

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

14 FEBRUARY 2019

**REPORT OF SENIOR
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

COUNCIL DECISION

Cabinet Member for Children and Young People – Cllr Mrs McCoy

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGY 2019-23

1. Summary

This report seeks endorsement for the new Children and Young People Strategy 2019-23.

2. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

1. Agree the strategy.
2. Authorise it to be submitted to Council on 27 February.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

To ensure that the Council continues to prioritise the needs and strengths of children and young people as part of the refresh of the Health and wellbeing Strategy.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

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COUNCIL DECISION

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGY 2019-23

SUMMARY

This report seeks endorsement for the new Children and Young People Strategy 2019-23.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is requested to agree this strategy and to authorise it to be submitted to Council on 27 February 2019.

DETAIL

1. The current Children and Young People's Plan ran from 2015-18, and is in need of refresh.
2. A workshop took place in July 2018 to discuss a proposed approach to the new strategy, and endorsed the development of a longer term and more transformative strategy which focused on creating the right conditions for children and young people to thrive.
3. The proposed new approach is based on the following:
 - a. A five year commitment to new ways of working backed by annual delivery plans is required, though the basis for our new approach is a long term vision which extends beyond this initial 5 year timescale.
 - b. A recognition of the collective role of agencies and organisations, and a shift towards a more concerted and integrated way of working which puts children and young people at the heart.
 - c. A shift away from a focus on specific programmes and projects and into the development of a different way of working, which recognises the limitations of traditional forms of commissioning and service delivery, and which is based on a set of common values and principles and a way of working which is based on learning and the importance of a whole system.
 - d. A fundamental re-appraisal that the role of agencies is to enable children and young people to discover and develop their own self or self, their ability to cope and learn, to overcome adversity, and to find their own self-expression, and to be supported in this by safe, stable and trusted relationships. Our role is therefore to support this at the heart of our approach.

- e. A refocused and strategic approach to the identification of vulnerability, using an agreed and shared vulnerability and risk assessment approach which helps us to identify issue early, and relies less on the traditional model of referral into service.
 - f. The commitment to share data and information to support the implementation of this approach.
4. The buildings blocks for the strategy are centred on:
- a. **Resilience** – a sense of self and life skills – the ability to control and self-regulate, think and deal with setbacks.
 - b. **Relationships** – safe, supportive, trusted relationships are the single biggest factor in overcoming hardship.
 - c. **Respect** – respecting and valuing children and young people in a strengths based approach.
 - d. **Response** - targeting vulnerability, adversity and stress.
5. A survey of young people based on these building blocks was undertaken as part of the BMBF initiative throughout 2018.
6. Partners have been consulted further on this draft, including the Bright Minds Big Futures Big Committee.
7. The details of the draft strategy are appended to this report.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

8. An impact assessment will be developed for each annual action plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. The strategy includes a range of proposals for change over the 5 year period. It is recognised that the majority of the changes will need to be implemented within the framework of existing budgets, and that there is unlikely to be a significant increase in available resources. The plan has been deliberately targeted at achieving the wider change in ways of working to enable this to be achieved. More detailed assessments will be undertaken on specific proposals which will be reported through the commissioning groups as appropriate.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10. The Council's constitution includes the Children and Young People Strategy as part of the constitution. This strategy fulfils that requirement.

RISK ASSESSMENT

11. Risks will be managed within existing risk management controls.

COUNCIL PLAN POLICY PRINCIPLES AND PRIORITIES

12. The key focus of the Strategy is to drive forward change for children and young people. This is related to all four of the Council's policy principles:

- Protecting the vulnerable through targeted intervention – the focus on resilience, relationships which support and the need for effective early response contribute to this principle.
- Promoting equality of opportunity through targeted intervention – the emphasis on response is to ensure that our services are collectively targeted where they are most needed, and delivered in a way which can have most impact
- Developing strong and healthy communities – the clear focus on resilience and relation shops are specifically focused on a new way of promoting health and wellbeing
- Creating economic prosperity – the focus on valuing and respecting young people, and the emphasis on creating opportunities for young people to flourish are aimed at fulfilling their potential economically

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

13. Although not focused solely on children in our care, the principles of this strategy support the complementary children in, and leaving, our care strategy agreed in 2018, and the way of working outlined in the strategy supports the partnership focus on corporate parenting.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

14. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young people has been consulted. Members of the Children and Young People’s Partnership and Health and Wellbeing Board have also been consulted.

15. The Bright Minds Big Futures group have also been consulted and support the proposals in this Plan.

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Education related? Yes, in part

Background Papers - None

Property - no specific implications