Children’s Partnership

Chair: Chris Bush: Commissioning Director for Children’s Care and Support, London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Items to be escalated to the Health & Wellbeing Board

The first meeting of the Children’s Partnership was convened on 20 September 2017.

The Children’s Partnership (The Partnership) is a newly-formed sub-group of the Barking and Dagenham Health and Wellbeing Board. Following extensive discussions with member of the former Children’s Trust, the Partnership has been formed to replace the Children’s Trust and the Child and Maternity Group.

Established to improve the health, wellbeing and outcomes of children and young people in our Borough, the Partnership will seek to do so by leading the way in addressing a small number of priority areas through commissioning, integration, transformation, and innovation.

The purpose of this report is to update Health and Wellbeing Board on the work of the Children’s Partnership.

Furthermore, the Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:

a) Note the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Children’s Partnership (ToR attached as Appendix A in Stepping Up Narrative, Item 8) and ratify these; and
b) Formally agree the Children’s Partnership as a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Meeting Membership

Membership of the Partnership will not exceed 10 members, and will be decided by the Partnership itself, with the approval of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Membership of the Partnership, at the time of establishment, will be constituted of:

4 Representatives of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham:
- The Commissioning Director for Children’s Care and Support (Chair)
- The Cabinet Member for Social Care and Health Integration
- The Director of Public Health
- The Commissioning Director for Education

Deputy Director of Nursing for the Barking and Dagenham Clinical Commissioning Group
Director of Young People and Families for Lifeline (CVS Representative)
Integrated Care Director of the North-East London NHS Foundation Trust (NELFT)
Head Teacher of Sydney Russel Comprehensive School (Secondary School Representative)
Head Teacher of Gascoigne School (Primary School Representative)

Advisors to the Partnership will have standing invitations to each meeting of the Partnership, but will not hold decision-making power. Upon establishment, appointed as
advisor to the Partnership will be:

- The Council’s Head of Performance and Intelligence, Children’s Care and Support: responsible for providing intelligence, data and policy information.
- Head of Commissioning, Children’s Care and Support: responsible for leading the response to decisions taken by the Partnership.

**Action(s) since last report to the Health and Wellbeing Board**

There have been no previous reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board as the Children’s Partnership is a newly formed sub-group. At the first meeting the group:

a) Discussed and agreed the Terms of Reference (amended version attached at Appendix A);

b) Reviewed the first draft of a new Children and Young People’s Strategy for the Partnership. A second draft incorporating the views the Partnership and the findings from a wider consultation exercise that has now begun will be considered at the next meeting in November;

c) Approved the final version of the Improvement Plan resulting from the Local Area Inspection of services for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), and agreed to provide the governance on behalf of the wider partnership for the delivery of this plan.

**Action and Priorities for the coming period**

During the coming period the Children’s Partnership has agreed that the following key actions will be progressed:

a) Seek approval from the Health and Wellbeing Board to formal constitute the Children’s Partnership as a sub-group of said Board;

b) Develop outline commissioning intentions for the children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) for the purposes of:
   - Consideration at the next meeting to support the development of a wider Joint Commissioning Strategy; and
   - To be incorporated into the work of the BHR Joint Commissioning Board work-stream focused upon developing a joint response across the BHR footprint.

c) Conduct a gap analysis on the draft Children and Young People’s Strategy and begin a wider consultation exercise. A subsequent iteration of the strategy will then be considered at the next meeting.

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