

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **JOINT LIFELONG LEARNING AND SOCIAL &
HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 21 MARCH 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING AND
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

SUBJECT: **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE PARTNERSHIP**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To update on the progress of the Flintshire Children and Young People's Plan “ Making a Positive Difference 2011 -2014” as the vehicle for Flintshire to deliver the Welsh Government Child Poverty Strategy, 2011 and as the catalyst to commission collaborative strategic projects.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 Flintshire County Council is responsible in law for the development and the delivery and implementation of the Children and Young People's Plan. The Plan sets out the local vision and aspirations for the Children, Young People and Families in Flintshire. The 2011 – 2014 plan has been developed in consultation with a broad range of stakeholders. This included children, young people and families.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 At its meeting on 11th April 2011, Flintshire County Council Executive endorsed the Children and Young People's Plan. In its meeting in May 2011, the Betsi Cadwalader University Health Board endorsed the plan. At its meeting on 13th April 2011, the Children and Young People's Partnership Board agreed the final CYPP plan and approved the delivery approach.
- 3.02 The children and young people’s version of the CYPP Plan was developed as a bilingual DVD which was produced by bilingual young people in Flintshire. The DVD has been utilised by all sectors to ensure all ages understand the aims of the CYPP Plan.
- 3.03 The Flying Start plan had been agreed by WG and is now in delivery mode and supporting families. The Communities First and the Health Social Care and Wellbeing plans have significant cross over to the CYPP plans. With some agreed shared priorities. The three plans

enhance each other to deliver the best outcomes for our children, young people and families.

- 3.04 The Families First Plan, which is a delivery plan for the CYPP. Plan was agreed by Welsh Government in December 2012. The Families First plan was informed by a mapping of vulnerable families exercise which informed the CYPP. about the level of vulnerable families in Flintshire. It was also informed by a mapping profile of services for families with a disabled child.
- 3.05 This evidence and data had informed the Team Around The Family (TAF) development. The TAF team have supported over 100 families since their development on 1st March 2012. On 1st March 2013 the TAF team celebrated the launch of a Welsh language service. The TAF team are utilising early intervention approaches to achieve measurable positive outcomes for children, young people and families.
- 3.06 Partnership working was assessed as 'good' by Estyn in the 2011 full inspection. The CYPP took an active part in the recent Estyn Monitoring Visit to demonstrate to inspectors how the whole CYPP is working in an outcomes focussed approach to all delivery. The Estyn team also monitored progress with recommendation 5: improve the monitoring arrangements for the Children and Young People's Partnership to effectively track the progress of children and young people.
- 3.07 Estyn reported that 'each partner within the Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP) uses a consistent approach to self-evaluation. This means that the authority has valuable information about the range of interventions supporting children, young people and their families. On occasion, this includes useful outcome data on the progress of children and young people.

Many externally funded initiatives within the partnership track the progress of learners and their families effectively. In the best examples, early bespoke interventions with families make measurable contributions to improved educational outcomes for learners.

However, the partnership does not fully capture the overall performance of interventions or track consistently the progress of children and young people. This means that opportunities are missed to make the best use of resources and interventions across sector and service boundaries. In particular, the early intervention work by wider support services with learners and their families is not known by and therefore built upon by schools or school improvement services. The lack of strategic level data on outcomes and progress means that the partnership cannot successfully hold others to account, or be held to account by the Local Service Board.'

- 3.08 The partnership now needs to extend awareness of projects and outcomes with schools and school improvement services. Targets and outcomes need to be fully owned by the Local Service Board.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That Members receive the update and the attached Families First programme overview for information.
- 4.02 That Members of Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny receive a report on how the views for securing further improvement from Estyn can be implemented.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 The costs of translating, producing and publicising the 2011 - 2014 plan and the DVD were met from existing resources.
- 5.02 The Children and Young People's Plan has been a key document in determining how resources have been allocated in the recent Families First Commissioning process. The Families First national outcomes and the CYPP action areas informed the decisions made in the commissioning process. The full Families First programme has been in delivery mode since 1st October, 2012. The programme members are working collaboratively which adds value to the delivery for children, young people and families.
- 5.03 The CYPP have proposed a review of the commissioning process to identify lessons learned for future commissioning. The CYPP propose to undertake a review of the first year of the Team Around the Family delivery and the impact made in year one.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 The needs assessment/health profile (developed by Public Health Wales), which underpins the Children and Young People's Plan includes a consideration of poverty and deprivation and its impact on Children, Young People and Families. The priorities identified will have a direct and an indirect impact on the causes of deprivation and poverty. The Welsh Assembly Government Child Poverty Strategy (WG 2011) sets out the National Context and the Flintshire Children and Young People's Plan sets out the local context and has the following three key Strategic objectives:
1. To reduce the number of families living in workless households.
 2. To improve the skills of parents/carers and young people living in low income households so they can secure well paid employment.

3. To reduce the inequalities which exist in health, education and economic outcomes of children and families by improving the outcomes of the poorest.

6.02 There is an expectation that all services and organisations will work together to contribute to the eradication of child poverty. All grants and commissioning programmes under the overall CYPP umbrella should ensure that the services commissioned contribute to the above strategic objectives.

6.03 These key objectives informed the commissioning for the full Families First programme.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 Welsh Assembly Government Guidance states that a commitment to sustainable development must inform the preparation and implementation of the plan.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 The Children and Young People's Plan intends to address the needs of all Children, Young People and Families. However, priority must be given to those with the greatest need so that inequalities can be reduced and we can offer opportunities and chances for the poorest Children, Young People and Families. Our vulnerable families mapping exercise has enabled us to target these families.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 The Children and Young People's Plan includes a consideration of the workforce skills required to implement the Plan. This also includes recognition of the need to continue to develop bilingual skills within the existing workforce.

9.02 We have developed a workforce development strategy as part of the Families First programme which identifies and considers future planning needs on a local, sub regional and regional level.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 The Children and Young People's Plan, has been the subject of a wide consultation to develop and agree the headline outcomes within the plan. The delivery, monitoring and review of the plan will require continuing engagement and consultation with a broad range of stakeholders. We have a participation strategy to support this work. We utilise all existing networks and websites to ensure that engagement and consultations are meaningful and that they are adapted to the audience targeted. E.g. the CYPP developed a bespoke consultation approach for the 21st century schools

consultation work.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 The extensive public consultation included the utilisation of partners, stakeholders, children, young people and families to ensure a very broad and robust consultation exercise.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 1. Overview of Families First strategic commissioned projects.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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