
INTEGRATED CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2015 - 2018

Report by Service Director Children & Young People

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

22 March 2016

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the Integrated Children & Young People's Plan 2015 – 2018 which sets out the strategic priorities for integrated Children and Young People's Services across partner agencies in the Scottish Borders.

- 1.2 The integrated plan has been developed by the Children & Young People's Leadership Group which is a multi-agency group with members from Scottish Borders Council, NHS Borders, Police Scotland, Scottish Children's Report Administrator and the Third Sector. The plan summarises progress made over the period of the previous plan and highlights priorities and key actions which will be progressed over the next 3 years. Following completion of the final draft there was a consultation on the plan involving key stakeholders including young people and their families as well as members of the wider public and staff across agencies. The main themes identified during consultation have been reflected within the final version of the plan which is presented at Appendix 1. The plan was approved by the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board in March 2016.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 **I recommend that the Education Themed Executive Committee:-**

- (a) **Note the Integrated Children & Young People's Plan 2015 – 2018.**

3 DEVELOPMENT OF INTEGRATED CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2015 - 2018

- 3.1 The development of the Children and Young People's plan has been led by the Children and Young People's Leadership Group. This is a multi agency plan which builds on the achievements of the previous plan. This includes the creation of 4 Early Years Centres, the introduction of the Wellbeing Web and multi-agency guidance to ensure a consistent approach in planning for individual children, the development of services to support children and young people affected by domestic abuse, the introduction of Community Mental Health Workers to support young people with emotional and mental health issues and the introduction of a new family orientated service to support children and young people affected by their own substance misuse or that of their parents.

The plan sets out a vision that "all children and young people in the Scottish Borders will achieve their unique potential" and sets out the new key priorities which are:

- i. Keeping children and young people safe
- ii. Improving health and reducing health inequalities
- iii. Improving the wellbeing and life chances for our most vulnerable children and young people
- iv. Raising attainment and achievement for all learners
- v. Increasing participation and engagement.

Key high level actions to achieve these priorities are set out in the plan.

- 3.2 This ambitious plan reflects the priorities set out by the Children & Young People's Leadership Group to work in partnership to deliver meaningful and sustainable improvements to the lives of children and young people across the Scottish Borders, ensuring there is targeted support for the most vulnerable and recognising the value of partners working jointly to ensure improvements for all. The principles of Getting It Right For Every Child and the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child are firmly embedded within the plan and there is a clear link to the Scottish Borders Single Outcome Agreement.
- 3.3 Consultation on the draft plan commenced in November 2015 and was carried out in the following ways:
- i. Engaging with members of the public (parents, carers, young people and members of the public) at consultation events held in conjunction with Health & Social Care
 - ii. On-line consultation facilitated through the SBC website and publicised via partner agency websites
 - iii. Presentation of the draft plan at key meetings
 - iv. Meetings with young people
 - v. Distributing the consultation document at a number of school events
 - vi. Sending e-mails to staff groups and publicising the consultation opportunity on the SBC website
 - vii. Awareness raising with Elected Members and Third Sector organisations via workshops.

The consultation period ended in January 2016. Analysis of the comments found that respondents were clearly supportive of the priorities outlined in the plan. A report summarising the findings of the consultation is found at Appendix 2. The plan has been updated to reflect the significant comments raised during the consultation and this final version was approved by the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board on the 3rd of March 2016.

- 3.4 The detailed actions to deliver on the 5 priorities outlined in the plan are now being developed by the sub groups of the Children & Young People's Leadership Group. There will be regular reporting on progress to the Leadership Group and the Community Planning Partnership Strategic Board. In response to a number of comments received during the consultation, an "easy read" and shorter version of the plan will be developed with a version for young people.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

There are no direct costs attached to any of the recommendations outlined in this report. The Children & Young People's Leadership Group are currently taking forward a review of commissioned services to ensure that commissioned services support delivery of the plan. The review will also map out the total spend on children and young people's services across the partner agencies.

4.2 Risk and Mitigations

The plan sets out the strategic direction for joint children and young people's services to improve outcomes for children and young people across the Scottish Borders. A focus on improvement, early intervention and providing support for the most vulnerable will support a reduction in risk for some individuals.

4.3 Equalities

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal and it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications. The plan recognises the needs of specific groups and the most vulnerable and seeks to improve outcomes for all.

4.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no significant impacts on the economy, community or environment arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects on carbon emissions arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.6 Rural Proofing

Addressing the needs of children and young people and their families across the Scottish Borders is a key focus in the delivery of services. Within the plan there is an intention to reduce inequalities and the Leadership Group recognises that children and young people living in a rural setting can be disadvantaged in terms of access to services and actions will be considered to alleviate this.

4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals contained in this report.

5 CONSULTATION

- 5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, the Chief Legal Officer, the Chief Officer Audit and Risk, the Chief Officer HR, and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and their comments have been incorporated into the final report.

Approved by

Donna Manson **Signature**

Service Director Children & Young People

Author(s)

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Background Papers:

Previous Minute Reference: Community Planning Strategic Board 3 March 2016

Note – You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats by contacting the address below. Susan Yates can also give information on other language translations as well as providing additional copies.

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