

DEVON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES PARTNERSHIP CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLES PLAN

Report of the Chief Officer Children's Services

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Cabinet (and confirmation under the provisions of the Council's Constitution) before taking effect.

Recommendation:

That Cabinet agree the Devon Children and Families Partnership Children and Young Peoples Plan

1. Background

- 1.1. The Devon Children and Families Partnership (DCFP) was established in 2018 in response to the Wood Review reforms subsequently set out in statutory guidance, Working Together 2018. The DCFP strategic plan sets out the vision and priorities for children and families in Devon for the next three years.
- 1.2. The DCFP is led by three local safeguarding partners, Devon County Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Devon and Cornwall Police. Membership of the partnership spans education, including schools, social care, public health, CCG, health providers, district councils, voluntary sector, police and children and families.
- 1.3. The partnership has responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Devon. To do this, partners need to work together effectively. The core purpose of the partnership is to ensure that **children and families get the right support, in the right place, at the right time.**

2. Proposal

The Plan is attached at Appendix A

- 2.1. The development of the Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP) has been coordinated by the DCFP through a range of multi-agency events with key partners and stakeholders. The plan refreshes the commitments we made and the direction we set in 2017 when we published our Delivery Plan for Devon's Children's Services 2017-2018.
- 2.2. The voice of children and families in Devon has been a critical foundation to the priorities of the plan. The CYPP has been developed drawing on engagement across a range of service development areas throughout 2017/18 for example Stand Up Speak Up messages from Children In Care, Community Health and

Wellbeing re-procurement engagement, Devon Parent Carer Voice and Local Offer Reference Group.

- 2.3. We will continue to engage with children and families throughout the life of the plan to refine our interventions and demonstrate our impact.
- 2.4. At a partnership level we have reviewed data about our population in Devon taken from the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis and Devon Children and Young People's Sustainability and Transformation Plan Data Pack. This informed priorities within the CYPP and challenged stakeholders to consider the impact on outcomes for children of current projects and service development.
- 2.5. The style of the plan breaks with tradition and moves towards total digital communication. It puts the purpose and priorities of the partnership in the hands of staff and children, accessible through mobile devices and accessible in language and design, giving everyone the digital navigation system and connection to drive our collective efforts.
- 2.6. The draft plan has been widely shared. This has included the Early Help Roadshows running in each locality of the County through June, an online questionnaire with supported engagement by youth services, childrens centres, school councils, placement providers, schools, maternity and public health nursing, District Councils, parent, carer representative groups. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.
- 2.7. The DCFP intends to launch the plan in September 2019 and it will be built into the DCFP website in July.
- 2.8. The plan will be supported by more detailed documents such as an Outcomes Framework a Workforce Development Strategy and a Joint Commissioning Plan and there are multiple sub-strategies and plans. The plan will be annually refreshed. The significant strengthening of the engagement and participation with Children and Families over the coming year will be a significant influence on the refreshed plan.
- 2.9. Working Together 2018 requires independent scrutiny of the effectiveness of the partnership in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We intend that the independent scrutiny will precede the annual plan refresh, and will include all stakeholders, including children and young people.

3. Financial Considerations

- 3.1. Each safeguarding partner of the DCFP contributes to the partnership budget and in 19/20 we have successfully secured equal shares from each partner, historically the Local Authority provided the lion's share of investment in the partnership. However, each partner is confronting significant challenges to manage the pressure on budgets and the partnership resource may prove challenging to maintain.
- 3.2. The priorities of the plan are focused on areas of increased demand or high spend. As important is the preventative and early intervention support that

needs to be in place to prevent increased demand in the future. Continuing to support early help services is a challenge in the current financial conditions.

4. Environmental Impact Considerations

- 4.1 Children and young people have expressed their deep concern about Climate Change. We have not yet included this as a priority in the plan as we are still exploring this with young people to determine our collective action.

5. Equality Considerations

- 5.1 An Impact assessment has been undertaken to inform the plan. The design process has ensured that issues of inequality are addressed through the priorities of the plan.

6. Public Health Impact

- 6.1 The CYPP has been informed by the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis the Director of Public Health Annual Review 2018 on Children and Young People and Annual Review 2019 focused on Mental Health. The plan prioritises prevention and early help and routes to tackle inequalities and narrow the gap.

Electoral Divisions: All

Cabinet Member for Children's Services: Cllr James McInnes

Chief Officer for Children's Services: Jo Olsson

Head of Commissioning Children's Services: Fiona Fleming

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972: LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

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Appendix A – Children and Young People Plan