

Huntingdonshire Children and Young People's Area Partnership

Up-date for Huntingdonshire District Council's Overview and Scrutiny Panel

February 2015

Background

The Hunts Children and Young People's Area Partnership aims to deliver better outcomes for children and young people in Huntingdonshire. We are keen to develop partnership work that

- Adds value to the work of any one organisation
- Avoids duplication
- Enables us to deliver initiatives that could not be delivered by any one organisation

The partnership currently reports to the Children's Trust Board, a partnership which brings together all organisations working with children, young people and families to improve the lives of children and young people. There is a statutory requirement for statutory partners, including District Councils to be part of this.

A review is currently taking place into the function of the Children's Trust Board, the preferred options that are being explored further focus on strengthening the Area Partnerships where delivery of work takes place.

Membership of the Hunts Area Partnership includes representation from statutory organisations; the voluntary sector and a range of community partnerships and initiatives. Huntingdonshire District Council representatives are...

Officers: Jon Collen Housing
 Louise Sboui Corporate Office

Elected Member: Cllr Tom Sanderson

Priorities 2014-7

Priorities for the current plan were developed from our October 2014 meeting where attendance was opened to a wide range of people from partner organisations; other partnerships and community groups. Participants heard pitches from partners who wanted to take forward initiatives but needed partnership support. They were then invited to participate in a market place where they could explore ideas further and offer support to projects they were interested in taking forward. The current Area Plan was developed from expressions of interest.

The Area Plan consequently comprises the following projects

Priority	Actions/Projects
1. Promoting emotional wellbeing and supporting young people with emerging mental health problems	2 community based projects in St. Neots and Godmanchester that promote emotional wellbeing and resilience (prevention) and build community capacity to support young people with emerging mental health problems while they wait for; are receiving or transitioning from health services
2. Reduce the impact of	a) data sharing with HDC that that will enable the County

Child Poverty in Hunts	<p>Council Educational Welfare Benefits team to identify and target people who are eligible for Free School Meals but not claiming</p> <p>b) work with a secondary school in Hunts to encourage the uptake of the 'free school meal' by teenagers whose parents/carers are claiming Free School Meals but who do not claim the meal</p>
3. Increasing Employability of young people and reducing the number of young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training	<p>a) co-ordinating existing work, support and opportunities around employability to make best use of resources and develop pathways for young people</p> <p>b) a project based at Alconbury Weald that encourages participation in positive arts activities that also develop employability skills; offer qualifications and meet the employer opportunities.</p> <p>A pilot phase will begin in spring 2015 while support/funding is identified for a 3 year project</p>
4. Increasing Awareness of Child Sexual Exploitation	<p>Supporting the Community Safety Partnership's priority by co-supporting an awareness raising programme that includes 6 performances of a theatre in education production for targeted groups; support for adults working with young people; co-ordination of local resources and an evaluation of impact</p>
5. Supporting New Communities	<p>a) Supporting New Communities through infrastructure and community initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alconbury • St. Neots • Godmanchester <p>b) Priority 3b has a link to supporting new communities</p>

HDC are currently involved in the delivery of the following priorities

- 2A sharing data to increase the up-take of Free School Meals. This priority is not progressing due to database issues and lack of capacity
- 3A HDC are partners on the working group taking forward the co-ordinated approach to employability
- 4 HDC are supporting the delivery of the programme with admin support provided through Community Safety

Points for Consideration

1. There are commonalities across the priorities for the Hunts Children and Young People's plan and the HDC Corporate Plan. How can we ensure that going forward we work together to
 - Ensure a joined up approach
 - Share learning
 - Support the inclusion of children & young people in Corporate Plan priorities
2. The Area Partnership provides a short briefing paper following each meeting. Would members of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel find it useful to receive a copy?

For further information on the Area Partnership and the Action Plan contact:
Gill Hanby, Area Partnership's Manager gill.hanby@cambridgeshire.gov.uk