into the labour market.
- Strand 3 will focus on employer engagement activities, identifying and creating jobs, apprenticeships and other work related opportunities for young people.

0-19 Child Health Programme

The Children and Families Partnership received an update on the 0-19 Healthy Child Pathway, following the contract for delivery of the service being awarded to Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust from April 2016.

Next steps for the programme include developing the Healthy Child Programme Board in County Durham, roll out of Youth Awareness mental health training in schools, the appointment of five Emotional Resilience Nurses, developing community drop in services for children and young people which will include school holidays, as well as continuing engagement with service users.

Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan

The Children and Families Partnership agreed the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan, which is based on local and national information, as well as key findings from the Teenage Pregnancy and Teen Parent Health Needs Assessment (HNA), of which

there were 13 key recommendations for action. Children and young people have been consulted on the development of the Action Plan.

Key factors from the national strategy and HNA are embedded throughout the plan which include:

- A multi-agency plan that presents a holistic approach throughout, including public health, education, employment, health, adult learning, One Point, housing and youth offending services. This will ensure rounded support for all young people including looked after children / care leavers; young carers; and young offenders
- Is underpinned with a resilience building theme to help protect young people against engagement in risk taking behaviours
- Includes targeted service interventions to provide additionality to the universal SRE service to ensure those young people who are at most risk receive appropriate information, advice and support
- Identified support pathways for teenage parents to reduce the chance of subsequent unplanned conceptions
- Staff development and upskilling the children and young people's workforce infrastructure is a key element, which will promote sustainability across services who work with children and young people

There will be no additional funding to implement the HNA recommendations and action plan, therefore it is imperative that partners work together to make best use of resources available to improve outcomes for young people.

The Children and Families Partnership agreed forward progression of the Teenage Pregnancy Action Plan to the Health and Wellbeing Board, and Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Stronger Families Programme Update

Following the success of Phase 1, County Durham was invited to be one of 50 Local Authorities invited to be 'early starters' for Phase 2 of the Stronger Families Programme.

Durham has committed to attaching 2340 families by the end of March 2017, and by the end of May 2016 had already started work with 2064 families.

A Family Outcome Framework (FOF) is required in Phase 2, which sets out the programme outcomes and eligibility criteria across 6 themes. Durham's FOF was launched in May 2015, and updated in September 2015.

Partners noted the good progress of the Stronger Families programme.

Strategy for Children and Young People with SEND 0-25 2016/18

The Children and Families Partnership agreed the strategy for children and young people with SEND. The strategy has been co-developed between Durham County Council, Education, schools and colleges, Health, parents, carers as well as children and young people.

The strategy outlines:

- The support available in County Durham for children and young people with SEND
- The next steps of the SEND and Inclusion Team and wider Children's Services
- The response to the Children and Families Act 2014.

SEND Inspection Framework

The Children and Families Partnership received an overview of the SEND Inspection Framework, which is a joint inspection to hold Local Areas to account in their implementation of the reforms under the Children and Families Act 2014.

Director of Public Health County Durham Annual Report 2015

The Children and Families Partnership received The Director of Public Health County Durham Annual Report for information.

The Annual Report is a 'call to action' which focuses on tackling obesity at scale and the action that needs to be taken by a range of organisations to reduce the impact on the health and wellbeing of communities. The Annual Report includes recommendations for the following groups:

- Elected members
- Employers
- Workplace canteens
- Health professionals
- Takeaways, cafes and local shops
- Child Care settings
- Social care and carers
- Planning Teams
- Procurement
- Area Action Partnerships, parents and communities

The Annual Report is available on the website [DPH Annual Report](#)

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy

The Children and Families Partnership received the refreshed strategy for information.

The strategy has been refreshed by Public Health on behalf of the Safe Durham Partnership and has clear links with existing strategies including those relating to alcohol harm reduction, drug and substance misuse, mental health, and suicide.

The refreshed strategy brings together the previous County Durham Domestic Abuse Strategy and the County Durham aspect of the County Durham and Darlington Sexual Violence Strategy. It focuses on prevention and embedding cultural change within all agencies, organisations and the community.

Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015

The Children and Families Partnership received an update on the progress of all specified authorities to new duties imposed by the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, which places a general duty on them to, in the exercise of their functions, have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism.

Specified Authorities are

- Local Authorities;
- Police, Prisons, Probation, Community Rehabilitation Companies;
- Schools, Further and Higher Education;
- NHS Trusts/Foundation Trusts.

Partners were encouraged to access the e-learning courses available on the LSCB website: www.durham-lscb.org.uk

The Partnership noted that a Community Cohesion Task and Finish Group has been established to support communities to be resilient and deal with emerging issues.

It is anticipated that questions seeking the views of those at risk of potential discrimination will be included in the 2017 Student Voice Survey.

The School Mile

The Children and Families Partnership received an overview of the School Mile, which is a measurable physical activity initiative for schools. The project is growing in Scotland and has recently been taken up nationally, it appears to have had significant impact upon the population of children within the schools involved in the initiative

Public Health are exploring the School Mile with Culture and Sport colleagues and the PE advisor for schools based in Durham County Council, and will produce guidance for school colleagues on implementation of this initiative.

Student Voice Survey

The Children and Families Partnership received an update on the preparatory work taking place in relation to undertaking the Student Voice Surveys of Primary and Secondary Schools in County Durham. It is anticipated the surveys will take place between January and March 2017 to fit in with school requirements and to avoid examination periods in 2017, however these timescales, the final survey design and content will be confirmed with schools by the end of 2016.

To take forward the development and design of the survey, a Task and Finish Group has been put in place to oversee the development of each of the respective surveys. The group will also consider the feasibility of extending the survey to Special Schools. The involvement of Children and Young People in the survey development will also be co-ordinated through this group.

School colleagues are being encouraged to take part in the survey to enable the views of children and young people to be collated and used to shape strategies and improve outcomes. The previous survey received the views of over 8,000 young people.

Young People's Issues

The Head of Education provided an overview of the Woodlands Pupil Referral Unit prior to a young person attending the meeting to show a DVD which she made to provide an overview of her experience of being educated within the Pupil Referral Unit.

The Young Person said it was hoped that partner's views and perceptions of the Pupil Referral Unit and those who are educated within it had been changed for the better as a result.

It was confirmed that they had, members were impressed by the standard and breadth of work in The Woodlands and praised the Young Person for the way she showcased the potential and skills that students from the Woodlands have to offer.