

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONING STRATEGY: INTEGRATED WORKING UPDATE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Health and Wellbeing Board of progress relating to the delivery of the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh, specifically our focus on developing our integrated children and families offer and the impact on children, young people and families

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Through our One Family Approach, we work together with schools as the primary partner, wider partners and the community to build on and further strengthen our integrated offer for all children and young people so they thrive in their families, achieve in their schools and flourish in their communities.
- 2.2 The North Lincolnshire Health and Care Integration Plan sets the strategic vision and principles for integrated working within North Lincolnshire. Led through the Integrated Children's Trust, and through the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh 2022, we continue to work towards our ambition for children and young people leading to positive outcomes.
- 2.3 Set in the context of our One Family Approach, the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh resets our integration priorities and commissioning intent across education, health and care for our children and families. This aligns with the refreshed Place Partnership strategic intent and the new iteration of the Health and Care Integration Plan.
- 2.4 There continues to be an amplified focus on developing our integrated offer for children and families to meet need at the earliest point, enabling sustainable change within families. Through the Integrated Children's Trust, we have also identified four 'shine a light' areas of focus, to drive forward partnership action and system change to contribute to improving outcomes for our children and young people, as follows:
- Emotional wellbeing and mental health
 - Best start in life
 - Adolescents and youth offer
 - Outcomes for children and young people with vulnerabilities

3 OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Through our partnership and governance arrangements, and our ongoing commitment to listening, learning, reviewing and adapting, we continue to deliver against the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh. We understand the impact of partnership action and how this is contributing to outcomes for our children and young people.

- 3.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the key headlines relating to progress in delivering the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh, as follows:

Partnership working activity and developments (relating to integration priorities and shine a light areas of focus)

Led by systems leaders and managers, there has continued to be strong partnership working across the children and families workforce, from a whole family perspective, which has enabled a range of activity and developments, including but not exhaustive:

- Leaders and managers across the children and families workforce attended and contributed to the North Lincolnshire Health and Care Integration event in May 2023 at which there was an ongoing focus on children and families within the context of the wider health and care integration agenda, and an aligned direction of travel in relation to our neighbourhood approach
- There is an ongoing focus and continued oversight on CAMHS wrap around support and the neurodiversity pathway, which demonstrates that:
 - the percentage of young people seen via the CAMHS Getting Help Pathway within 10 weeks compliance is consistently 100% against the 95% target
 - CAMHS triage all referrals for complexity and risk within 24 hours of referral
 - in Q3 and Q4 2022/23, there has been a reduction in referral rates and waiting lists for neurodiversity services
- An initial mapping exercise has been undertaken to understand the scope of the integrated children and families offer and the associated resources / assets. There has continued to be meaningful conversations to scope and develop the arrangements, which has led to the establishment of an Integrated Children and Families Offer Strategic Steering Group. At the inaugural meeting, at which there will be representation from agencies and organisation to reflect 'whole family' working, there will be creative discussions around how the integrated offer can be further developed, along with proposals to roll out in specific areas. It is anticipated that this will then be presented at the July Integrated Children's Trust for endorsement and implementation. This direction of travel will be based on core principles, as follows:
 - Neighbourhood-based integrated approaches
 - Enabling resilience and flourishing communities
 - Focused on outcomes and impact
 - Keeping people safe and well
 - Fewest best interventions providing the right help at the right time
 - Partnerships with neighbourhoods, communities and resources
 - Asset based community development and insight into the community
 - Flexibility and innovation
 - Equality of access and opportunity, integrated resources targeted to the most vulnerable
 - Family-led through co-production
 - A needs-led and insight informed offer
 - Enables resilience through connections and relationships

- The current Youth Offer has been shared across the partnership and there is clarity as to how the offer is advertised across websites, social media platforms, via local communities. Work has also progressed to further develop the Integrated Youth Offer and development plan, which has been shaped and influenced by young people's views and experiences, and through co-production, this will enable the offer to meet the needs of young people and have a positive impact. The integrated Youth Offer, which is due to be presented at the July Integrated Children's Trust for endorsement, demonstrates that local providers have the capacity and skills to deliver effective services to young people; evidence of aspirational programmes; and ongoing support to grow the role of voluntary community and faith organisations
- There has been an agreement in principle for the development of a Corporate Grandparent Offer, which will strengthen the offer of help and support available to care leavers who are also parents, and their children. Work is underway across the partnership to develop the offer for consideration via upcoming Corporate Parenting governance arrangements, with the intention that it be launched via Corporate Parenting Week 2023. This will also further enhance the All Age Care Leavers offer which was previously agreed across the partnership and is now in place and being utilised by our Care Leavers. As a result, this is having a positive impact on the continuation of relationships and the offer of support as and when needed
- Work has progressed to develop the Complex Campus and Trent View Post 16 Special School, both of which are on target to open in Autumn 2023. These capital projects will contribute to the enhanced offer and equity of access in relation to children and young people with complex needs and disabilities in relation to their health, care and educational outcomes
- Preparations are underway for an Education and Aspirations for All Age Vulnerable Children and Young People event to consider our current offer to support children and young people's education, learning and aspirations across the spectrum of need; and to identify opportunities for further development, innovation and integrated working and to rearticulate our future offer

Creating the conditions

There continues to be a focus on developing our enablers i.e. in relation to our workforce and stakeholder voice and engagement, in order to create the conditions across the partnership to develop and embed our integrated children and families offer, for example:

- We have utilised the Children's Challenge across the established governance arrangements as a means of challenging and supporting agencies and organisations to take partnership action. Examples of the Children's Challenge in Action include a focus on emotional wellbeing, education and aspirations and safe spaces. As a result:
 - system leaders have engaged in creative conversations with children in care to further develop relationships and reinforce their corporate parenting roles

- there is an ongoing commitment to ensuring dedicated capacity to support children in care and care leavers regarding their education, training and employment
 - there is greater clarity and awareness of the offer from With Me In Mind (Mental Health Support Teams in schools)
 - there is co-productive work underway to raise awareness of safe spaces, to develop branding, and to clarify anticipated behaviours and responses from across the workforce
- Across the partnership, we remain committed to seeking the views of our children and young people through the 'Children and Young People's Lives Surveys. The Secondary Lives survey was rolled out in the 2022/23 academic year and has now closed. The emerging themes and key headlines are due to be reported into the relevant partnership and governance arrangements in the next period, which will help to shape and influence partnership action, including in relation to the development of the integrated children and families offer
 - There is an ongoing focus on trauma informed training and development across the children and families workforce, including bespoke training across leaders and managers in the Health community and Local Authority. Further work is proposed to develop the One Family Approach practice model to amplify the focus on trauma information practice and formulation
 - Parent/carer panel(s) are becoming established as a mechanism for enabling co-production in relation to the Best Start for Family Hubs, as part of the integrated children and families offer. Family Voice representatives have worked closely with leaders and managers to ensure that partnership action takes account of the views and experiences of children and families and they have led on raising awareness of the work of the panels across the Children and Young People's Partnership. Examples of positive feedback include:
 - the venues are a safe space and comfort zone for families
 - staff have helped new and anxious parents
 - staff have gone above and beyond to support families (whole family approach)
 - gives children a good start in life
 - empowers parents and instils confidence
 - offer stress free time for parents to spend time with their children
 - friendships are formed so parents have someone they can talk to
 - one big family ethos
 - support for different language and cultures

Performance and populations

Overall, there has been a positive impact on managing risk, demand and populations which is aligned with our core values and statutory responsibilities, for example:

- Front door activity is stable, there has been a reduction in the number of referrals, and all assessments are completed within 45 days
- The numbers of children in care remains low and is consistently below comparators

- Overall, care leavers aged 17, 18 and 19 to 21 are in suitable accommodation, which is above comparators
- The percentage of care leavers in education, training or employment aged 17, 18 and 19 to 21 has continued to improve and is above comparators
- The number of all children, including those receiving SEN support, at Early Years Foundation Stage, who have achieved a good level of development has increased
- The overall absence rate and persistent absence rate in special schools has improved (with North Lincolnshire being the highest ranked Local Authority) and there are consistently no exclusions in special schools
- Exclusions for children receiving SEN support remains low (and has further improved)
- The overall absence rate for children in care remains low
- The number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system continues to reduce in the context of an increase in the proportion of prevention, diversion and out of court programmes
- No children have been sentenced to custody for over three years

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 Via the Integrated Children's Trust, there is a continued and amplified focus on developing the integrated children and families offer through the implementation of the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh, and to delivering against the identified shine a light areas of focus, to improve outcomes for our children and families.

5. **FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

5.1 There are no specific resource implications associated with this report.

6. **OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

6.1 There are no other relevant implications associated with this report.

7. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

7.1 Not applicable.

8. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 Not applicable.

9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the update in relation to the delivery of the Children's Commissioning Strategy Refresh, specifically our focus on developing our integrated children and families offer and the impact on children and families.

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Background Papers: None