

# REPORT TO: Health and Wellbeing Board

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**Date of Meeting:** 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Report of:** Kath O'Dwyer – Deputy Chief Executive and Executive Director of People Services

**Subject/Title:** Children's Joint Commissioning Strategy

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## **1 Report Summary**

- 1.1 This report provides Health and Wellbeing Board with the opportunity to comment upon and amend the draft Children's Joint Commissioning Strategy.

## **2 Recommendations**

- 2.1 Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to:
- Provide any amendments to improve the Joint Commissioning Strategy
  - To agree the strategy (subject to any amendments)
  - To agree to receive an annual update on the actions to improve joint commissioning across Children's Services.

## **3 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 This strategy and plan respond to the national and local requirements for Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG), NHS England and Local Authorities to align / join commissioning plans and, integrate services for children, young people and families. The strategy sets out the joint commitment of all key partners delivering to improve the lives and life chances of all children and young people (aged 0 – 25 years) in Cheshire East to a joint commissioning approach that delivers integrated services for children, young people and families.
- 3.2 There are many vital commissioning alliances and partnerships involving the local authority, Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), police, probation, voluntary groups/bodies and health providers that are important in delivering effective services. This strategy concentrates on the added value achieved by close and effective joint working/investment across partners.

- 3.3 The strategy is driven by the intent to improve the lives of Cheshire East children, young people and families and is informed by the Children and Young People's Plan, Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- 3.4 Ensuring all partners take an active ownership and input into joint commissioning via an agreed strategy is a clear recommendation of the Ofsted single inspection of Children's Services and a prominent element of the recently announced Local Area SEND inspection framework.
- 3.5 Given the tightening of public sector resources it is important that partners align investment to maximise integration where there is joint activity and provision. As we move through the joint commissioning continuum (Appendix 2) it is anticipated that further funding will be pooled to bind commissioning arrangements more tightly together and enable more affordable / sustainable long term solutions for service users and providers.
- 3.6 The following commissioning principles will underpin the Cheshire East approach to joint commissioning:
- We will be outcomes focused
  - We will pay more attention to inequality as Infant mortality, obesity, childhood accidents and teenage pregnancy all affect more children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.
  - We will make the connections between poor health outcomes for children who have a disability, who are looked after or are in the criminal justice system and their social and economic potential.
  - We will make sure children, young people and their families get their voices heard throughout the health, education and social care systems.
  - We will embed preventative approaches with early help as central to our joined up working to prevent needs escalating and contribute to demand management.
  - We will improve our collection of data to better understand need and develop consistent approaches across our partner organisations – using data and information sharing protocols

## **4 Impact on Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

- 4.1 The Children's Joint Commissioning Strategy will align with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy to ensure that children and young people have the best start in life and that we focus on early intervention and prevention.

## **5 Background and Options**

- 5.1 In 2015 a sub-group of the Joint Commissioning Leadership Team (JCLT) was established to focus on children, young people and families. In order to provide a steer and purpose to the work to improve joint working across Children's Services a strategy has been developed. The strategy includes the principles, priorities, actions and governance surrounding effective joint commissioning for children and young people.

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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