

Report to:	Health and Wellbeing Board
Relevant Officer:	Delyth Curtis, Director of People
Relevant Cabinet Member	Cllr John Jones, Cabinet Member for Children’s Safeguarding and School Improvement and Chair of Children and Young People’s Partnership
Date of Decision/ Meeting	21 October 2015

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To propose that the Children and Young People’s Partnership becomes a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board and present the terms of reference for the Partnership, which have been revised to reflect this relationship. The report also informs the Board of the activity of the Children and Young People’s Partnership over the last twelve months.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To agree that the Children and Young People’s Partnership becomes a sub-group of the Board, to approve the terms of reference and note the areas of work that the Partnership has strategic oversight of.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 From 31 October 2010, the Department for Education (DfE, 2012) withdrew statutory guidance on Children’s Trusts, however the requirement for local authorities and partners to have a Children’s Trust Board and the wider duty to cooperate to improve children’s wellbeing, as set out in section 10 of the Children Act 2004, remains in force.

3.2 The withdrawal of statutory guidance means that local authorities have the flexibility to ensure that their Children’s Trust Board fits with local Health and Wellbeing Board arrangements to suit their local context. Following discussions that have taken place with members of the Board and Partnership; it is widely agreed that the proposed arrangement would best suit the needs of Blackpool and fit in with current governance structures.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
An alternative option would be for the Partnership to not become a sub-group of the Board.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council Priorities are:

- Tackle child poverty, raise aspirations and improve educational achievement
- Safeguard and protect the most vulnerable
- Improve health and well-being especially for the most disadvantaged

5.0 Background Information

Children and Young People's Partnership Terms of Reference

5.1 In Summer 2014, Blackpool reviewed its Children's Trust to create the Children and Young People's Partnership, with refreshed purpose, roles and responsibilities and membership, which are set out in Appendix 4(a) – draft Terms of Reference.

5.2 The relationship between the Children's Partnership and the Health and Wellbeing Board is key in improving children's outcomes and has been constructed in a way that fits in with wider governance structures of Blackpool. To facilitate co-ordination on children's health issues, it is proposed that the Partnership will function as a sub-group of the Health and Wellbeing Board, reporting back to the Board with its recommendations, as appropriate.

5.3 Its purpose is to operate as the key strategic group with responsibility for overseeing and shaping the delivery of the children's health and wellbeing agenda on behalf of the Health and Wellbeing Board and to influence relevant strategies to address wider issues around children's outcomes.

5.4 At a practical level and to ensure openness, transparency, clear lines of communication and accountability between the Partnership and Board, it is proposed that regular update reports are brought to the Board. The report will summarise key points of discussion and will request that the Board supports, endorses or agrees the decisions made by the Partnership. Minutes from the

meeting and /or relevant papers will be included as appendices for background information.

Children and Young People's Partnership activity

5.5 Since the Children's Trust was reviewed in Summer 2014 and became the Children and Young People's Partnership, it has had a strategic oversight of a number of important areas of work:

- 0 – 5 years public health commissioning transfer – a number of updates and reports have been discussed regarding the transfer of commissioning responsibility for children aged 0-5 years to the local authority and the implications for future commissioning and service delivery.
- Strategic oversight of the Children's Improvement Plan; developed in response to the 'requires improvement' judgement in the July 2014 Ofsted inspection of children's social care and safeguarding services. The Partnership had responsibility for overseeing and scrutinising the implementation of actions related to children's emotional health and wellbeing and early help services.
- Considered and gave feedback on the Lancashire Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report 2014, proposing that Blackpool should consider having its own specific Child Death Overview Panel to consider the issues within Blackpool's context.
- The Partnership has oversight of and has discussed and contributed towards the Head Start bid and input into the governance structure.
- Considered the draft Commissioning Strategy and fed into the consultation process, approving the finalised document.
- Considered the updated Children's Strategic Needs Assessment and Schools and Student Health Education Unit (SHEU) survey, which will be used to inform the priorities in Partnership's forthcoming strategy.
- Discussed and fed back on the Lancashire Children and Young People Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation Plan, positively supporting its development and raising concerns regarding the scope of the document and timescales for its development.
- Received presentations on and discussed Better Start, contributing to shaping the strategic direction.
- Supported the development of the Blackpool Challenge Partnership to raise attainment levels for children and young people.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.6 List of Appendices:

Appendix 4(a) – Draft Children and Young People Partnership terms of reference

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None