

Agenda Item No: **Item 8**
Report To: **Ashford Health & Wellbeing Board**
Date: 18 October 2017
Report Title: Annual update from Local Children's Partnership Group
Report Author: Helen Anderson
Organisation: Local Children's Partnership Group



Summary:

In Ashford the Local Children's Partnership Group (LCPG) has a strong local representation from key partner agencies and has identified clear priorities that have been used to commit grant funding and underpin partnership working. These priorities have been aligned to those that young people in Ashford voted for as part of the Kent Youth County Council Campaign: Mental Health, Bullying and Curriculum for Life were the ones that got the most votes.

Recommendations: The Board be asked to:-

Use the local priorities as voted for by young people and as identified through the LCPG to provide direction for the Ashford Health & Well-being Board to inform partnership working.

Purpose of the report

To give an overview of LCPGs and the Ashford LCPG.

To encourage further partnership commitment to achieving outcomes against identified local priorities for children and young people.

Background

Kent County Council Committee confirmed on 12 December 2016, that the Children and Young People's Framework 'Working Together to Improve Outcomes' was adopted to 'Every Day Matters'.

The Children and Young People Framework strategy sets out the outcomes that we aspire to for all children and young people growing up in Kent, and the way that we will work in partnership to achieve them.

Alongside the development of the framework, local partnership arrangements have been redesigned, with partners in each district coming together to form twelve Local Children's Partnership Groups (LCPGs). Using this framework for our collective

efforts to improve the lives of local children, LCPGs will be an active driving force for continuous improvement.

The Children and Young People's Framework is one part of the county's response to meeting the needs of children and young people locally. It is the partnership's strategy, setting out the areas in which we can have a collective impact by working together. It touches on almost all areas that are a priority for us and demonstrates where there are links between different issues; such as child sexual exploitation and absence from school. Additionally, there is a great deal of work in the county with a dedicated focus on issues that represent significant priorities in the county.

Ashford LCPG

The LCPG meets every other month and uses data that has been given in the form of a county dashboard, under the headings:

- Children and young people grow up in safe families and communities
- Children and young people have good physical, mental and emotional health
- Children and young people learn and have opportunities to achieve throughout their lives
- Children and young people make safe and positive decisions

Also local intelligence is used to agree priorities for local action. The current focus for work has been on improving family resilience and the promotion of healthy choices.

Conclusion

In order to make the biggest difference in terms of improving the lives of children and young people living in Ashford, the co-ordination of services and use of resources is essential. Schools have been very heavily involved in driving the local agenda particularly in relation to emotional health and well-being. The introduction of Headstart in Ashford this summer, which has been developed through the active participation of young people at every stage, will further add to the local expertise and enhance what we are able to offer.

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