

DECISION-MAKER:	HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD		
SUBJECT:	SOUTHAMPTON'S RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT PLEDGE FOR BETTER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OUTCOMES		
DATE OF DECISION:	26 th MARCH 2014		
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL		
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None.			

BRIEF SUMMARY

A Government pledge for better children and young people's health outcomes was published in February 2013. This pledge formed part of the Government's response to the Children and Young People's Health Outcome Forum. It asks that all organisations who have the power to make a difference to children and young people's health and well-being sign the pledge to prevent avoidable ill-health and deaths.

The health and well-being of children and young people in Southampton is a key issue for the City. In comparison with England, Southampton is significantly worse than average for a number of child health indicators. Improvements have been made, but further work is required to reduce avoidable ill-health, deaths and inequalities. A number of strategic partnerships and associated operational groups have been initiated to tackle these issues.

The Children and Young People's Trust has examined the case for improvement and recommends that the Health and Wellbeing Board sign up to the National Pledge for better health outcomes for Children and Young People. As the responsible body, the Board will require assurance from the Children and Young People's Trust Board that actions are being taken to meet this pledge.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (i) That the Health and Wellbeing Board signs up to the National Pledge for better health outcomes for Children and Young People

- (ii) That the Children and Young People's Trust Board is accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board for delivery and holds an action plan to ensure organisations work in partnership for the benefit of children and young people

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1. By signing up to the pledge, Southampton City will be signalling its commitment to raise the health and well-being of Children and Young People within the City
2. To strengthen leadership and ensure lines of accountability for delivery

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

3. Not signing up to the pledge could signal that this issue is not of strategic importance for Southampton City

DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

4. There is unacceptable variation in health and well-being outcomes for children and young people. Southampton's Children and Young People's Trust Board recognises the degree of need within the City and the unacceptable inequalities therein.

The Trust Board is guided by the Every Child Matters outcomes. Every Child Matters is based on the principle that all children and young people from birth to 19 years old, whatever their background or their circumstances, should have the support they need to:

- Be healthy;
- Stay safe;
- Enjoy and achieve;
- Make a positive contribution; and
- Achieve economic wellbeing.

5. The Government pledge for better health outcomes for Children and Young People has six shared ambitions:
 - Children and Young People are at the heart of decision-making, with the health outcomes that matter most to them taking priority
 - Services, from pregnancy through adolescence and beyond, will be high quality, evidence based and safe, delivered at the right time, in the right place, by a properly planned, educated and trained workforce
 - Good mental health and physical health and early interventions, including for children and young people with long term conditions, will be of equal importance to caring for those who become acutely unwell
 - Services will be integrated and care will be coordinated around the individual, with an optimal experience of transition to adult services for those young people who require ongoing health and care in adult life
 - There will be clear leadership, accountability and assurance and

organisations will work in partnership for the benefit of children and young people

The pledge has been developed to ensure joint commitment and efforts in reducing child deaths, preventing ill health by supporting families, improving mental health, supporting and protecting the most vulnerable and providing better care for those with long term conditions and disability (Appendix 1 Pledge document).

6. Southampton's Children and Young People's Trust Board is aware of the health and well-being needs within the City. As previously documented, Southampton's Child Health Profile (appendix 2) shows that of 32 health and well-being indicators measured, Southampton is significantly worse than the average for England for 14 indicators. These indicators are related to:
 - deaths and serious injuries due to road traffic accidents;
 - educational attainment;
 - number of children living in poverty;
 - young people not in education employment or training;
 - teenage pregnancy;
 - smoking in pregnancy;
 - hospital admissions due to alcohol consumption;
 - mental health; and
 - self-harm admissions.
7. Locally, improvements in child health and well-being indicators have been achieved, such as an increase in educational achievement and reduction in teenage pregnancy. Through developing strategic partnerships and robust planning, greater gains can be made.
8. Before commending the pledge to the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Children and Young People's Trust has examined the case for improvement and conducted an initial assessment of the plans and capacity that there is across the City to meet the pledge commitments.

Appendix 3 is a 'working' action plan which highlights indicators with poor outcomes and associated emerging plans to tackle these issues. Strategic partnerships and associated operational groups developed by Southampton City Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group are actively addressing many of these indicators through their commissioning intentions and service re-design.

9. The recently amalgamated Primary Prevention and Early Help - Pre-birth to 19 years Commissioning Group is currently developing a strategy to inform its work. The overarching aim of the strategy will be that:
 - Children and young people get the best start in life.
 - They are supported to reach their potential through the most effective and efficient use of Local Authority and Clinical Commissioning Group primary prevention and early help resources.

- Resources will be delivered in partnership with families and other services and agencies across all sectors.

The Commissioning Group will produce progress reports against the action plans for the Children and Young Peoples Trust Board, ensuring remedial action is taken in order to keep progress on track.

- Further opportunities are planned such as the Big Lottery Funded HeadStart Programme. This will be launched in July 2014 and aims to increase resilience in 11-14 year olds. One year of funding to test new approaches has been secured. A further five years of funding is achievable on the basis of first year results.
- By signing up to the pledge, Southampton City will be signalling its commitment to raise the health and well-being of Children and Young People within the City. Sign up from the Health and Wellbeing Board will ensure overarching leadership and accountability on this agenda.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- None

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- None

POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS

- None

KEY DECISION Yes

WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
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SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices

1.	National Pledge
2.	Southampton's Child Health Profile
3.	Working document – action plan

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	None
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Equality Impact Assessment

Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) to be carried out.	No
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Other Background Documents

None