

<b>Report to Health &amp; Wellbeing Board</b> <b>Report of Director of Integrated Commissioning and Vulnerable People</b>	<b>Item 7</b> <b>Reference number</b> HWB/014/13
<b>Date of meeting</b> 18 September 2013 <b>Date of report</b> 10 September 2013	<b>County Divisions affected by the decision</b> All Divisions
<b>Report Title</b>  <b>The Children Young People and Families Plan 2013/2016</b>	
<b>Report by</b> Barbara Herts / Roger Bullen	
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## 1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. The Children, Young People and Families Partnership Plan (CYPFPP) sets the broad interagency agenda for Children's Services and will influence the future commissioning intentions, priorities and approach within ECC's emerging People Commissioning Strategy (Children, Young People and Families)
- 1.2. This purpose of this report is to seek Health and Wellbeing Board endorsement of the Plan.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the report and endorse the Children, Young People and Families Partnership Plan as being in alignment with the Essex Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

## 3. Background and proposal

- 3.1 The Children, Young People and Families Partnership Plan is no longer a statutory requirement for Councils following the rescinding of all statutory guidance by the Coalition Government requiring councils to produce a plan. Despite this the Duty to Co-operate is still in force and there is local discretion in

how this duty is supported. In Essex there is a broad consensus that a partnership board underpinned by a strategic plan (the CYPFP) is the best way to support partners in the delivery of this duty.

- 3.2 The Essex Children, Young People and Families Partnership Plan for 2013-2016 has been developed at a time of significant change both at a National and County Level. The document takes account of the increasing emphasis on commissioning for children's services within Essex alongside reconfiguration within the NHS, transfer of Public Health responsibilities to the Local Authority and significant restructure within ECC.
- 3.3 The plan is essential in setting the direction of travel for Children's Services across Essex and maintaining progress through a commitment to partnership planning and exploring opportunities to integrate commissioning.
- 3.4 At this strategic level the Partnership seeks to determine the overlap between the range of organisations involved, bringing them together over a common set of outcomes that improve services for Children, Young People and Families. In a time where demands on budgets are increasing and savings need to be made the Partnership will seek opportunities for long term integration where the results are sustainable and represent value for money.
- 3.5 The Children Young People and Families Plan is influenced by a broad range of current priorities including planning for integrated commissioning with Clinical Commissioning Groups<sup>1</sup> (CCGs) and Public Health, implementation of the Essex Health and Wellbeing Strategy and actions set out through the work of the Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB).

#### **4. Policy context**

- 4.1 The Children and Young People and Families Partnership Plan mirrors many of the Health and Wellbeing Priorities for Essex and has been developed in such a way as to provide broad, meaningful priorities that are flexible enough to maintain relevance during this period of developing relationships. A Memorandum of Understanding has been developed that sets out the relationship between the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children's Partnership Board ensuring a clear pathway for reporting and integration.
- 4.2 The CYPFP is based on the most current County and Locality Needs Assessments. As such the priorities set out in the document reflect the changing demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the County's population.
- 4.3 The document emphasises the importance of placing Children, Young People and Families central to decision making and set out the importance of empowering local communities and building resilience in families, children and young people, enhancing their capacity to resolve their own problems.

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<sup>1</sup> Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are NHS organisations set up by the [Health and Social Care Act 2012](#) to organise the delivery of [NHS](#) services in England

- 4.4 Mirroring the Vision for Essex 2013-2017 both the CYPFP centres around working with a diverse range of public, private and voluntary and community sector partners in order to deliver joined up and integrated service for families that represent the best value for money.

## **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1. There are no direct revenue or capital consequences resulting from accepting the recommendations of this report
- 5.2. The Children Young People and Families Partnership Plan will be delivered within annual resource allocations and implementation of any activities directly aligned to Essex County Council will need to be funded from within the approved service budgets.

## **6. Legal Implications**

- 6.1 The Children Young People and Families Partnership Plan formally referred to in legislation as the Children's Plan is no longer a statutory requirement. However, the Council's Constitution still requires this to be approved by Full Council which is planned within the governance for the plan.

## **7. Staffing and other resource implications**

- 7.1. There are no staffing implications arising from this report or the plan.

## **8. Equality and Diversity implications**

- 8.1. In making this decision ECC must have regard to the public sector equality duty (PSED) under s.149 of the Equalities Act 2010, i.e., have due regard to the need to: A Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. B Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. C Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not including tackling prejudice and promoting understanding.
- 8.2. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 8.3. The PSED covers service users, staff and members of public as a whole who are potentially affected by the proposals addressed in the Report.
- 8.4. The PSED is a relevant factor in making this decision but does not impose a duty to achieve the outcomes in s.149. It is only one factor that needs to be considered and may be balanced against other relevant factors. It is, however, important to demonstrate that it has been considered.
- 8.5. The plan sets out 10 priority themes, agreed by partners, which provide strategic direction to inform commissioning. Partners have agreed to work within a set of principles including the principle to 'eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance

equality of opportunity and foster positive relations between those who share a protected characteristic<sup>2</sup> and those who do not’.

- 8.6. Priority themes, within the plan, incorporate strategic equality considerations. Equality Impact Analysis (EqIA) of the performance framework and systems/ processes that influence how the priorities will be achieved, will ensure that equality is integral to the implementation of the plan.
- 8.7. Barbara Herts, Director for Integrated Commissioning (Vulnerable People) will be responsible for the EqIA programme.

## **9. Background papers**

- Essex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2012
- The Lifelong Learning Strategy 2013-2018
- Essex County Council Youth Service - Vision, Strategy, Objectives and Draft Service Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Essex 2013-2018

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<sup>2</sup> The Equality Act 2010 defines Protected Characteristics as; Age, Disability, Gender reassignment, Marriage and civil partnership, Pregnancy and Maternity, Race, Religion or Belief, Sex, Sexual orientation