

Council		
Report Title	Children and Young People's Plan 2019-22	
Key Decision	Yes	Item no.
Ward	All	
Contributors	Executive Director for Children and Young People	
Class	Open	Date: 24 July 2019

1. Purpose of the report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to request that Council agrees to the adoption of the Children and Young People's Plan 2019-22 following the recommendation of Mayor and Cabinet on the 26th June 2019.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 The Council is recommended to:
Adopt the Children and Young People's Plan 2019-22.

3. Background

- 3.1 Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan sets out the strategic aims for all agencies working with children and young people across the Borough. The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board (CYPSPB) is currently in the process of developing Lewisham's sixth Plan to cover the period 2019-22. The Plan is led by and belongs to the Partnership of agencies working to improve children's lives in Lewisham.
- 3.2 The new Plan will continue to structure and support the work of the CYPSPB. It will evidence how the Partnership will work together to make a measurable difference to outcomes for children and young people living in Lewisham.

4. Policy framework

- 4.1 The Children and Young People's Plan sits within the wider strategic framework of Council priorities, which is set out in Lewisham's Corporate Strategy 2018-22. The Strategy has a clear focus on the importance of strong effective partnership working in delivering improved outcomes for all residents and service users in the borough.
- 4.2 The Corporate Priorities are as follows:

- Open Lewisham - Lewisham is a welcoming place for all where we celebrate the diversity that strengthens us.
 - Tackling the housing crisis - everyone has a decent home that is secure and affordable.
 - Giving children and young people the best start in life - every child has access to an outstanding and inspiring education and is given the support they need to keep them safe, well and able to achieve their full potential.
 - Building an inclusive local economy - everyone can access high quality job opportunities, with decent pay and security in our thriving and inclusive local economy.
 - Delivering and defending: health, social care and support - ensuring everyone receives the health, mental health, social care and support services they need.
 - Making Lewisham greener - everyone enjoys our green spaces and benefits from a healthy environment as we work to protect and improve our local environment.
 - Building safer communities - every resident feels safe and secure living here as we work together towards a borough free from the fear of crime.
- 4.3 The Children and Young People's Plan is referred to in Article 4.2 of Lewisham Council's Constitution as part of the Council's policy framework. As such, the Children and Young People's Plan is a document for which a decision is reserved to Full Council.
- 4.4 In March 2019 correspondence was sent to the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny advising that, as part of the Council's policy framework, the CYPP would be presented to Full Council. As part of this, the Chair was invited to indicate how he would like the members to be engaged in the scrutiny of the Plan. Following consultation, with the Chair of Children and Young People's Scrutiny, the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny advised that the CYPP would be considered at the Children and Young People's Select Committee. The above-mentioned meeting took place on 30th April 2019. Comment and feedback from that meeting has subsequently been fed into the development of the Plan.
- 4.5 Following presentation of the CYPP at Mayor & Cabinet on 26 June 2019 and under the provisions of Standing Orders Part IV E 14, the Mayor & Cabinet decision to refer the CYPP to Full Council for adoption, was called-in by Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel on 9th July 2019.

5. Children and young people's context

- 5.1 The proportion of Lewisham's population who are children and young people has remained steady over the years, with about one of four Lewisham residents aged 0-19 years. The borough's population and in

particular the school population, continues to be extremely diverse; 76% of pupils are of Black and Minority Ethnic heritage (compared to 46% for the borough as a whole) and more than 70 languages are spoken by pupils attending the borough's schools.

- 5.2 Deprivation affecting children remains a challenge, with about one in three Lewisham children living in poverty. Across the borough, levels of income deprivation are particularly pronounced in Evelyn, Bellingham, Downham and Whitefoot wards. In terms of the health of the borough's children and young people, childhood obesity is one of the biggest areas of concern.
- 5.3 Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan 2019-22 is being developed at a time of increasing demand on services and reduced resources. In this environment, the Council and its partners must be even more vigilant to ensure that limited resources are used appropriately and that effort and help is targeted at the right time and in the right place to those facing the greatest disadvantage. In addition, emphasis needs to be placed on listening to what children and families need, in order for them to be able to navigate their way through the myriad of challenges that they face, as they transition to adulthood.
- 5.4 It is also important for the Council and its partners to recognise that it is not just resources that will make a difference but the way partners operating across the children's economy, work together to provide support to children, young people and their families. As such, it is everyone's responsibility to support so that the right solutions can be found. In view of the above, the focus of this Plan is for the Partnership to understand its role in identifying and intervening when early help is required, throughout a child and young persons life.

6. Process for developing our CYPP 2019-22

- 6.1 To ensure that the right priorities are included in the new Plan, officers conducted a thorough needs analysis, including reviewing the progress made in the previous Plan (2015-18). In total there were 89 performance measures in that Plan.
- 6.2 The review evidenced that for about 20 per cent of the measures significant improvements had been made. For example:
 - Breast feeding initiation - Lewisham was the 11th highest in England (6-8 weeks initiation and the highest in England for 2016-17)
 - Tackling homelessness - the number of families where homelessness has been prevented, continues to increase
 - Good level of development Early Years Foundation Stage – Lewisham has been amongst the top three performing local authorities for the last four years

- Attendance of Looked After Children at school has improved and is good
 - Children subject to a child protection plan for second or subsequent time is below statistical neighbours and better than the national average (an indicator of the effectiveness of social work intervention)
 - The percentage of children obese at reception age had reduced
 - The under 18 conception rate has reduced by 71 per cent since 1998
- 6.3 The review evidenced that for 20 per cent of indicators improvements had not been achieved. For example:
- The number of severely obese women at their maternity appointment increased
 - The percentage of LAC who had an initial health assessment within 28 days reduced
 - Persistent absence in primary schools increased slightly
 - The percentage of births where the weight is less than 2500g increased (the pre- term birth rate is the second highest in London).
- 6.4 More than 50 per cent of the targets have been more difficult to measure or to impact on, during the life of the Plan, for a variety of reasons. For example, specific projects were discontinued or decommissioned, or there was no longer national data available in a timely way to measure progress.
- 6.5 As part of the development of this Plan, consultation exercises were undertaken from February 2018 through to January 2019 to inform the shaping of priorities for the new Plan. The consultation process has been collaborative and involved key partners including health, schools, the police and the voluntary and community sector, as well as children and young people, parents and carers.
- 6.6 In March 2018 the Council hosted a well-attended partnership event, which supported development of the new partnership priorities. A draft structure for the 2019-2022 CYPP was then developed, and taken to the CYPSPB in February 2019.
- 6.7 Papers presenting the outline of the new CYPP have been taken to key partnership fora and working groups to seek feedback and agree outcomes, actions and performance measures, including the Voluntary Action Lewisham Children and Young People's Forum Forum; Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group's, Integrated Joint Commissioning Group and Lewisham teachers.

7. Proposed structure and content of the CYPP 2019-22

- 7.1 The consultation agreed that Council and its partners should keep the aim, vision and values that are central to our work with the borough's children and young people as follows.

“Together with families, we will improve the lives and life chances of the children and young people in Lewisham”

- We will put our children and young people first every time
- We will have the highest aspirations and ambitions for all our children and young people
- We will make a positive difference to the lives of children and young people

- 7.2 The Plan seeks to maximise skills and knowledge assets across the children's partnership economy and builds on existing medium-term strategies, plans of action and measures of success. In that way the intention is to further strengthen that which already exists and avoid needless duplication of effort. This is particularly important as there is a clear recognition that additional resources to address the wide range of issues affecting children and young people in Lewisham, are severely limited.

- 7.3 The Plan also takes a whole systems view of the welfare of children and young people and families in the borough, by focusing on education, health, safety, engagement, participation and transition to adulthood.

8. Early help – using shared data and intelligence

- 8.1 The Council and its partners know that intervening early when problems are identified, is critically important if the Partnership is to be able to improve outcomes for children young people, their parents and carers. As a result, it is the shared desire of the partnership to focus on:

- a shared understanding of what early help is and the important part all agencies play in recognising and taking responsibility when support is needed.
- a commitment to using data and intelligence well. This will give a clear focus on providing the most appropriate intervention as early as possible.

9. Priorities and performance management

- 9.1 The Council and its partners have identified four priority areas to harness how the partnership will work individually and jointly to improve the lives of children and young people in Lewisham.

9.2 The Plan does not attempt to bring all of the Partnership's processes together but signposts to organisational plans where this work is done. It is focussed on how best to effect collaborative engagement as well as understanding where this is not happening and what needs to be done to effect change. The priorities for the Plan are set out below.

- Children and young people have the best start in life and are protected from harm
- Children and young people have good physical and emotional health
- Children and young people develop and achieve and are ready for adulthood
- Children and young people feel listened to and respected.

9.3 The approach to the performance management of the Plan will see targets drawn from existing strategies and plans and agreed annually. This will ensure that the Partnership is better able to ensure that measures of success are relevant and will reduce the likelihood of measures becoming redundant over the life-time of the Plan. Each year the Board will review the schedule of measures and assess the appropriateness of targets set for that year.

10. Governance

10.1 The Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board (CYPSPB) will oversee the delivery of the CYPP 2019-22, providing leadership and direction to all partners who provide support to children, young people and their families in the borough.

10.2 The Integrated Joint Commissioning Group (IJCG) has responsibility for bringing together resources across the partnership and to ensure that these are aligned to deliver efficient and effective services, designed to improve outcomes. The IJCG will be responsible for delivery and monitoring of partnership resources and the joint commissioning intentions reporting the CYPSPB.

10.3 The Plan has been approved by Children and Young People's Select Committee on the 30th April 2019 with some minor changes.

10.4 The Plan has been approved by Mayor and Cabinet on 26th June 2019.

12. Legal implications

12.1 There are no specific legal implications arising from this report, except for the requirement to fulfil statutory duties and roles, as part of inter-agency strategic planning.

13. Financial implications

- 13.1 This is a partnership plan and at a very broad strategic level so does not contain costed proposals as such but rather represents an indication of how all the resources across the council, health and other services, will come together to support children and young people in Lewisham, targeted in the best possible way.
- 13.2 The Children and Young People's Directorate will be responsible for delivering of the Council's part in the commitments, within the already agreed budget levels. Effective partnership working and a focus on early help and intervention should contribute towards bringing the Children and Young People's budget within target and ensure best use of resources.

14. Crime and disorder implications

- 14.1 Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Act 1998 places a duty on partners to do all they can to reasonably prevent crime and disorder in their area. The level of crime and its impact is influenced by the decisions and activities taken in the day-to-day of local bodies and organisations.
- 14.2 The responsible authorities are required to provide a range of services in their community from policing, fire protection, planning, consumer and environmental protection, transport and highways. They each have a key statutory role in providing these services and, in carrying out their core activities, can significantly contribute to reducing crime and improving the quality of life in their area.

15. Equalities implications

- 15.1 The Children and Young People's Plan is one of the five high level strategic plans that support the Council's Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20. The Comprehensive Equalities Scheme includes the following five objectives:
- Tackle victimisation, discrimination and harassment
 - Improve access to services
 - Close the gap in outcomes for citizens
 - Increase mutual respect and understanding within and between communities
 - Increase participation and engagement
- 15.2 The underlying principles, priority outcomes and success measures contained within the Children's and Young People's Plan, demonstrate how the Council and its partners will contribute to Comprehensive Equalities Scheme objectives.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1	Draft Children and Young People's Plan 2019-22 http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s66114/Appendix%20CYPP%202019-22.pdf
2	Children and Young People's Plan 2015-18 https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/socialcare/children/cypp
3	Comprehensive Equalities Scheme 2016-20 https://lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/aboutthecouncil/equality-and-diversity/comprehensive-equality-scheme