

DUDLEY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Agenda Item no. 5(c)

REPORT SUMMARY SHEET

DATE	22 nd March 2018
TITLE OF REPORT	Children and Young People's Alliance Board Progress Report
Organisation and Author	Andy Gray, Chief Executive, Dudley Council for Voluntary Services Chair: Children and Young People's Alliance Board
Big ticket issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the Board engages with children and young people on a planned and ongoing basis so that we know whether what children, young people and their families are telling us is making any difference – what has changed as a result? • Workforce Development – the agreement to develop a new way of working with communities that involves new relationships and a different dialogue poses a significant workforce development challenge to partner organisations. Many staff will need training and support to enable them to change the way they work with communities. • Engagement with the education sector. Schools, colleges and other educational institutions play a critical role in the health and wellbeing of children and young people. However, it has been difficult to engage them in the work of the Alliance. The Board recognises the need to look at different ways of approaching this issue that are more relevant to current agendas and priorities in the education sector • There are a number of cross cutting themes that impact on multiple aspects of young people's health and wellbeing. Examples of these are Adverse Childhood Experiences, emotional health and wellbeing, and parenting skills. The Board is committed to devoting more time to these discussions at future meetings
Success/achievements	The Alliance Board members have agreed their commitment to collectively contributing to the achievement of the Health and Wellbeing Board's goals using a whole systems approach. It has identified seven transformational programmes that the Board monitor and review on a regular basis:

Emotional health and wellbeing

Early help

Employment and training

Disabilities and special needs

Healthy weight

Community resilience

Voice of the child/young person

Over the last 12 months the Board has received reports from all of the Transformational Programme areas, with a focus on what Board members can do to resolve problems or blocks that are making progress difficult.

1. Emotional health and wellbeing

The Board has supported the development of the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service Transformation Plan and further developed the focus on a tier less approach, recognising the importance of investing in keeping children well and developing their resilience. A needs assessment informed by Dudley young people and families has informed the new draft Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy which has been shared with the Board.

The recent Green Paper on Children and Young People's Mental Health reflects the approach that we are already taking in Dudley. This should enable us to draw on funding attached to the roll out of the Paper.

The Board has focussed on

- what good emotional health and wellbeing looks like – as communicated by young people through case studies
- what will make things better – what can communities do, what do agencies need to do and what can we do together.

2. Early help

The Board has monitored the implementation of the Early Help Strategy and has noted the improvements made since the launch of Early Help. The strategy was two years old in December 2017 and is about to be reviewed. Board members will play an active part in this process.

A key priority is the need for Board Members to take a leading role in ensuring the full support of their staff in the implementation of the Early Help Strategy, particularly in terms of providing support to remove obstacles and resolve issues that arise.

3. Employment and training

It is recognised by the Board that preparing children and young people to be ready for work is a huge area of development. It was agreed that to have real impact with this programme that we focus on three areas of work:

- The development of a more meaningful cross-borough provision for our disaffected learners.
- A redevelopment of school curriculum to better prepare pupils for technical education and employment.
- A range of both support and aspiration-raising activity linked to encouraging more young people to consider higher education.

4. Disabilities and special needs

The new area inspection framework for SEND is wider than just the local authority and looks at all services provided in the borough. It particularly looks at how effectively the local area:

- identifies children and young people who have special educational needs
- assesses and meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs
- improves outcomes.

The local authority, together with its partners, all have responsibilities to provide co-ordinated services that meet the needs of children and young people with SEND. With an Ofsted Inspection imminent, partners were asked to take this message back to their own organisations and ensure that their staff are fully briefed to meet the expectations of the SEND inspection framework

5. Healthy weight

The Children and Young People's Alliance Board is the sponsor for the Health and Wellbeing Board's 'Healthy Weight' goal. The Public Health team have enlisted the support of Leeds Beckett University, to explore how to make greater inroads into tackling obesity by developing whole systems approaches that act across the local system. The process has involved engagement and involvement with a wide range of partners, and plans in place to engage with communities, children and young people.

The Board recognises the contribution that other transformational programme areas will have to tackling healthy weight, particularly emotional health and wellbeing. This

further reinforces the need to take a cross cutting approach to the programmes in order to maximise their impact.

6. Community resilience

Andy Gray and Debs Harkins are currently working on a framework for community resilience, linked in to the work around the Dudley Vision. This will be brought to the Board in May/June, following the partnership workshop being held in April, which Board members have been invited to.

7. Voice of the child/young person

This area has been a key priority for the Board in the first 2 years. They have aimed to:

- Embed young people's involvement in strategic and service planning
- Give consideration to how the Board engages with young people on an ongoing basis in order to evidence the changes that have resulted from their participation
- Develop a borough wide Children and Young People's Participation Plan (was completed in early 2017).

As a consequence, the opportunities for young people to engage in health and wellbeing related planning and activities has greatly increased during the 2 years. Examples of this have been:

- the Young Health Champions
- the Children in Care Council
- the Care Leavers Forum
- the Black Country Chamber of Commerce
- Dudley Youth Council
- Police Week Students programme
- Take Over Challenge.
- Training Young people as participatory researchers to support development of the Neglect Strategy

Feedback from the young people who attended the Board meeting in November was that there need to be more opportunities for young people to be actively engaged in discussions and decision making in relation to the health and wellbeing provision for children and young people.

The Board has also received the Dudley Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report 2016-17. Discussion focused on the progress to date and the priorities for 2017/18. A more detailed session was held around the implications of the

	Serious Case Reviews.
Emerging trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Alliance recognises the need to look outwards to their relationship with the Dudley Safeguarding Children Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Adults Alliance and the Safe and Sound Partnership. • The emphasis of the last 2 meetings has been a focus on in depth discussions about key aspects of programme areas. This is highlighting commonality across themes and at future meetings the intention is to address cross cutting themes that will impact on all Transformational Programme areas.
Key asks of the Board/wider system	<p>SEND Inspection Framework – all partners are asked to fully support the SEND Implementation Plan and to ensure that their staff are briefed.</p> <p>More opportunities for young people to participate - their voice needs to be embedded in strategic and service planning.</p> <p>Increased volunteering opportunities for young people.</p> <p>Opportunities for discussion around cross cutting themes across all 3 Alliances</p>

Signature of author/s: Andy Gray, Chief Executive, Dudley Council for Voluntary Services

Contact officer details Julia Simmonds, Service Manager, Strategic Partnerships

People Directorate, DMBC

Tel: 01384 818294 Email : julia.simmonds@dudley.gov.uk