

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

People Scrutiny

26th September 2016

Report of: Michele Farmer, Service Director: Early Help and Targeted Support

Title: Bristol's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families & the Children and Families Board Work Programme

Ward: Citywide

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RECOMMENDATION

People Scrutiny are invited to:

- a. To review the draft Bristol Strategy for Children, Young People and families 2017 - 2021 and provide comments prior to its approval.

Summary

This report outlines work undertaken by the Children and Families Partnership to develop a new city strategy for children, young people and families and requests the input of People Scrutiny into the draft strategy.

It also provides context regarding the Children and Families Partnership and the development of their work programme.

Policy

Bristol's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families (appendix 1) aims to:

- Establish a shared vision for the Partnership's work with children, young people and families
- Set out the focus of our shared work for the next four years
- Promote prevention and early intervention
- Provide the strategic context to drive future commissioning
- Support the implementation of the Mayoral City vision and other city planning
- Demonstrate how partners fulfil the duty to cooperate to improve children's wellbeing

This is the overarching strategy for the Children and Families Partnership. It focusses on shared priorities and does not detail all of the work of the partnership. It signposts to other strategies that the partnership have agreed, and includes a new city-wide outcome framework that will be used to improve the alignment of our future work.

Consultation

1. Internal

A draft vision, a set of outcomes and proposed priorities were consulted on from June to August. All internal staff, including People Scrutiny, were invited to share their views and complete the on-line survey. Staff were also involved in consultation briefings.

2. External

A cross sector reference group supported communication with partners and helped shape the process of development to ensure the engagement of stakeholders.

The reference group jointly agreed the draft vision statement and the draft outcomes and priorities that were consulted on.

During the consultation period, we attended several events to promote the consultation and talk about the proposals. We also spent some time with community groups finding out what they felt was important.

We also made use of existing consultation data from children, young people, parents and carers, and engaged the Youth Council and Young Health Watch in the process.

All of the feedback has been amalgamated into the draft strategy, and an overview is provided in the slides at appendix 2. A full 'you said we did' will be published once the strategy is agreed.

3. Context

The Children and Families Partnership Board instigated the development of this strategy in March 2016 and established a cross sector reference group to lead the process.

This has not been a refresh of an existing strategy or plan, but has built on, pulled together, and signposts to a number of existing strategic documents from across the Children and Families Partnership.

The Children and Families Partnership Board endorsed the draft strategy on the 8th of September 2016. They agreed to take the strategy to their networks and Governing Bodies to seek their commitment to the strategy, and their agreement to participate in more detailed action planning. This will include Cabinet.

The Partnership Board will then be asked at their meeting on November 3rd to agree the strategy having formally gained the support of partners.

The development of this strategy has run in parallel with other strategic planning such as the refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Children's Services Improvement Plan and the development of the Adult Social Care Strategic Plan, and links have been made where appropriate, for example:

- The same prioritisation criteria were used for the Health and Wellbeing strategy refresh and the Children, Young People and Families Strategy.
- The Children, Young People and Families Strategy and the draft Health and Wellbeing Strategy both propose the prioritisation of emotional health and wellbeing in the city. The Children, Young People and Families Strategy will also be working closely with the Health and Wellbeing Board to support delivery against their Healthy Weight priority.
- The Children's Services Improvement Plan forms part of a body of work sitting under this strategy and will deliver in this context
- Both the Strategy for Children, Young People and Families and the Adults Social Care Plan include intentions to embed a common three tier model of support.

4. The Children and Families Partnership Board and Work Programme

The Strategy includes high level priorities that will remain relevant through the course of 2017 – 2021. The Children and Families Board will agree annual Action Plans for each of the priorities, and the Board will oversee and report on these. This work programme will be within the context of increasing demands and diminishing resources.

The Children and Families Partnership Board has four subgroups, which were established in spring 2016 and represent the breadth of the work of the partnership:

- Special Educational Needs and Disability
- Joint Health Outcomes
- Think Family
- Youth and Participation

The Action Plan for the strategy will illustrate how all of these subgroups will play a role in addressing the priorities included in the strategy. The Partnership Board will also need to work closely with communities, the Safer Bristol Partnership, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Homes for Bristol Board in order to address the priorities and achieve the outcomes for children, young people and families.

The detail of the work programme will therefore be devised in partnership, but is likely to include the following in the first year:

- Ensure a smooth transition to new CAMHS provision through the Community Children's Health Partnership recommissioning, from 1st April 2017
- Pursue the local transformation of emotional health & wellbeing services, including the development of support for those who self-harm via a multi-agency Partnership Outreach Team pilot
- Promote and create positive, fun and challenging opportunities to help young people develop their confidence, creativity and resilience and enhance their health and wellbeing through investment in youth services and early years provision, and by promoting their engagement in the cultural life of the city
- Continued improvement of data sharing to improve learning outcomes for vulnerable groups, and the provision of targeted support for those most at risk of underachieving or being excluded from learning, including children with SEN and Disabilities, Looked After Children and Care Leavers, BME children and young people and those at risk of becoming involved with gangs
- Improve outcomes for care leavers by supporting the development of the young people's housing and independence pathway plan
- Develop an integrated early years model that supports maternal and peri-natal health and wellbeing which underpins service planning, and supports a model of Prevention and Early Intervention
- Ensure clear pathways for Care Leavers, keeping in touch, ensuring they are safe and in employment, education or training
- Inform the development of the Healthy Weight Strategy
- Share evidence and intelligence enabling us to refine what we do, and ensure we are offering help that works, so change for the better sustains.
- Further develop our predictive analytics capabilities

In line with the strategy intentions, the Partnership are committed to ensuring that children, young people and families are at the forefront of this work and that their views and experiences inform citywide decision making.

5. Key dates for the agreement of Bristol's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families:

- People Scrutiny – 26th September 2016
- Strategic Leadership Team – 27th September 2016
- Executive Board - 27th September 2016
- Cabinet Agenda Conference – 12th October 2016
- Cabinet – 1st November 2016
- Children and families partnership board – 3rd November 2016

6. Proposal

6.1 Scrutiny members are invited to feedback any comments or concerns regarding the draft strategy.

6.2 Scrutiny members are invited to feedback any concerns regarding the key dates

7. Other Options Considered

N/A

8. Risk Assessment

The Strategy and subsequent work programme will be delivered within the context of increasing demands and diminishing resources. All Partners will be responding to these pressures differently. The Partnership enables city oversight of impact but the partnership will need to manage ongoing prioritisation within this context.

9. Public Sector Equality Duties

9a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:

- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
- ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
- iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.

9b) One of the key aims of the strategy is to narrow the gap in outcomes and reduce inequality across the City. A high level Equalities Impact Assessment is being undertaken to ensure that the draft strategy promotes equality and advances equality of opportunity.

Detailed equalities impact assessments will continue to be carried out on individual actions/proposals/commissioning plans within the remit of the Children and Families Partnership Board.

Appendix

- A. Bristol's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families (draft)
- B. Presentation: Bristol's Strategy for Children, Young People and Families 2017 – 2021 (includes consultation feedback)