

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

DATE: 26 MARCH 2013

REPORT OF: MRS MARY ANGELL, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

LEAD OFFICER: CAROLINE BUDDEN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR CHILDREN, SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES

SUBJECT: CHILDREN'S HEALTH, WELLBEING AND SAFEGUARDING PLAN, 2013/14



SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

1. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 requires all upper tier local authorities to have a joint health and wellbeing strategy in place by April 2013. This strategy will bring together health and wellbeing priorities for both children and adults.
2. In order to meet our statutory responsibilities we have developed the Children's Health and Wellbeing Plan to positively support children and young people's health and wellbeing and to support the delivery of Surrey's joint health and wellbeing strategy, which is currently in development.
3. The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan sets out eight priority areas where we believe we can start to make the most difference in 2013/14 to ensuring that children and young people achieve the best health and wellbeing outcomes possible. It will act as a tool to engage partners in agreeing common challenges and longer-term priorities that will also inform future health and wellbeing strategies.
4. Although this is a County Council plan, we believe an integrated approach to social care and health provision is essential to improving the quality and equality of access to services. We are committed to working with our partners to provide coherent and effective services for children, young people and their families. In particular, to improve the likelihood of positive health and wellbeing outcomes through informed commissioning with key partners including public health, police and education.
5. Our main aim through this plan is to support our children and young people to achieve the best health and wellbeing outcomes possible.
6. The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan is a one year plan. After this time it will be replaced by a visionary strategy for children linked to Surrey's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. This will be supported by a partnership 3 -5 year health, wellbeing and safeguarding plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

1. The approach to supporting children, young people and families' health and wellbeing as set out in the plan is agreed.
2. The publication of the children's health, wellbeing and safeguarding plan is agreed. (Annex 1)
3. Agrees that the Strategic Director for Children, Schools and Families in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children and Families can sign off any subsequent amendments to the Plan provided there are no substantive changes.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To note the plan for positively supporting the health and wellbeing of children, young people and families in Surrey and to agree to delivery.

DETAILS:

The Policy Landscape

7. The Coalition Government has introduced a number of far reaching reforms including:
 - **The Health and Social Care Act 2012:** represents a major restructuring of healthcare services, and local authorities' responsibilities in relation to public health and health improvement. The Act also established health and wellbeing boards to bring together key leaders from across the health and care system to work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population through the development of health and wellbeing strategies. Surrey's Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board is currently developing the County's Health and Wellbeing Strategy for 2013/14. The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan underpins the strategy and sets out how we will improve children's health and wellbeing.
 - **A new approach to Special Educational Needs (SEN):** introducing a single plan – the Education, Health and Social Care (EHC) Plan – to assess children's needs. The Plan is currently being piloted and will be introduced in the forthcoming Children and Families Bill.
 - **Education reforms:** including support for academies and free schools, a new inspection framework, new curriculum and assessment arrangements, the raising of the participation age and new funding arrangements for schools and local authorities.
 - **Welfare reforms:** Universal credit will come into place for new benefit claimants in October 2013. This may affect families who are already living on the edge of poverty and who may be experiencing poorer health outcomes.
 - **Multi-agency safeguarding:** new inspections are to be introduced in June 2013 which will focus on the effectiveness of local authority and partners' services for children who may be at risk of harm.

The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan

8. The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan sets out the activity that will be undertaken across Surrey County Council to deliver the identified health, wellbeing and safeguarding priorities between 2013 and 2014. As with all other plans – the Employability Plan and Education Achievement Plan - that sit under the Children and Young People's Strategy, the plan will:
 - Address the needs of local children, young people and families
 - Work towards the positive outcomes at all stages of childhood and adolescence that are outlined in the lifecourse outcomes
 - Provide value for money
 - Address the four common priorities of the strategy: prevention, protection, participation and potential
 - Build and maintain a good foundation of partnership working
 - Facilitate the co-design of services with children, young people and their parents
 - Assess the impact of changes on protected equalities groups
 - Adequately address the changing policy landscape

Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Priorities

9. Surrey County Council wants to ensure that the county's 271,800 children aged 0-19 are able to enjoy the best possible start in life. Crucially, this includes achieving the best health and wellbeing outcomes possible. However, despite Surrey's reputation as a universally affluent and successful county, pockets of disadvantage do exist and there are groups who experience poorer health outcomes.
10. The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan sets out eight priority areas where we believe we can start to make the most difference in 2013/14 to ensure that children and young people achieve the best health and wellbeing outcomes possible. The priority areas set out our ambitions for the longer term and the actions that we will take in 2013/14 to start to meet these priorities. The plan's priorities are to:
 - Support good health and wellbeing in pregnancy and the new born
 - Protect children through strong multi-agency safeguarding and child protection arrangements
 - Support parents and carers so they can raise physically, emotionally and mentally healthy children
 - Improve health and wellbeing outcomes for looked after children and care leavers
 - Support children to develop positive personal wellbeing, values and aspirations
 - Improve outcomes for children and young people with complex needs
 - Improve outcomes for young people who need additional support during the transition to adulthood
 - Ensure local services meet the needs of all vulnerable children and their families.
11. Our priorities are informed by our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), consultation with families, strategic partners, other key stakeholders, and the county's draft joint health and wellbeing strategy, and early help strategy. As

the priority areas set out our ambition for the longer term we will constantly review this evidence base to take into account any changes in the composition of the children and young people population in Surrey.

12. In delivering against these priorities we will actively seek the views of children and young people in the planning and delivery of services.

Partnership Working

13. Surrey County Council is committed to working with partners to provide coherent and effective services for children, young people and their families, to improve the likelihood of positive health and wellbeing outcomes and for ultimately reducing demand for services.
14. Surrey County Council recognises that the only way to deliver improved health and wellbeing outcomes is through partnership working. To do this effectively we need partnership structures through which we can work effectively, and we need shared tools to build a coherent direction and approach.

Governance Arrangements

15. To effectively deliver this plan and future health and wellbeing strategies, we need to think differently about the information we collect and how we use this information to inform the services we deliver, including close working with public health. This will necessitate using data and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to understand the impact our services are having on children and young people and how well we are delivering this plan.
16. To help achieve this, the Children's Services Management Team (CSMT) will be responsible for monitoring the Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan on behalf of the Directorate.
17. The plan is also a one year plan. After one year it will be replaced by a visionary strategy for children linked to Surrey's joint health and wellbeing strategy. This will be supported by a partnership 3 -5 year health, wellbeing and safeguarding plan

CONSULTATION:

18. The plan is one of three plans (the two others being the Education and Achievement and Young People's Employability plans), which forms part of the Children and Young People's Strategy. Formal consultation undertaken on the Children and Young People's Strategy ran from 1 to 25 May 2012 and comprised three parts:
 - Three practitioners' workshops for Surrey County Council staff and partner organisations. Practitioners included social care, health, the voluntary and community sector, services for young people, education, early years and the police. There were 5 groups at each event, each covering a different stage of the Lifecourse Outcomes. In total, 96 practitioners attended the workshops.
 - Various meetings and workshops with elected Members, management groups and relevant partnership groups.

- An online consultation invited respondents to comment on our four priorities and what we need to do to ensure effective partnership working. The online consultation also invited comment on the Lifecourse Outcomes. Of the 91 respondents to the online consultation, 60% (54) were professionals; 27% (35) were parents, and 3% (2) were children and young people.
19. Specific comments made about health and wellbeing outcomes and what should be included in the Children’s Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan were incorporated into the early scoping and drafting of the plan.
 20. The Children’s Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan is also being developed alongside Surrey’s draft health and wellbeing strategy, with key engagement from the strategy being fed into the development of this plan. This has included workshops, engagement meetings, and an online questionnaire.
 21. As part of the engagement process the plan has also been to the Directorate Leadership Team, the Directorate Senior Management Forum (DSMF) and the Children and Young People’s Partnership Board.
 22. The plan sets out the priorities for improving the health and wellbeing of children, young people, and their families in Surrey. In addition, as part of the plan a detailed implementation plan will be developed on which further engagement will take place.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

23. None as a direct result of this plan. However, there are several external factors, such as health, education and welfare reforms which could impact on the achievement of the plan’s priorities.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

24. There is an increasing demand for services and less money available to support services in their current form. The County Council has already made significant savings of £67 million in 2010/11, £59million in 2011/12 and a further £71 million in 2012/13. Over the business planning period of 2012/17 the total savings required across the County Council is £206 million. However, the financial situation is expected to worsen across the public sector, given the state of the global and national economies. Delivery of the priorities may also be impacted by external factors such as welfare and health reforms.
25. Within this context, the plan aims to achieve the best possible health and wellbeing outcomes for Surrey’s children and young people, whilst explicitly acknowledging the need to address budgetary challenges. The plan will be delivered within the existing CSF budget.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

26. The Section 151 Officer confirms that the intention is to deliver the priorities outlined in Children’s Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan within the Directorate budget.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

27. The priorities set out in the plan will inform the way in which Surrey County Council meets its statutory duties towards children, young people and their families in 2013 and 2014. As individual workstreams are implemented, there may be further legal implications, for example in procurement and commissioning, which will need to be addressed in more detail at the time.

Equalities and Diversity

28. The equalities impact assessment on the Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan indicates that the plan will generally have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of children, young people and their families in Surrey.
29. The Draft EIA can be found in Annex 2.

Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

30. One of the plan's key priorities is to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for Looked after Children (LAC) and care leavers. In particular by:
- Increasing the number of placements for LAC within Surrey.
 - Developing a countywide service for coordinating LAC initial and review health assessments across health and social care.
 - Increasing the recruitment of foster carers, both general and specialist carers.
 - Allocating a personal advisor to all young people aged 16 and 17 years old, to support them as they develop the skills and knowledge for living independently.
 - Extending Surrey's saving scheme to support LAC in developing their personal financial and savings skills.
31. The plan will therefore have a positive impact on LAC.

Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults implications

32. One of the plan's key priorities is to protect children through strong multi-agency safeguarding and child protection arrangement. In particular by:
- Developing shared multi-agency safeguarding responsibilities and child protection practice with key partners including health
 - Setting up a Central Referral Unit integrated with the police
 - Developing a multi-agency response and processes in response to the new Working Together Guidance
 - Developing a comprehensive multi-agency quality assurance framework
 - Ensuring the response to changes in health provision provide adequate safeguarding of children.
 - Supporting the new CCGs to be fully integrated into the Surrey Safeguarding Children's Board
 - Embedding learning from Serious Case Reviews across partnerships

- Developing the capacity and capability of the children's workforce around the understanding of domestic abuse.
33. The plan will therefore help embed a culture of safeguarding across the County Council and key partners agencies.

Public Health implications

34. As main aim of the plan is to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people in Surrey, there will be a number of public health implications arising from the plan. These include, for example, addressing teenage pregnancy and childhood obesity and supporting universal priorities such as immunisation and breastfeeding.

Climate change/carbon emissions implications

35. The Council attaches great importance to being environmentally aware and wishes to show leadership in cutting carbon emissions and tackling climate change. The Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan is expected to have a neutral impact on climate change and carbon emissions.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

36. Subject to Cabinet approval it is proposed to:
- Publish the plan and share with stakeholders
 - Develop a detailed implementation plan by March 2013 to deliver the key priorities by March 2014
 - Review the plan after one year

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Service managers from across Children, Schools and Families, the Directorate Leadership team, the Directorate Senior Management Forum, and the Children and Young People's Partnership Board.

Annexes:

Annex 1 Draft Children's Health, Wellbeing and Safeguarding Plan 2013/14

Annex 2: Equalities Impact Assessment

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