

# **NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

## **Children, Young People & Education Cabinet Board 30th June 2016**

### **Report of the Head of Participation – Chris Millis**

**Matter for information**

**Wards Affected: All**

### **Families First Progress and Budget Report 2015-2016**

#### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To inform Members of the progress of the Families First programme and budget for 2015-2016. The report provides summary details of progress made in implementing the Families First programme's key elements and budget analysis

#### **Background**

2. Families First is a Welsh Government funded programme that promotes the development by local authority areas of effective multi-agency systems and support, with a clear emphasis on prevention and early intervention for families, particularly those living in poverty.
3. The programme is a key response to the Welsh Government's Child Poverty Strategy and it intended to make a significant contribution towards meeting the objectives of the strategy by driving improvements in preventative and early interventions in family support and by reducing the numbers of families developing more complex needs and requiring intensive and costly interventions.

4. The programme comprises of the following five key elements
  - Joint Assessment Family Framework
  - Team around the Family (TAF)model
  - A coherent set of strategically commissioned, time limited, family focused services or projects (in response to the Community Based Needs Assessment)
  - An inter-authority Families First Learning Set; and
  - Proposals to improve support for families with disabled children and young people
5. The programme commenced in April 2012 and is a five year programme that will end on 31st March 2017.
6. During 2014-15, Neath Port Talbot undertook a review of Families First funded projects and developed an Early Intervention and Prevention Commissioning Strategy to inform and shape provision going forward for the final two years of the programme namely 2015 -17.
7. The commissioned projects have now been operating for one year and consideration has been carried out around the relationship of these projects with the TAF team and the flow of referrals.
8. Work is ongoing with regard to the continuing evaluation of these projects and the monitoring of demonstrated need from TAF families. This will continue to be closely assessed throughout 2016-17 to ensure the needs of vulnerable families in Neath Port Talbot are met and positive outcomes can be evidenced at an early stage of intervention.

### **Financial Impact**

9. The work delivered is fully funded by a Welsh Government grant.

### **Equality Impact Assessment**

10. Having considered the Council's screening assessment guidance produced to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 it has been determined

that the proposal within this report does not require an equalities impact assessment.

### **Workforce Impacts**

11. There are no direct workforce or staffing issues in relation to this report.

### **Legal Impacts**

12. There is no legal impact in relation to this report.

### **Risk Management**

13. There is no identified risk to this report.

### **Consultation**

14. Not applicable.

### **Recommendations**

15. The report be noted.

### **Implementation of Decision**

16. Not applicable.

### **Appendices**

17. Appendix 1 - Families First funding 2015-2016.

### **Officer Contact**

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Appendix 1 - Families First funding 2015-2016

Project Name	Project details	Organisation	Funding
<p>Joint Assessment Family Framework</p> <p>Team around the Family (TAF)</p>	<p>A whole family assessment tool is in place and is well used and understood by the TAF team.</p> <p>During 2015/16 a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) was introduced for all referrals for children and families needing support, ensuring a safe and consistent approach.</p> <p>The Team Around the Family model in Neath Port Talbot is led by a team of Coordinators and Family Workers responsible for assessing and responding to families who need a Team Around the Family approach.</p> <p>The TAF team have built good relationships with and made excellent use of Families First commissioned services as part of their Family Support Plans. Providers of other public and third sectors services also engaged as part of the plans to provide the identified support.</p> <p>During 2015/16 a restructure saw the management of TAF move to Children and Young People's Services and the co-location of the team with the Children and Young People's Services Intake Team. This has strengthened working</p>	<p>NPTCBC</p> <p>Children and Young People Services</p>	<p>£715,489</p>

	<p>relationships at both a management and practitioner level, and more easily facilitates the sharing of information relating to families.</p> <p>The number of referrals to the team continues to grow with over 400 referrals being received during 2015-2016.</p>		
Disability	<p>Action for Children secured the tender to provide Families First services for children with disabilities in Neath Port Talbot for 2015-17. There are several elements to this service some of which have performed better than others during the first year, resulting in a 67% spend on this project line for 2015-16.</p> <p>Graded Approach to Support and Counselling</p> <p>This service is sub contracted to ABMU Health Board and is centred on a Clinical Psychologist offering 1:1 counselling sessions, bespoke counselling programmes and training for volunteers. The service is designed to provide support for families of children who have recently been diagnosed with a disability to assist them in coming to terms with their child's diagnosis and empowering them to best manage their child's condition. Unfortunately due to problems in recruitment of the Clinical Psychologist this service did not deliver during 2015-16.</p> <p>Early Years Drop in and ASD Support</p> <p>This provides a Health Visitor led drop in clinic for families. ASD</p>	Action for Children	£130,789

	<p>support group for parent and behaviour support work service. Early years pre-school play group for children with disabilities. This element of the service has run to capacity with good outcomes.</p> <p>Multi Agency Co-ordinator</p> <p>Co-ordinating services for children with disabilities as part of a new integrated approach. There were some staffing difficulties with this post at the start of the year which have now been resolved. As a result the project has only been operating fully since December 2015. The distance travelled information for participants will not be available until Q1 of 2016.</p> <p>Integrated Play and Recreational Opportunities</p> <p>Two week playscheme in the summer holidays for children with disabilities. 56 young people attended, 100% of families reported the service was beneficial and they would use it again.</p>		
Learning Sets	Representatives from Neath Port Talbot attended the National Families First Learning Set in Llandudno in November 2015.	NPTCBC	£226
Project Number 1 Domestic Abuse Early Intervention	This project run by Calan DVS employs 3 full time staff and provides low level support at an early intervention stage for TAF families who are experiencing or have experienced domestic	Calan DVS	£34,555

<p>&amp; Prevention</p>	<p>abuse. There were some recruitment issues at the start of the year which caused a delay to the start of the project.</p> <p>Referrals have steadily built throughout the year and the project is now running at full capacity and the allocated budget for this project was fully spent. Out of the 89 families receiving the intervention last year 74.5% reported a sustainable improvement in their family circumstances and just one family was re-referred to TAF.</p>		
<p>Project Number 2 Thriving Families</p>	<p>Referrals have increased through the year totalling 56 for the full year and the NSPCC have delivered the Thriving Families project to capacity.</p> <p>Referrals are received by TAF for families experiencing issues relating to neglect. Once referred NSPCC undertakes a Bespoke Assessment with the family and then offers one of three parenting support programmes depending on need. This has been the implementation year for the Thriving Families project which is also delivered elsewhere in Wales.</p>	<p>NSPCC</p>	<p>£112,000</p>
<p>Project Number 3 Family Mental Health &amp; Well</p>	<p>This project is being delivered by Whitehead Ross Education &amp; Consultancy and consists of five separate services, some of which have performed better than others during the first year of</p>	<p>Whitehead Ross Education &amp; Consultancy</p>	<p>£203,406</p>

<p>Being</p>	<p>delivery.</p> <p>Face to Face Counselling and Therapy</p> <p>The counselling service for children and young people exceeded its capacity after a slow start showing a high level of demand from TAF. The therapy service also showed a high level of demand. These services also offer an element of youth work if appropriate. Out of the 76 children and young people receiving the counselling and therapy service 47% reported an improvement in their emotional health and well-being. Out of the 13 of those receiving the youth work element 77% reported improvements.</p> <p>Family Counselling, Parent Counselling and Therapeutic Mediation</p> <p>Family and parent counselling saw a higher than anticipated demand, Out of the 30 families and 69 parents receiving a service, 70% and 57% respectively reported an improvement. There was a lower demand for the therapeutic mediation.</p> <p>Open Access Counselling for 11-25 year olds</p> <p>This service saw much lower numbers than expected, we are assessing reasons for this however of those 17 young people accessing the service 100% showed an improvement.</p>		
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	<p>Specialist Support Services</p> <p>There was a very high demand for this service which provides behaviour support for children and young people with ADHD and lower level ASD via 1:1 and group work with follow up work from a Support worker if necessary.</p> <p>Young Carers</p> <p>Again a lower demand for the service than anticipated. The RBA card shows a low success rate but this is partly due to many participants not being with the project long enough to report an outcome at the end of the year. There is a service improvement plan in place for this element of the project.</p> <p>Only 72% of the allocation funding for this project was spent in 2015-16.</p>		
<p>Project Number 4 Family Group Conferencing</p>	<p>Barnardo's secured the contract to deliver Family Group Conferencing in Neath Port Talbot and this has operated to capacity from the outset.</p> <p>The service has been very effective in terms of prevention. Out of the 35 families completing a Family Group Conference 89% of them did not escalate in the pathway attached to the referral.</p>	<p>Barnardo's</p>	<p>£96,000</p>

<p>Project Number 5 EIP Children's Services – Family Support</p>	<p>This project has been delivered internally by Children and Young People Services and provides a rapid response service for young people aged 12 -18 to prevent escalation of need. There is also a parenting support service for vulnerable parents of 0-2 year olds. .</p>	<p>NPTCBC Children and Young People Services</p>	<p>£298,667</p>
<p>Project Number 6 EIP Youth Services</p>	<p>This project is run internally by the Youth Service. It is made up of several elements which have delivered over and above capacity this year resulting in the project receiving an extra 10% virement on their Families First allocation.</p> <p>They provide a service specifically for TAF children and young people which includes home visits, actions plans and bespoke sessions. This has shown excellent outcomes on a range of performance measures with 97% of participants completing an evaluation from reporting an improvement in well-being.</p> <p>There is a targeted group work service for vulnerable young people which has worked with 133 young people over the year. 99% of participants completing an evaluation form reported an improvement in well-being.</p> <p>An element of this service provides support around transition for Year 6/7 pupils. 24 schools in NPT were visited last year and 212 individuals identified as needing extra support. A 'Stepping Stones' programme is delivered to these young people, 82% of participants achieved the ASDAN award and 78% reported they</p>	<p>NPTCBC Youth Service</p>	<p>£332,031</p>

	<p>felt more positive about school and learning.</p> <p>Finally an element of the service targets NEET young people aged 16-19. Of 234 young people receiving the service 152 went on to enter employment education or training.</p>		
<p>Project Number 7</p> <p>EIP Play/Family Play Services</p>	<p>This project is delivered by our in house Play Development Team as part of the Education Directorate and consists of several elements. This project has delivered over and above capacity this year resulting in the project receiving an extra 7% virement on their Families First allocation.</p> <p>Family Play</p> <p>This service receives referrals from various agencies including TAF and families participate in 1:1 sessions and group work as appropriate for parents needing to improve their understanding of children's play and how they can provide an environment for play at home and in their community. There is a high demand particularly for the 1:1 service which received 106 referrals last year and had a good success rate. 79% of parent participants last year reported an improvement in how they encourage their children to play.</p> <p>Play Resource Loan Service</p>	<p>NPTCBC Play Development Team</p>	<p>£223,171</p>

A play resources scheme supporting parents to provide a range of play for their children, through the loaning of varied resources to encouraged stimulation and development. Use of the Play Takeaway has steadily increased throughout the year, with all registrations and requests for resources being processed quickly. There is capacity for additional use and services working with families, including Children's Services, Team Around the Family, and the family play team, are encouraged to bring the service to the attention of their families.

Feedback from families has been positive with all of those completing an evaluation form feeling that the resources improved their children's play and how they, as parents, could support and encourage this.

#### Play Training

Play training has been well attended by parents, play/childcare providers, and by young people. Of the 32 participants attending the training, 100% achieved accreditation. Non-accredited training provides practical, activity based workshops to help develop the skills of those working with, or aiming to work with children and young people.

#### Opportunities for Participation

The Play Hero project supports participation through appointed Play Heroes and Committee members at eight primary schools, who seek and report feedback on issues from peers that affect

	<p>how and where they can play. Through the year, 118 children applied to be part of the project and those appointed submitted 279 feedback forms. Issues raised on the forms included bullying at school, broken/damaged playground equipment at local facilities, lack of resources and/or activities for school play time, and poor access to play spaces. Issues are addressed through play development work, either school based or with other agencies and feedback given to the appropriate school.</p> <p>In addition to the positive impact the project has on community and school based play, there are significant impacts for the individuals involved, with anecdotal reports of increased confidence, improved social skills, and increased physical activity.</p> <p>100% of children involved in Play Heroes reported they felt they have contributed to decisions made in Play. More robust monitoring of outcomes will be applied in 2016-17 in order that these can be more effectively measured.</p>		
<p>Project Number 8 EIP O Gam I Gam</p>	<p>This project provides financially assisted childcare places for children aged 0-14 whose parents are in receipt of out of work benefits and receives referrals from professionals as well as self-referrals from families. It is administered internally via our EYDCP team within the Education Directorate. Places are provided with varying types of childcare and out of schools clubs</p>	<p>NPTCBC EYDCP team</p>	<p>£16,926</p>

	<p>as appropriate.</p> <p>During 2015-16 90% of parents whose child received a place reported an improvement in their family circumstances out of 38 placements made.</p> <p>The project delivered over and above its capacity last year which resulted in an additional 10% virement on its Families First allocation.</p>		
<p>Project Number 9</p> <p>Families First Developments</p>	<p>This covers an element of staffing cost for the administration, monitoring and evaluation of the Families First grant in Neath Port Talbot.</p>		<p>£33,197</p>
<p>Project Number 10</p> <p>NPTCVS</p>	<p>This is a jointly funded project with Children and Young People Services providing support in the home for vulnerable families through a volunteering scheme.</p> <p>This was only funded for Q4 of 2015-16 and will be fully reported on and evaluated in 2016-17.</p>	<p>NPTCVS</p>	<p>£7,500</p>