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**REVISED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE 'S LEADERSHIP**

**Report by Depute Chief Executive People**

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**COMMUNITY PLANNING PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIC BOARD**

**11 June 2015**

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**1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY**

- 1.1 **This report seeks approval from Community Planning Partnership (CPP) to agree the revised arrangements for the children & young people's strategic planning and commissioning.**
- 1.2 The Children & Young People's Leadership Group was established in June 2014 and is responsible for delivery of the Scottish Borders Children & Young People's Plan. This replaced the Children & Young People's Planning Partnership which had established effective partnership planning and working for Children & Young People's Services.
- 1.3 Previously the Children & Young People's Leadership Group reported to the Scottish Borders Community Health & Care Partnership. As the Community Care & Health Partnership has been disestablished the Leadership Group has reviewed the governance arrangements and in line with Care Inspectorate guidelines has concluded that given the shared priorities, the CPP should have oversight of Children & Young People's Services. This will not alter the existing individual agency governance arrangements which are in place for escalation of decisions and issues concerning a single agency service.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 **I recommend that the Strategic Board considers the following recommendations:-**
- (a) **To Note the work of the Children & Young People's Leadership Group**
  - (b) **To Agree that the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board through the Joint Delivery Team has oversight of the work of the Children & Young People's Leadership Group with regular monitoring reports.**

### **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 There is a long tradition of partnership working in the Scottish Borders. The Children & Young People's Planning Partnership (CYPPP) was established in 2007, replacing the Children's Change Group. The CYPPP brought together a range of agencies from the statutory agencies in addition to third sector organisations responsible for delivering services for children and young people with a focus on a multi-agency approach to the planning of services.
- 3.2 Governance and oversight of the work of the CYPPP was established through the Scottish Borders Community Health & Care Partnership (CHCP) with regular reporting through the CHCP Delivery Committee. For issues and decisions relating to a single agency children or young people's service, governance and responsibility has remained within single agencies.
- 3.3 The CYPPP have been responsible for the development and delivery of the Scottish Border's Children & Young People's Plan. Through this process key priorities have been progressed by all agencies working together to improve outcomes for children and young people. The 2012-15 plan covered a wide range of areas: Getting it Right For Every Child (GIRFEC), Early Years, promoting children's rights, keeping children safe, looked after and accommodated children and young people, parenting, parental involvement, improved attainment and achievement, transitions 16+ workforce planning and development. A new plan is under development and this will be brought to the CPP when complete. Sub-groups have been established and are contributing to the development of a new Children & Young People's Plan with an associated action plan and performance framework. See appendix 1 for detail on the sub groups.
- 3.4 The CYPPP received an allocation of funding from Scottish Government through the Children's Change Fund to commission a range of services. Funding is now available through the local authority general allocation and the commissioning arrangements continue.
- 3.5 Included within the Children & Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 there is a directive that all local authorities and relevant NHS Boards will produce a joint plan by 2017. This can be overseen by CPPs.

### **4 THE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S LEADERSHIP GROUP**

- 4.1 Since the establishment of the CYPPP, there has been a number of national and local initiatives, which have expanded the key priorities of the Partnership including:
- The Children & Young People's (Scotland) Act 2014
  - The Early Years Framework
  - Early Years Collaborative
  - National and international research supporting the benefits of investment in the Early Years
  - Local CPP priority to reduce inequalities within the Scottish Borders
  - Redesign of the inspection process for multi-agency services.

Following a review of the CYPPP in early 2014, the CHCP agreed the proposal to merge the Early Years Leadership Group and CYPPP to become the Children & Young People's Leadership Group with a revised membership and terms of reference.

- 4.2 Oversight of the budget for commissioned services now sits with the Leadership Group. The budget for commissioned services for 2015/16 is £908,388. The Leadership Group also have oversight of the Early Years Change fund allocation which is being used to develop the Early Years Centres. These budgets sit within the People Department and are managed by Officers within SBC.

## 5 **REVISED GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS**

- 5.1 With the dissolution of the CHCP, the Leadership Group has given careful consideration to new governance arrangements. The Leadership Group recommends that the Group now reports to the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board through the Joint Delivery Team. The new Scottish Borders Children & Young People's Plan will make a significant contribution towards the Community Planning Partnership priority of reducing inequalities as set out in the Single Outcome Agreement. A diagram of the proposed governance structure is found at Appendix 1.
- 5.2 The Leadership Group proposes to report regularly to the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board through the Joint Delivery Team. This will include update reports on progress towards delivery of the plan and a performance report will be developed to measure progress.
- 5.3 Whilst the CPP will provide links with a wide range of adult services, it is recognised that there will need to be links with services within health and social care integration. There may be matters which are intrinsically linked to Adult Services or come under the remit of the Integrated Joint Board and these may need consideration by the Integrated Joint Board.

## 6 **IMPLICATIONS**

### 6.1 **Financial**

- (a) The Children & Young People's Leadership Group oversee a budget £908,388 which is used to commission a range of services to support children, young people and their families. The budget is managed by Officers within SBC and this budget is set within the annual budget process and approved by full Council.

### 6.2 **Risk and Mitigations**

- (a) The governance arrangements proposed in this paper will strengthen links between the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board and the Leadership Group, Child Protection Committee and Strategic Corporate Parenting Group. It will also ensure senior leaders from across the partnership are kept informed of key issues affecting children and young people.

### 6.3 **Equalities**

- (a) The Children & Young People's Leadership Group seeks to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable children and young people in the Scottish Borders with a focus on reducing inequalities. A number of the commissioned services support children and young people facing a range of challenges and this includes those with a caring responsibility and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people.

- (b) An EIA will be carried out on the new Children & Young People's Plan 2015-2017.

**6.4 Acting Sustainably**

- (a) The Children & Young People's Leadership Group seeks to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable children and young people in the Scottish Borders with a focus on reducing inequalities. The aim is to improve the life chances for all children and young people and this will mean there are more opportunities for children and young people in terms of employability and further and higher education.

**6.5 Carbon Management**

- (a) There would be no impact in terms of carbon emissions as a result of this proposal.

**6.6 Rural Proofing**

- (a) Rural proofing will be considered within the new Children & Young People's Plan 2015-2017.

**6.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation**

- (a) The scheme of administration may need to be updated by the CPP and this would need approval by Council.

**7 CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Service Director Regulatory Services as Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Service Director Strategy and Policy, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the final report.

**Approved by**

**Jeanette McDiarmid  
Depute Chief Executive People**

**Signature .....**

**Author(s)**

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## Appendix 1 – Proposed Governance Structure

