

**REPORT TO HEALTH AND
WELLBEING BOARD**

29 JUNE 2016

**REPORT OF: STRATEGIC
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STRATEGY

PURPOSE

1. This report sets out a draft Children's Services Strategy for 2016-18 and seeks comments and endorsement from the Health and Wellbeing Board.

CONTEXT

2. This non statutory strategy is designed to set out the context, role and priorities of Children's Services.
3. It has been developed in response to:
 - a. The development of the Council Plan and the need for clearer threads to operational activity;
 - b. The need for a sustained focus on self-assessment and improvement, including the format of self-assessment most commonly developed to prepare for Ofsted inspection;
 - c. The need to bring greater clarity to priorities for employees and partners to assist in the redesign, review and recommissioning of services and collaboration on priorities.

PROPOSAL

4. The detailed strategy is attached.
5. The following points are made in summary:
 - a. This strategy sets out the vision, objectives and priorities for Children's Services for the first time;
 - b. It is based on a new approach, which translates the refreshed Council Plan into service priorities and clear action
 - c. It is in two parts:
 - i. Part 1 provides a standalone strategy, including high level summaries of context, story and priority, and is intended more as a public facing document
 - ii. Part 2 provides a detailed change and improvement plan largely for internal action and implementation
 - d. It includes both those actions which form part of the transformation programme and those which relate to business improvement actions for Children's Services as a whole
 - e. It draws together:
 - i. The range of strategies and partnership activity already underway
 - ii. Self-assessment and improvement planning to meet Ofsted's framework for inspection

- iii. Improvement planning
- 6. The strategy is intended to provide a clear framework for action, prioritisation and for service planning, appraisal and as the basis for workforce development, systems refresh.
- 7. It will also be shared with partners to be transparent and open about Council priorities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8. Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:
 - a. Comment on this draft strategy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9. There are no direct financial implications form this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10. There are no specific direct legal implications form this report. Individual actions include din the strategy are subject to a variety of statutory duties and guidance.

RISK ASSESSMENT

- 11. The strategy forms part of an assurance process for Children's Services to mitigate against the risk of a poor inspection outcome.

CONSULTATION

- 12. Consultation has taken place with the Local safeguarding Children's Board and the Children and Young People's Partnership.