

Report of Amanda Healy, Director of Public Health

Purpose of the Report

- 1 To update Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny on the 0-25 Family Health Service workforce and service delivery across County Durham.

Executive summary

- 2 Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) is the provider of the 0-25 Family Health Service in County Durham, which delivers the Healthy Child Programme. HDFT is commissioned by Public Health in Durham County Council. A new contract was implemented from 1 September 2020.
- 3 Mobilisation and transition to deliver the new 0-25 Family Health Service (from the former 0-19 Health Visitor and School Nursing Service) during the pandemic created challenges and delay in progressing some areas of work.
- 4 A Transformation Manager post was introduced in September 2022 to strengthen the management support required to progress key areas of work in the contract, alongside the leadership team managing the return to business-as-usual post pandemic.
- 5 The Transformation Manager is a key role in progressing the Family Hub agenda in County Durham.
- 6 Although there has been significant recruitment in September 2023 of Health Visitors, as student Health Visitors complete their training, there remains a deficit of Family Health Visitors. There is a national shortage of qualified Health Visitor Specialist Community Public Health Nurses (SCPHN) which impacts at local and regional levels.
- 7 Agile working continues to support universal Healthy Child Programme delivery, partnership working and targeted work, balanced with presence, visibility, and delivery in and through the 15 Family Hubs across County Durham.
- 8 Further expansion of the Emotional Health and Resilience Team has taken place over the past twelve months to provide early help support for

children and young people's mental health and to increase prevention work and reach to vulnerable groups and the pre-school cohort.

- 9 The 5 Government mandated Healthy Child Programme contacts are consistently delivered across County Durham with high levels of coverage. There has been a targeted and phased approach towards full delivery of the additional 5 contacts in the 0-25 contract.
- 10 The Enhanced Parenting Support Pathway (EPSP) referral criteria has been extended to include referrals up to 10 weeks postnatal.
- 11 There has been significant progress with the 0-25 Family Health Service digital offer, with additions and improvements to the 0-25 Growing Healthy App and the implementation of the health chat function.

Recommendation(s)

- 12 Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to:
 - a) Note the content of this report.

Background

- 13 The 0-25 Family Health Service (FHS), which delivers the Healthy Child Programme, contract commenced with Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust (HDFT) on 1 September 2020.
- 14 To reflect the local authority's duty to young people that are SEND and care leavers and the direction of the NHS Long Term Plan move towards 0-25 services, the service is referred to as the 0-25 Family Health Service.
- 15 The 0-25 Family Health Service structure has an emphasis on a skill mix workforce, recognising that Health Visitors are a key workforce and are nationally mandated.
- 16 The 0-25 Family Health Service mobilised during the Covid Pandemic, which was extremely challenging, with the focus now on business as usual and implementation of the contract model, recognising that there are significant needs and vulnerabilities post covid.

Workforce Challenges and Workforce Development

- 17 The service has continued to encounter significant workforce challenges due to the level of Family Health Visitor vacancy in the last 12 months. This is reflective of the national picture of a shortage of trained Specialist

Community Public Health Nurses (SCPHN) available to fill those vacancies.

- 18 The level of Family Health Visitor vacancies has led to work with safeguarding and vulnerable families being prioritised with Countywide support from other teams being utilised alongside increasing skill mix to support Healthy Child Programme delivery.
- 19 The skill mix teams support both the 0-6 and 6-25 SCPHN workforce to deliver both universal and targeted support, including early help, safeguarding and children in care interventions.
- 20 Recruitment to any non-SCPHN and non-nursing qualified roles where vacancies have arisen has been successful, with an increase in our Band 5 Staff Nurse roles to support Healthy Child Programme delivery and mitigate some of the Family Health Visitor vacancy.
- 21 HDFT have successfully recruited to 10.6 WTE Family Hub funded posts, as part of the implementation programme.
- 22 HDFT have trained 14 SCPHN Students 2022-2023 and 12 have accepted permanent jobs in County Durham. The next cohort of SCPHN students have started their training in September 2023 and we have 13 Health Visitor SCPHN and 5 School Nurse SCPHN training in Durham.
- 23 In addition, all vacancies continue to be advertised nationally, HDFT hold quarterly recruitment events, and offer retire and return opportunities to support staff work/life balance and retain experienced staff in our services. HDFT work closely with NHS Professionals to increase the pool of SCPHN staff to support teams.
- 24 Workforce wellbeing has been a key priority for HDFT and Public Health in Durham County Council, with dedicated Health Advocates in teams, listening events, Thrive conversations, support and opportunities for new roles and progression, and a Trust recruitment and retention plan.
- 25 The 0-25 Family Health Service achieved the Better Health at Work Silver Award in September 2022, and the Gold Award in October 2023.
- 26 The workforce undertakes a considerable amount of training, including nationally required mandatory and role specific training for NHS staff, role specific training for 0-25 staff, safeguarding training at appropriate levels for role, SEND training, and wider system training to support early help assessment and interventions.
- 27 The Family Hubs and Start for Life developments and implementation programme have provided additional training requirements and

opportunities which have been embraced by the teams, including Sleep Scotland Training and Triple P Baby.

- 28 The 0-25 Family Health Service facilitate many pre-registration student nurse placements, midwifery student placements, post registration SCPHN placements, and more recently trainee community paediatrician placements. There is ongoing preceptorship, safeguarding preceptorship and competency development and sign off for staff in the service.
- 29 Workforce Flu vaccinations for Winter 2023 are planned for end October 2023 delivered by HDFT Occupational Health Team locally. There is also an offer of Pertussis vaccination for staff who have regular contact with women in the last month of pregnancy and non-vaccinated young infants.

Universal and Targeted Care to Children, Young People and Families

- 30 Agile working has continued to support service delivery. Most service delivery contacts with Children Young People and Families (CYP&F) are face to face, however virtual platforms are still utilised where appropriate and beneficial to CYP&F.
- 31 HDFT's Single Point of Contact into the service is well utilised, with access to duty practitioners who can offer advice and signposting or refer to the most appropriate practitioner. Ease of access has been improved through the health chat function on the App.
- 32 Appointed sessions have been offered in suitable venues across County Durham for the past 2 years to support families accessing the service where the Health Visitor or parent/ carer have concerns in relation to health and development or would like to see a member of the team outside of a home visit for any reason. These are being located in Family Hubs, with some outreach venues.
- 33 0-25 Family Health Service Growing Healthy drop ins are currently being established in the Family Hubs, feedback from the Parent Carer Panel has supported this development.

Enhanced Parenting Support Pathway

- 34 In County Durham the Enhanced Parenting Support Pathway (EPSP) provides additional support to the Healthy Child Programme levels of service.
- 35 In line with providing holistic, coordinated packages of support to families in greatest need, the EPSP involves the delivery of integrated support by Health Visitors and the One Point Service (OPS) and other partner organisations where appropriate.

- 36 Parental mental health is consistently the top reason for referral onto the pathway, followed by previous child protection proceedings, then parental domestic abuse.
- 37 Following a multi-agency workshop, the criteria for referral onto the pathway has been extended to include the Antenatal and Postnatal period up to 10 weeks to ensure parents with perinatal mental health concerns are identified early and appropriate supported.
- 38 The process to request an Early Help Practitioner from One Point for joint delivery of the pathway has been streamlined and there is a clear communication pathway. There is ongoing work to improve data collection and outcome measures and ensure information sharing processes are robust and effective.

Best Start in Life

Infant Feeding

- 39 Breastfeeding initiation and rates at 6-8 weeks have remained almost unchanged from 2021 rates. 10 face to face infant support groups are currently delivered across the County weekly, with an additional 3 targeted Early Latch Clinics established where there are currently and historically lower breastfeeding rates.
- 40 The 0-25 Family Health Service has UNICEF Baby Friendly Full Accreditation. HDFT Family Peer Supporters support the infant feeding groups across County Durham and work with local businesses to promote the Baby Friendly business accreditation scheme.
- 41 The Family Peer Supporters have had an active role in contacting families of under 2s to check entitlement and promote the food and warmth voucher scheme, and Healthy Start scheme, supporting the child poverty agenda.

Health Education and Nutrition in the Really Young (HENRY)

- 42 The Henry programme is delivered across County Durham. Workforce training is near completion and the focus has recently been on developing the Henry facilitator team to enable delivery of the parents' programmes and sessional workshops.
- 43 A comprehensive parenting offer has now been developed for the latter half of 2023 which includes the full parenting programmes and shorter workshops which prove more popular. Partnership working between the early years sector and the maternity sector is flourishing.

Speech and Language

- 44 HDFT have taken part in a research project with Newcastle University to trial the 'Talking Together' resources in collaboration with selected Early Years settings. A suite of resources is to be provided by the University for when speech and language delay is identified post ELIM (Early Language Identification Measure).
- 45 HDFT are working in partnership with the wider system to map current speech and language provision in County Durham and analysis of data to identify gaps and assets and the development of a Speech, Language and Communication (SLC) Strategy. The newly appointed Parenting Support Family Peer Supporters funded by Family Hubs will focus on equity of access to SLC support.

Unintentional Injuries

- 46 Unintentional injury-HDFT are involving Family Hubs with the Accidental Poisoning Campaign across County Durham with RoSPA and have provided over 2000 safety fridge magnets and safety checklists to families with supporting advice.
- 47 Child Safety Week 5th-11th June 2023 was promoted via the Growing Healthy Facebook page. HDFT have developed a calendar for accident prevention themes of the month, using learning from Child Death Overview Panel and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews. There has been a particular focus on water safety, cascaded throughout the Family Hub workforce.

Perinatal and Infant Mental Health

- 48 With the support of Family Hub funding HDFT have recently employed a Specialist Health Visitor for Perinatal & Infant Mental Health (PIMH), alongside a Staff Nurse and 3 Family Peer Supporters. The Specialist Health Visitor will ensure the 0-25 workforce are up to date with training as well as providing PIMH training to the Family Hub workforce.
- 49 The Specialist Health Visitor works in partnership with Tees Esk and Wear Valley (TEWV) Specialist Perinatal Mental Health Service and the Talking Therapies Service. Part of the role is to develop referral pathways and triage low to moderate level PIMH referrals, providing advice to Health Visitors, Midwives, and the Family Hub workforce.
- 50 The Specialist Health Visitor is trained to deliver Video Interactive Guidance to promote parent infant relationships and another 4 Family Health Visitors, and a Staff Nurse are to be trained to deliver this evidence- based intervention.

- 51 The Family Peer Supporters have commenced training in Triple P Baby which promotes sensitive and responsive care in the perinatal period and have commenced delivery of 'Nurturing Little Minds' a 6-week programme for low to moderate PIMH, they also deliver 1:1 and group wellbeing walks.
- 52 HDFT are focussing on ensuring their workforce is up to date with training and expanding the number of train the trainers in Emotional Wellbeing Visits to expedite and cascade this training across teams.
- 53 In partnership with the One Point service HDFT have renewed the licence to support all County Durham families accessing the Solihull Programmes online. Q2 data 2023 indicates most popular programmes are Understanding your Child from Toddler to Teenager and Understanding Your Child with Additional Needs.
- 54 This online access to parenting programmes increases choice for parents and carers, and young people as there are courses for teenagers on teenage brain and emotions.
- 55 HDFT are working in collaboration with Community Midwifery and Family Hubs to deliver a 5-week face to face Antenatal Solihull programme for parents to be in Family Hubs across the County.

Tobacco Dependency in Pregnancy

- 56 Family Health Visitors and Staff Nurses deliver the North East England Tobacco Dependency in Pregnancy and Postnatal Pathway.
- 57 Due to the significant health risks of smoking during and after pregnancy, Carbon Monoxide (CO) monitoring is embedded in the Healthy Child Programme contacts to promote an automatic referral to the Stop Smoking Service when indicated. Our staff have been trained by ABL (the Stop Smoking Service Provider in County Durham).
- 58 We have seen an increase in referrals to the specialist stop smoking service in the last 6 months, however in the postnatal period we are seeing several declines from families to have the CO monitoring undertaken and there is ongoing work to understand this.

Family Hubs

- 59 HDFT 0-25 Family Health Service are a key partner in the development and implementation of the Family Hub and Start for Life offer in County Durham.

- 60 As a result of 0-25 Family Health Service user feedback, intelligence from practitioners, in particular our SEND and Emotional Resilience Teams, and review of early help conversations, where sleep issues were a common theme in many referrals and requests for support, 15 practitioners have been trained in Sleep Scotland sleep advisor training.
- 61 5 practitioners have been trained in Sleep Counselling for children and young people with additional needs. Sleep workshops are being introduced through Family Hubs.
- 62 HDFT practitioners support the delivery of the EPEC (Empowering People Empowering Communities) training to Parent Group Leaders alongside One Point colleagues.

Digital

- 63 The 0-25 Family Health Service Growing Healthy App has had many additions over the past few months, including a Health Chat function providing the opportunity to message a Health Visitor, School Nurse, or Duty Practitioner during office hours with any questions, and a response is provided within 24 hours.
- 64 There are now dedicated areas on the App for supporting Dads, child measurements and activity tracker, and essential services which supports families to find their local health and family services once they enter their location.
- 65 Downloads of the App have increased significantly over the past few months, from 3% to 11% of the 0-5 population. Staff are promoting at all opportunities.

School Age Vision Screening

- 66 Vision screening in academic year 2022-2023 for reception children was completed as normal, 4973 children (97% of eligible cohort) were screened. 12.5% of those screened required referral to optician, 2.9% referral to hospital orthoptist.
- 67 HDFT continue to work closely with the Primary Eyecare Service to increase children accessing optician appointments in a timely way following school screening. 0-25 practitioners refer children to this service using a platform called Opera which Primary Eyecare use as their national system. This supports timely referral, offer of appointments and the ability to track individual children through the system following referral.

National Childhood Measurement Programme - Healthy Weight

- 68 The National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) for academic year 2022 – 2023 was completed on all eligible schools within timescales.
- 69 NCMP data nationally shows an decrease in Reception Year Obesity Prevalence from 14.4% in 2020-2021 to 10.1% in 2021–2022 , however this remains higher than pre-pandemic levels. In County Durham, 11.25% of reception age children in 2021–2022 are reported to live with obesity, this is higher than the England rate of 10.1%.
- 70 Year 6 national obesity prevalence has decreased from 25.5% in 2020-2021 to 23.4% in 2021–2022. In County Durham, 25.5% of year 6 children in 2021–2022 are reported to live with obesity, this is higher than the national rate.
- 71 The findings from the NCMP data for 2022-2023 have not been published to date.
- 72 The ongoing training of our staff to deliver HENRY, including the Healthy Families Growing up Programme which is aimed at children aged 4-12 years, will support addressing the levels of obesity we are identifying in our population. NCMP will be key in identifying children and families we can engage in this intervention, in addition to referral from partner agencies and families themselves.
- 73 Working with Durham County Council and County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT), the 0-25 Family Health Service participated in the MapMe research project run by Newcastle University.
- 74 The project aims to support parental knowledge and awareness of child weight status and look at how child weight status changes over time.
- 75 This project involved repeat height and weight measurements when children are in Year 1 and Year 7, in academic year 2022-2023, following their NCMP measurement in the previous academic year. The re-measurement programme was successfully completed in academic year 2022– 2023 and we await the results of the study.

6-19/25 Service Delivery

- 76 The age 6-25 element of the service continues to undergo a programme of transformation to support the new service model, with some disaggregated roles to focus on and support the more vulnerable children and young people, while maintaining a generic service that works with schools and more vulnerable communities.

- 77 There are specific Children in Care Nurses, Safeguarding Strategy Nurses, an Educated Other Than at School (EOTAS) Nurse, Youth Justice Nurse and SEND Nurses.
- 78 The Gypsy, Roma Traveller (GRT) Specialist Nurse Role continues to have excellent relationships with the GRT communities across County Durham, and this role continues to evolve.
- 79 The 6–25 service have introduced a referral process from external partners into the service. This has provided a robust system for managing referrals in a timely manner and improved access to the service for partner agencies and parents. It also facilitates feedback to referrers and signposting to appropriate support and services.
- 80 Data from referrals into the service has helped to shape service delivery and identify gaps in service provision which can then be addressed.
- 81 Working with system partners, we have identified that teenage conceptions and pregnancy are a key priority area for 6-25 staff interventions.
- 82 The team are re-introducing school drop ins to secondary schools, upskilling staff to assess for and supply emergency hormonal contraception and pilot a package of support for teenage parents including dads, from conception until 28 weeks pregnant, when care will transition over to the Health Visiting service.

Emotional Health and Resilience Team

- 83 Referrals into the Emotional Health and Resilience Team (EHRT) have continued to increase over the last 12 months. The service offered is based on the needs of the children, young people and families in County Durham, some areas of growth are a direct response to the need identified.
- 84 The referrals and interventions delivered by the emotional health and resilience team have increased month on month since the beginning of our current 0-25 Family Health Service contract, with an increase from Q3 to Q4 2022-2023 of 21.5%, however a reduction of 15% in Q1 2023-2024 following changes in the model of early intervention in a South Durham College to have an in-house counsellor.
- 85 Intervention contacts in summary are 1:1 with CYP, targeted group work, whole school approach involving staff and pupils and regular appointed sessions in all secondary schools in County Durham.

- 86 Our daily manned duty line continues to receive increasing numbers of calls regarding referrals, providing advice and guidance and signposting to appropriate resources and services.
- 87 Working with Public Health colleagues, HDFT have expanded the EHRT to help promote resilience and to provide early help and support to CYP by introducing some additional skill mix . This has facilitated increased focussed support on vulnerable groups in our communities.
- 88 Upskilling, advice and guidance and supervision to our wider family health service colleagues is paramount to enable extra wider reach of the emotional health and resilience offer and includes an increased offer with our key delivery partners, including partnership delivery at locality forums, and Youth Awareness Mental Health (YAM) delivery.
- 89 Prevention and early intervention is key to improving emotional wellbeing and mental health outcomes for our children, young people and families (CYP&F) in County Durham. The recent expansion increases capacity to focus on this prevention and early intervention, focussing on very early years and pre-school, enabling us to further progress working in an integrated way with the local authority, education, and early years settings.
- 90 The upskilling of Health Visitors enhances our prevention offer around emotional wellbeing in the critical preschool period.
- 91 Anxiety remains the most prevalent reason for referral, followed by emotional regulation. The main referrer into the service is education, with self-referrals from CYP and families increasing.
- 92 The EHRT are key members of a co-ordinated multi agency response offering vital support after a critical incident has occurred in the community. This is delivered in a timely manner to primary and secondary schools, both for staff, CYP&F when sadly there has been a death of a young person or staff member in the school community.
- 93 Decider Skills Training continues to be offered into primary schools across the County Working with groups of children around emotional regulation. HDFT have increased the number of staff trained, increasing capacity to meet the needs within our communities.
- 94 This teaches children, young people and adults the skills to recognise their own thoughts, feelings and behaviours, enabling them to monitor and manage their own emotions and mental health, proactively reducing the impact of emotional distress.
- 95 This resource has been hugely popular with schools, with delivery to 46 schools (1677 pupils) in academic year 2022-2023. So far 30 schools

have requested the training academic year 2023-2024 and these are currently being booked in.

- 96 The programme was also offered over the summer holidays 2023 in community venues, which has been received well.
- 97 HDFT have adapted this resource to include some vital transition support for children and young people.
- 98 An essential element of the team function is to work collaboratively with wider members of the CYP Mental Health Partnership. This prevents duplication, standardises our approach and ensures we have a rich learning environment. It also supports ensuring CYP&F tell their story once.
- 99 In partnership, the EHRT co-deliver YAM, Senior Mental Health Leads in School Training and the very successful anxious about school pilot, co-delivering an evidence-based programme to parents to support their children suffering anxiety, which in turn was stopping them accessing education.
- 100 The EHRT are currently working alongside partners on a pilot in the Consett area of the County, the aim is a streamlined multi-agency approach to triaging referrals ensuring CYP & F are picked up at the earliest opportunity by the most appropriate service first time, less inappropriate referrals to specialist provision resulting in improved outcomes for CYP&F, less delay for families, less duplication and CYP &F telling their story once.

Youth Practitioners

- 101 The majority of referrals for Youth Practitioner support are from CAMHS, One Point Service or Education colleagues.
- 102 In the past year the HDFT Youth Practitioner team have worked with six secondary schools on Growing Healthy Gardening/ Forest School Projects, three Community Allotment projects and a youth group for social/ emotional support working in partnership with the Allotment Associations and local Charities.
- 103 Funding secured by a 0-25 Family Health Service Manager from the Queens Nursing Institute has supported the development of a Growing Healthy Allotment project in Shildon, working in partnership with Shildon Alive Charity.
- 104 In the past year the HDFT 0-25 Family Health Service Youth Practitioner team have worked with six secondary schools on Growing Healthy Gardening/ Forest School Projects, three Community Allotment projects

and a youth group for social and emotional support, working in partnership with the Allotment Associations and local Charities.

- 105 A 0-25 Family Health Service Youth Practitioner has set up a group for young people who are home educated in the East of the County, approximately 70% of the young people attending the group suffer with anxiety and 50% have additional needs. The group builds social skills, provides peer to peer support and structure. Some parents support with the delivery of the group and are in the process of signing up for HDFT volunteer programme.
- 106 Following attendance at one of the Growing Healthy allotment projects, we have engaged a young person as an HDFT volunteer as a direct result of the benefits experienced from attending the project. This young person presented lived experience to HDFT Executive Board in Harrogate, supported by the Youth Practitioner. This was impactful and received great feedback, increased confidence and resilience was reflected throughout, and this was a very positive experience for all involved.
- 107 25 young people with vulnerabilities have achieved the John Muir Award at the Willington Growing Healthy Allotment Project. In addition, the young people take produce to the local charity which is then distributed through the Food Bank.
- 108 Feedback from schools, the young people and families continues to be very positive, around raised self-esteem, confidence and overcoming social isolation.

SEND

- 109 The HDFT SEND team have continued to work closely with our SEND Schools since the return to school following Covid. The team offer bespoke group and one to one Health Promotion to CYP in SEND Schools, as well as targeted work in school or home for identified CYP who may be at risk.
- 110 There has been additionality to the SEND team through recruiting a Family Health Visitor with a specific focus on SEND in 0-5, supporting increased engagement with early years settings and providers, and earlier identification and support for CYP&F with SEND.
- 111 There is ongoing improvement work to ensure robust and relevant information is provided to inform Education and Healthcare Plans (EHCPs).
- 112 The team have developed a programme of sessions to run in the Family Hubs to address some common health issues faced by parents and

carers of children with SEND and additional needs, aged 2-6 years. These are due to commence in November 2023 and will be evaluated following completion of the third round of sessions, to ensure we are meeting our target audience, and that families find the sessions relevant and useful.

Safeguarding

- 113 The 0-25 Family Health Service continues to experience high levels of safeguarding activity, alongside Children's Services and the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).
- 114 The Safeguarding Strategy Nurses roles continue to reduce the impact of Family Health Visitors and Family Health SCPHNs moving or delaying universal and targeted work to attend strategies. The expertise within the Strategy Nurse team ensures the most vulnerable families receive the timely assessment and planned targeted level of care that is needed to support them.
- 115 There is also increasing complexity in safeguarding cases, with an impact of vicarious trauma and high stress levels amongst staff. HDFT have a cohort of staff trained in vicarious trauma to support the workforce.
- 116 There is an increase in the number of cases that need oversight from a Specialist Nurse Child Protection (SNCP). Within the Specialist Safeguarding Team we have the resource of an SNCP undertaking focused work on Honour Based Abuse and Domestic Abuse, to ensure that knowledge and learning can be shared with practitioners. This ensures that the 0-25 staff receive the most up to date information to tackle the increasing numbers of domestic abuse cases.
- 117 The physical abuse package has been launched and is being rolled out to staff. There is development of a honour based abuse package alongside a harm outside the home highlighting the new concerns and vulnerabilities that the children we serve are facing.
- 118 Safeguarding training and supervision within the team has very high compliance levels.
- 119 There has been continued use of the supportive training package for newly qualified SCPHN practitioners and SCPHN students. Specialist support is given via a preceptorship package by SNCP so the new staff have the expert safeguarding knowledge and support to ensure that clients receive the highest quality of care and CYP are safeguarded.

Key Challenges

- 120 Health Visitor SCPHN Workforce remains the main challenge for the next 12 months, there is currently a national shortage of around 5000 Health Visitors (iHV, 2022). HDFT are working closely with Public Health and the wider system to address gaps, think creatively and ensure they prioritise vulnerability and inequality, while still providing a good universal offer to our County Durham Children Young People and Families.
- 121 Breastfeeding rates remain almost unchanged at initiation and 6-8 weeks since 2021. Recent Insights work commissioned by Public Health, and additional Infant Feeding and Peer Support roles through Family Hub funding are increasing resource and intelligence to do more targeted and culture change work.

Background papers

- None

Other useful documents

- None

Author(s)

Amanda Smith

Tel: 07392 194353

Michelle Baldwin

Tel: 03000 267323

Appendix 1: Implications

Legal Implications

Under the terms of the Health and Social Care Act 2012 local authorities hold the commissioning responsibility for 0-19 Public Health services, including the mandated Health Visitor contacts.

Finance

None.

Consultation

A stakeholder consultation exercise was undertaken as part of the review of the previous County Durham Health Visiting and School Nursing Service to shape the new service specification. Ongoing service user consultation and feedback is embedded into the contract monitoring requirements.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty

An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken for the new 0-25 service.

Climate Change

Not applicable.

Human Rights

Not applicable.

Crime and Disorder

Not applicable.

Staffing

The provider are responsible for staffing requirements to deliver the service

Accommodation

Not applicable.

Risk

All risks are monitored by DCC commissioning and mitigating actions considered.

Procurement

No current procurement requirements.