

Title of meeting: Health and Wellbeing Board

Subject: Children's Trust Plan 2020-2023

Date of meeting: 23rd September

Report from: Alison Jeffery, Director of Children's Services

Wards affected: All Wards

1. Requested by: Alison Jeffery, Director of Children's Services

2. Purpose:

To inform the Board of progress in refreshing Children's Trust Plan for 2020-2023

3. Background

The Portsmouth Health and Wellbeing Board has taken on the strategic oversight of the Portsmouth Children's Trust and as such has overall responsibility for the Children's Trust Plan. We are currently nearing the end of the process for refreshing the Children's Trust Plan - the single city-wide strategy to improve outcomes for Children and families.

This is the tenth such plan and has been developed across the wide partnership of agencies serving children and families in Portsmouth, including consultation and co-production with children and families.

4. The Structure of the Plan

Page 7 of the attached Plan provides a tidy 'Plan on a Page' summary of the Children's Trust Plan for 2020-23.

The structure of the Plan has been designed to be easy to communicate, easy to deliver and easy to monitor. The Plan is made up of:

- Six Priorities - each with a written strategy, clear Strategic objectives, Key Performance Indicators and a multi-agency governance Board
- The 'Children's Trust Spine' - six areas of work that are cross-cutting in nature and will help improve all outcomes for all children and families. Of particular note is the intention to develop some work with families on a 'Portsmouth Deal with Families' along the 'Wigan Deal' type approach.

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- Clearly defined work to ensure that on a multi-agency basis we continue to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic

Two key changes for this Plan from the previous 2017-2020 Plan are:

- The construction of a single 'Safeguarding Children Strategy' for the city that brings together in one place all our multi-agency work on early help, child protection, youth offending and domestic abuse as it affects children (linked to the wider city-wide all age work on domestic abuse).
- A clear single strategy on improving children's emotional wellbeing - the Social Emotional and Mental Health strategy.

5. Consultation and Communication

The process for refreshing the Plan started off in November 2019 with a well-attended Workshop with key strategic leads from all the relevant agencies in the city. This conversation was informed by a refreshed Children's Trust Needs Assessment and some work with the local Parent Board.

Whilst the development of the Plan has been hampered and slowed by the work on Covid-19, we have managed to continue the strategic conversations across the Children's Trust and this culminated in a well-attended consultation session with key leaders and parents' representative on the 14th September 2020.

At this session, the Plan was largely agreed and feedback very positive - some of which was easily rectified in the Version 7 attached to this report.

Two areas which require a bit more work before we can complete the Plan are:

- Improved integration of the developmental work in maternity services in the wider strategy
- A strengthened reflection of the critical role of early years providers

Once these two issues have been clarified in the Plan, it will be ready for final approval and then communication.

Children's Trust partners are keen to see wide communication of the Plan on a Page so that all staff feel a part of the wider strategy to improve the lives of children and families in Portsmouth.

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Signed by Alison Jeffery, Director of Children, Families and Education

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Children's Trust Plan 2020-2023 - Version 7	