

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
SOCIAL CARE, HEALTH & WELL-BEING CABINET BOARD

2nd AUGUST 2018

Report of the Head of Children & Young People Services – Ms. K. Warren

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All Wards

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNCIL'S DRAFT PLAN FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE SERVICES 2019 - 2022

1. Purpose of Report

To inform Members of the Draft Plan for Children & Young People Services 2019 – 2022 ('The Draft Plan') and seek approval to undertake a 90-day public consultation of the draft document.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Draft Plan sets out the Council's proposals for the medium term future of Children & Young People Services in Neath Port Talbot, including placing greater emphasis on early intervention and prevention services.
- 2.2 Set against a background of increasing demand for our services and economic pressures requiring budgetary savings, the provision of good social care support for children, young people and families remains a priority of the Council.
- 2.3 Its focus is therefore on communities, strengths, early intervention and prevention so that children and young people in Neath Port Talbot are safe, and living in families where they can achieve their potential and have their health, well-being and life chances improved within thriving communities. In doing so, the work will embrace the following well-being objectives as defined in our Corporate Improvement Plan:
 - To improve the well-being of children and young people
 - To improve the well-being of all adults who live in the county borough
- 2.4 Neath Port Talbot Council's Draft Plan for Children & Young People Services 2019-2022 appended as Appendix 1 covers the functions of:

- Early Intervention and Prevention
- Safeguarding
- Safely reducing the number of Looked After Children and improve the quality of care
- Implementing outcome focused interventions across Children's Services
- Supporting Young Carers

3. Monitoring, Review and Delivery

- 3.1 The Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis by Social Care, Health and Well-being Cabinet Board.
- 3.2 The priorities within the Plan are the basis of the personal objectives between the Director of Social Services, Health & Housing, and Head of Children & Young People Services. These priorities will be reviewed in line with the Council's performance arrangements.

4. Recommendation

Members are asked to approve the Neath Port Talbot Council's Draft Plan for Children and Young People Services 2019-2022 for a 90 day public consultation as detailed in Appendix 1 to the circulated report.

5. Reason for Proposed Decision

- 5.1 This document sets out the strategic commissioning direction of Children & Young People Services. By offering more coordinated, cost-effective, timely and tailored support for children, young people and families, we will ensure a more joined up, evidence-based approach to service provision. This should result in reduced demand for specialist and acute services, resulting in improved outcomes and life chances for families through their needs being met earlier and more efficiently.
- 5.2 A key method of ensuring effective communication during the consultation period will be the dissemination of consultation and information materials including feedback questionnaires to key stakeholders. The consultation responses will be used to inform any proposed amendment to the draft plan, and the outcomes will be reported back to Committee for final approval.

6. Implementation of Decision

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

7. Equality impact assessment

- 7.1 A full Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) on the draft strategy is being undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010.
- 7.2 It is not expected that the draft plan will have an adverse effect on people with any protected characteristic as all existing and potential service users, families and carers will be assessed on the basis of their individual needs and will receive the most appropriate service or be signposted accordingly.
- 7.3 As well as existing sources of data, the consultation will be used to glean information about service users, carers and families. The completed EIA will be presented to Members along with the findings obtained through the consultation process.

8. Workforce impacts

The Draft Plan for Children & Young People Services seeks to ensure that all employees within the Social Services Health & Housing Directorate have clear priorities and objectives as part of the Council's performance management framework.

9. Legal impacts

There are no legal impacts arising from this report.

10. Financial impacts

The Draft Plan for Children & Young People Services has been developed on the basis of the Directorate's budgetary savings for 2018-19.

11. Consultation

It is proposed that, with Members' permission, a 90-day public consultation exercise is undertaken. This will consist of paper and on-line surveys. In addition, officers will attend various groups and forums around the county borough to reach as many stakeholders, including citizens, carers, providers (private and third sector) and partner organisations as possible. The Consultation Document can be found at Appendix 2 of this report.

12. Risk Management

There are no risks associated with this item.

13. Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Neath Port Talbot Council’s Draft Plan for Children & Young People Services 2019 - 2022
- Appendix 2 – Public Consultation Document
- Appendix 3 – Easy Read Version of Neath Port Talbot Council’s Draft Plan for Children & Young People Services 2019 – 2022
- Appendix 4 – Children & Young People Services Plan on a Page

14. Background Papers

The Social Services Health & Housing Strategic Business Plan 2017 - 2019.

15. Officer Contact

For further information on this report item, please contact:

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