

Children & Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

1 March 2018

Summary of Minutes from Children and Families Partnership (CFP)

15 January 2018



1. Child Poverty Update

Poverty can affect every area of a child's development - social, educational, health and personal. Living in a poor household can reduce children's expectations of their lives and lead to a cycle where poverty is repeated from generation to generation. As adults, they are more likely to suffer ill health, be unemployed or homeless, and become involved in offending, drug and alcohol abuse, and abusive relationships.

In County Durham, a Child Poverty working group has been established as a sub group of the Children and Families Partnership, to address the cause and impact of poverty on children, young people and families across the county. The working group has membership from across a range of services and partner organisations.

The working group have agreed the Joseph Rowntree Foundation definition of poverty, '*When a person's resources are well below their minimum needs, including the need to take part in society*'. This definition describes not only monetary and resource poverty but also poverty of opportunity.

The working group agreed the following three priorities:

1. Promote positive language and values associated with child poverty
2. Poverty Management in communities linked to early help
3. Economic- inclusive growth approach

A Plan on a Page (POP) has been developed, and agreed by the CFP, to show how the three priorities will be tackled, which includes:

- Developing a Child Poverty Communications Plan
- Developing a Child Poverty Charter through the Children and Families Partnership, and involving children and young people in its development
- Looking at ways to cut the costs of the school day
- Coordinating a county wide activities programme where food is provided
- Promoting access to high quality, flexible and affordable childcare to parents on low incomes.

2. Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Local Transformation Plan

The nationally required County Durham Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Local Transformation Plan (CYP LTP)

was originally agreed by the Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2015, with a refreshed plan agreed in January 2017.

A workshop took place in June 2017 to refresh the document, in line with requirements of an annual update, which was submitted to NHS England on 31st October 2017.

The CYP LTP reflects the vision and principles of the national 'Future in Mind' strategy and the 5-year forward view for mental health. The core overarching aims of the CYP LTP are to:

- Facilitate greater access and standards for mental health services
- Promote positive mental health and wellbeing for children and young people
- Have greater system co-ordination and a significant improvement in meeting the mental health needs of children and young people from vulnerable backgrounds.

The CYP LTP is based on the five themes within 'Future in Mind':

- Promoting resilience, prevention and early intervention
- Improving access to effective support
- Care for the most vulnerable
- Accountability and Transparency
- Developing the workforce

The CYP LTP has been edited into an easy read version to ensure it is accessible to all. Copies are available on request from Jayne.watson@durham.gov.uk It is important to note that the voice of children, young people and parents have been considered in its development.

The CFP will be consulted on the refresh of the CYP LTP for 2018/19 at its meeting on 6th March 2018, with a particular focus on:

- Workforce
- Communications
- Clarity of the pathway

The CYP LTP will then be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board in July 2018 for agreement and a summary document outlining the plans will be developed following full assurance and sign off from partners.

3. Healthy Child Programme Board, Local Maternity System and Best Start in Life

Healthy Child Programme Board

The Healthy Child Programme Board (HCPB) is a sub group of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and focused on improving life chances for children in County Durham.

The HCPB has been established to bring a small multi-disciplinary strategic group together to discuss close collaborative working to improve the health and social care offer to children and young people aged 0-19 years (24 year for Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)). The work of the HCPB does not duplicate that of the CFP, but brings added value by aiming to bring together joint planning, leadership and commissioning to ensure services to children, young people and families are joined up from prevention, through treatment and to recovery.

A Transformational Route Map (TRM) has been developed to support the move to a 'one team' approach, which offers seamless services at the point of contact for all children, young people and families. This new approach will be achieved over the next two years through the following six work streams:

- Communication
- End to end pathway development
- Planning
- Commissioning
- Leadership and people management
- Performance management, including information management and technology.

Local Maternity System

The work of the HCPB has a robust relationship with the Local Maternity System (LMS). The five year forward view for maternity care 'Better Births' has been published with the ambition to improve outcomes for maternity services in England. It makes explicit reference to the importance of improving prevention and reducing health inequalities.

On a local level, providers and commissioners should act as LMS's with the aim of ensuring women, babies and families are able to access the services they need and choose, in the community, as close to home as possible.

In the North East, there are two LMS board which are reflective of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan footprints, with a third to cover North Cumbria.

The following ambitions are seen as priorities:

- Reducing smoking in pregnancy
- Increase vaccination uptake in pregnancy
- Improve perinatal mental health
- Reduce alcohol consumption in pregnancy
- Increase breastfeeding initiation rates and rates of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks
- Promoting healthy weight, and supporting women who are obese before, during and after birth
- Increase making every contact count.

Best Start in Life

County Durham is a pilot site for the system led improvement programme, which will focus on ensuring that every child has the Best Start in Life (BSIL), as this is central to the health inequalities agenda.

A multi-agency BSIL delivery group, which is accountable to the CFP and the HCPB, has been established and has worked through a self-assessment process, looking at how County Durham is performing on offering children and young people the best start in life.

Following completion of the self-assessment work is taking place with stakeholders to develop a BSIL framework and action plan for County Durham, which will be consulted on and then ratified by the CFP, and Health and Wellbeing Board.

A Public Health nurse specialist has been appointed for a 12 month secondment, providing focused leadership to implement the changes required to drive forward the importance of BSIL.

BSIL progress will be actively monitored through the HCPB, and a workshop with regional Directors of Public Health and Directors of Children's Services is planned for Spring 2018 to share progress and learning.

A detailed summary of the self-assessment results are available on request from Jayne.watson@durham.gov.uk

4. Family Action, The Bridge Young Carers Charter

Being a young carer can have a significant impact on a young person's education, social development and self-confidence. The Bridge young carers' service works hard to raise awareness of young carers and to provide support to children, young people and families to improve outcomes, enabling them to achieve their full potential.

The CFP achieved Young Carers Charter status in 2015, making a number of pledges to help support young people with caring responsibilities across the County. As a result of the work of the Partnership, charter status has been re-accredited for a further two years.

Member organisation of the CFP who have not already achieved charter status within their individual organisations are encouraged to work towards this.

If you are aware of any other organisations or schools who would like to support young carers, and work towards achieving carer status, please contact Kerryann Stewart, at Family Action by email Kerryann.Stewart@family-action.org.uk or phone 0191 383 2520.