
THE CHILDREN'S STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT

1.0 Matter for consideration

- 1.1 To present the Children's Strategic Needs Assessment (CSNA) document to the Board.
- 1.2 To inform the board of the ongoing process by which the CSNA will be updated and used to inform action planning.

2.0 Recommendation(s)

- 2.1 The Board notes the inclusion of the CSNA in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA);
- 2.2 The Board notes the ongoing process.

3.0 Information

- 3.1 The Ofsted inspection of Children's Services recommended that the JSNA should be reviewed to ensure there was a clear, shared understanding of the needs of children, young people and their families.
- 3.2 As a result of this, the analysis around children in the JSNA has been updated and augmented by more extensive and detailed work to produce a children's focussed section of the JSNA, which is referred to as the Children's Strategic Needs Assessment (CSNA). This is attached at Appendix 6a.
- 3.3 The CSNA is the primary evidence base for the Children and Young People's Plan, providing detailed information on aspects of the three priority areas highlighted in the Children and Young People's Plan.
- 3.4 As with all chapters of the JSNA, the CSNA is updated frequently and added to when appropriate. Appendix B shows the links and governance arrangements through which this process occurs for the CSNA. Under the overall direction of the Health and Wellbeing Board, the JSNA steering group assesses the need for further evidence, and asks the JSNA working group to scope the work, undertake the analysis and disseminate the findings. The Children's Trust and Safeguarding Children Board identify gaps for further research and translate the evidence into action, where appropriate.
- 3.5 This process requires key personnel from both JSNA groups to "champion" the evidence base across the other groups involved. The Assistant Chief Executive Children's Services and Corporate Development Manager take this responsibility across the groups on which they sit.

- 3.6 Ultimately, the evidence and process together help ensure that the Children and Young People's plan is underpinned by a robust evidence base.
- 3.7 Similar processes occur around other specific parts of the JSNA and their related strategies, whilst the Council's Strategy Management Framework ensures that all other relevant strategies take account of evidence in the JSNA at the inception stage.

4.0 Financial considerations

4.1 None

5.0 Legal considerations

5.1 None

Relevant officer: Scott Butterfield, Corporate Development Manager

Appendices attached:

Appendix 6a: Children's Strategic Needs Assessment document

Appendix 6b: Outline of process for disseminating and updating the CSNA

Background papers:

None

Websites and e-mail links for further information:

N/A

Glossary:

None