

**Name of meeting:** Children's Scrutiny Panel  
**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
**Title of report:** Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership Plan

**Purpose of report:** This report updates Scrutiny Panel on the new Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership arrangements and shares the draft Children and Young People's Plan for comment.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	No
Key Decision - Is it in the <u>Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports)?</u>	Key Decision – No Private Report/Private Appendix – No
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Not Applicable
Date signed off by <u>Strategic Director</u> & name	Tom Brailsford for Mel Meggs (3.1.20)
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance IT and Transactional Services?	n/a
Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning Support?	n/a
Cabinet member <u>portfolio</u>	Cllr Viv Kendrick – Children's Services Cllr Carole Pattison – Learning and Aspiration

**Electoral wards affected:** All

**Ward councillors consulted:** n/a

**Public or private:** Public

**Has GDPR been considered?** Yes. There is no personal data contained in this report.

## 1. Summary

The purpose of this paper is to inform the Children's Scrutiny Panel about work to re-launch the Children and Young People's Partnership and to develop a new Children and Young People's Plan.

The Panel's insight and comments on the new draft Children and Young People's Plan are welcome.

## 2. Information required to take a decision

There is no formal decision required. Panel are invited to comment on the proposed partnership arrangements and on the draft Children and Young People's Plan.

### 2.1 The Children and Young People's Partnership

The Kirklees Children and Young People's Partnership was relaunched following consultation and engagement at an event in March 2019 attended by 80 participants from a cross section of organisations working with children in Kirklees. The Children and Young People's Partnership had been paused for the previous 18 months to focus attention and resources on the Improvement Board and its work. The old Children and Young People's Partnership was a formal committee, with a closed membership of senior leaders and a traditional committee cycle.

The new Partnership model was developed at the March consultation and relaunch event. It aspires to bring together members' collective insight, expertise and resources to collaborate to achieve **the best start in life** for children and young people. Membership of the new Partnership is open to all organisations from the public and third sector, including strategic managers, frontline workers, elected representatives, and both specialist and universal service providers. Members are accountable to each other and to children, young people and families in Kirklees. There is no formal committee structure, no formal decision making responsibilities. The people involved are there because they want to collaborate to achieve our ambitions for children.

The Partnership has agreed that it will:

- Focus energy and expertise on agreed priority areas of work;
- Share intelligence and insight into children and young people's experiences so that children's outcomes and services are improved and work is evidence-led;
- Use collective insight into children's voice and views to influence and shape its work
- Collaborate effectively to use partner organisations' resources to address to collective goals & priorities;
- Influence, inform and provide strategic leadership in the children's sector;
- Develop a Children and Young People's Plan and agree key, shared priorities, based on evidence of need that members bring their collective energy and focus to;
- Provide analysis to inform service improvements, transformation and cultural change, including an annual review of key outcome data and updates from related partnerships
- Provide coherence for a range of thematic partnerships and plans that affect Children and Young People's outcomes.

The Partnership has agreed that its members will:

- Work restoratively – with not to or for
- Listen to and value children's voices
- Share power and responsibility across sectors and agencies
- Provide challenge and support to hold each other to account
- Celebrate and serve the diverse needs of people and places in Kirklees.

### 2.2 The Children and Young People's Plan

There is no longer a statutory requirement to produce a Children and Young People's Plan. However, there is consensus that a Plan provides a collective focus and clarity about priorities to be championed and addressed across the Partnership.

Work with the new Children and Young People's Partnership has focussed on assessing intelligence and insight from a range of sources to agree priorities. Sources include the Kirklees Joint Strategic Assessment, Year 9 Health Survey, Community Hubs' insight; young people's

voice and influence work and commentary; service key performance data on outcomes for the child population and for specific vulnerable groups. A new Children and Young People's Plan has been drafted based on the evidence of need and discussion with stakeholders (see Appendix).

The Children and Young People's Partnership has identified and agreed nine priorities that support good outcomes for all children. The priorities will help close the gaps in children's inequalities and their life chances. The first six of the priorities are already being addressed by a range of thematic partnerships. For these, the Children and Young People's Partnership will support and share that work more widely, but not seek to undertake additional work to avoid confusion, duplication and displacement. The six priorities where work is ongoing are:

- **Emotional health and resilience** – Transformation Partnership
- **Early Support in communities** – Kirklees Children's Safeguarding Partnership Task & Finish Group, Best Start Partnership, Early Support Review
- **Food & Physical Activity** – Health & Wellbeing Board; Thriving Kirklees, Active Kirklees
- **Vulnerability to criminal exploitation** – Youth Development Programme Board; Kirklees Children's Safeguarding Partnership; Communities Board.
- **Gaps in educational attainment** between some groups and the Kirklees attainment rates – Community Hubs, Education and Learning Partnership
- **Outcomes for Looked After children** – Improvement Board; Corporate Parenting Board; Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership.

The Children's Partnership identified a need to improve outcomes in three new priority areas. They are:

- **To work to alleviate the impact of poverty on children** – This priority is being addressed as part of wider work to reduce poverty and its impact on people living in Kirklees. A Tackling Poverty in Kirklees event with partners took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, with a further workshop planned for 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
- **To support inclusion and better outcomes for LGBT+ young people** – new oversight arrangements are being developed for this priority in collaboration with the Brunswick Centre's yOUTH project following a Partnership engagement event in December 2019.
- **To grow our youth offer – places to go, people to see, things to do.** This work is being developed and delivered through the new Youth Programme Development Board arrangements, with work streams focusing on a detached youth work offer, targeting vulnerable young people; prevention work; a community based youth work offer; investigating options for potential Youth Zones; an integrated practice model to bring the work of the Youth Offending, Youth Intervention and Risk & Vulnerability teams

### 2.3 Governance and Accountability

The decision to develop an open, inclusive forum for the Children and Young People's Partnership with a fluid membership created a conundrum for the governance and accountability of the Children and Young People's Plan. The Health and Wellbeing Board have agreed to take on the oversight of this work. The rationale for this includes:

- The Board already has oversight for a range of local planning and services
- The Board's membership includes the relevant cross-sector organisations
- The contribution that the Children and Young People's Plan makes to achieving the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

## 3. Implications for the Council

- **Working with People.** The partnership has agreed an inclusive model of working, using restorative approaches, and a structure which is open to any eligible organisation working in or with Kirklees children and young people.
- **Working with Partners.** The Children and Young People's Partnership creates the fora for statutory and third sector organisations working with and for children to come together as described above. 71 external organisations and 25 council services are currently included in the Partnership membership list. The Children and Young People's plan priorities give a focus for

partners to identify those priorities where collaborative action and attention can make significant impacts on service transformation, cultural change and children's outcomes.

- **Climate and Air Quality**

Not applicable.

- **Place Based Working** Part of the insight and analysis work that the Partnership is doing looks at differentiation between areas in order to determine where effort is needed most to redress inequalities of access, experience or outcomes for children and families. While the Partnership has set priorities for the borough's child population, the actions that are agreed take different places' needs and assets into account.

- **Improving outcomes for children** – this is at the core of the work of the partnership, and is described more fully in the draft Children and Young People Plan. The work to track and manage the Children's Plan Priorities includes a strong focus on outcome measures.

- **Other (eg Legal/Financial or Human Resources)**

Not applicable.

#### 4. **Consultees and their opinions**

The current draft Children and Young People's Plan reflects the insight and opinions of the individuals and organisations who have been consulted as active members of the re-launched Children and Young People's Partnership.

#### 5. **Next steps and timelines**

The Children and Young People's Partnership's open forum meets quarterly, with each meeting focusing on work in the priority areas and evidence on children's outcomes.

Health and Wellbeing Board will receive a six monthly update on progress towards the Plan's priorities.

Consultation on the draft Children and Young People's Plan is currently taking place, with the intention to take it to council for endorsement in Spring. Key partner agencies will also be asked to endorse the plan to ensure that leaders across the Children's system and workforce are sighted on the strategic priorities and better able to contribute to addressing them.

#### 6. **Officer recommendations and reasons**

Scrutiny Panel members are invited to receive this report and offer their insight and comments on the arrangements described and the contents of the Children and Young People's Plan.

#### 7. **Cabinet Portfolio Holder's recommendations**

#### 8. **Contact officer**

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#### 9. **Background Papers and History of Decisions**

The draft children and Young People's Plan is appended.

#### 10. **Service Director responsible**

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