



Doncaster Council

Date: 12th June 2018

To the Chair and Members of the
Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

OVERVIEW OF THE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN FIRST ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Nuala Fennelly, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools	All	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an opportunity for Members to give consideration to reports and presentation's outlining our current approach to assessing the work being done across the borough to fulfil the priorities and ambitions within the Children & Young People's Plan. The Children & Young People's Plan is a fundamental part of the Council, and its partners, strategic vision and, as such, a commitment was made to assess our progress against stated goals on an annual basis; this report offers an overview of the first iteration of annual impact report. Information and feedback has been sought from Children & Young People and professionals alike to inform the assessment. The completed report will inform work and focus for the following year and highlight areas that may require extra focus whilst also reemphasising the Children & Young People's Plan and the commitments that were made within it.

EXEMPT REPORT

2. There is no exempt information contained in the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. That the Panel: -
 - i. Considers the information presented which includes an outline understanding of our findings for the impact report and a summation of how the information was collected and how it is intended to be set out in the report.
 - ii. Provides their views on the approach that has been taken, the preliminary findings, and the current ideas for its distribution with an eye for ensuring rigour in this year's report and shaping how this process is administered in the future.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy.

BACKGROUND

Report Justification, Methodology, & Preliminary Structure

5. A criticism of our previous Children & Young People's Plan was that, after it was adopted and published, it was not regularly referred to and people in the wider partnership and community as a whole were unaware of the progress being made on the commitments made with in. As such, this time a commitment was made to provide yearly impact reports for each of the years covered by the new plan. This report is the first iteration of this commitment.
6. In researching the report and producing a draft set of findings, we have engaged with senior people representing key organisations within the Partnership. These were;
 - Doncaster Council
 - Doncaster Children's Services Trust
 - Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group
 - Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humberside NHS Trust
 - St Leger Homes
 - Partners in Learning (Primary & Secondary)
 - Expect Youth
7. There are still number of partners, including South Yorkshire Police, Schools, and Doncaster & Bassetlaw Hospitals NHS Trust, that still need to be engaged with before the report is completed.
8. In these meetings, we have sought to get their feedback on the use of the plan and its priorities as well as a more specific understanding of any achievements they or their organisation have had in the previous year that relate to the Children & Young People's Plan and its priorities. This was then followed with discussions about areas of their work that had not delivered against the plan as well as hoped in the past year and an overview of what their focus would be in the year ahead.
9. The engagement and participation team also completed comprehensive engagement exercises with young people at Primary and Secondary level as well as a session focused on young people with special educational needs and disabilities. These workshops were focused on the priorities set out by Children & Young People during the creation of the Plan and framed around the overarching themes: Safe, Happy & Healthy, Achieve, & Equality. This feedback has taken a leading role in shaping the content and structure of the report as well as informing the statements made about the efficacy of work happening within the themes of the report.

The current plans for this report follow the following structure:

Introduction

- 10 The introduction will be used as an opportunity to reassert the importance of the Children & Young People's Plan and the commitments that were made within it.

An Overview of 2017-18

11. There will be a high level breakdown of the impactful strategic and policy related changes that occurred in the previous year. There will also be a visual and descriptive approach to explaining how the Plan fits in with the new landscape and how its themes are being addressed elsewhere in the partnership; by adding chronology and links to the strategic bibliography in Doncaster it is hoped that the justification for our work will be clearer and more accessible

An Overarching Assessment of the Children & Young People's Plan

12. This section will depict the feedback that we have received that assess high level, cross-cutting aspects of the Children & Young People's Plan; leadership and partnership related strengths and areas for improvement, notes about priorities, and comments about how the plan is being used.

Thematic Breakdown

13. There will be a breakdown of priorities, narratives, successes, and areas for focus against each theme. This approach has been taken to maximise the utility of the feedback we have received from Children & Young People. Given the above section, this will focus on more specific projects and operational changes and improvements

Future Focus

14. This section will set out the future focus of the partnership at a strategic level and at a more operational level.

Preliminary Findings

15. The report is at an early stage of development but, there have been some preliminary findings, relating to the overall efficacy of the Plan and the future focus of the partnership more widely that will be included in the report in some capacity. The final Impact Report will include detailed assessments of the themes within the plan and assess specific pieces of work in more detail.

Assessment of the Children & Young People's Plan

16. It was noted within all the sectors involved in delivering against the Children & Young People's Plan that, a year into its existence it has maintained a consensus among partners about the weaknesses within the borough and the need to tackle them collaboratively. It was also noted that the Plan has created a robust baseline in its first year which is something that the borough has not had previously. All of this is being supported by effective and consistent leadership at a strategic level which is the main factor for maintaining the consensus across the eclectic partnership environment.
17. However, the Plan is only at the beginning of its journey and, as such, there are steps that need to be taken to address some issues that have arisen in the past year. The issues can be centred on two elements, the lack of visibility of the Plan and the increasingly fragmented environment that the agencies within the partnership are working in.
18. Fundamental changes to the nature of the Public Sector and continuing budgetary pressures have led to key sectors within the partnership becoming more fragmented; this fragmentation leads to inconsistent service delivery and a more opaque

partnership environment with a lack of clarity on roles and responsibilities. This is, in some cases, making delivering against priorities within the Plan more difficult. To overcome this, feedback suggests that the Plan needs to become more focused on some of its more impactful priorities and commitments to ensure effective delivery.

19. This would be supported if the Plan was more visible and utilised more effectively. Increasing the plans visibility would do two things of note; firstly, it would create and a reference point for the agencies within the partnership to shape their work around. In turn, this would ensure that work being done in the borough directly links to the priorities that are outlined in the Plan. Secondly, it would support the use of consistent language, roles, and responsibilities across the borough which would reduce confusion amongst the agencies that make up the Partnership.

Future Focus

20. The future focus of the majority of the agencies involved is essentially a continuation of the work they have already initiated with a greater focus on managing demand and providing earlier access to information and services. They are all involved in some form of modernisation or improvement process and are striving to deliver services more collaboratively and responsively. This is all shaped by the emergence of the Social Mobility Opportunity Area, the Inclusion Programme, the Place Plan, and the evolution of Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships within Health.
21. The publication of the Impact Report, and improving the visibility of the Children & Young People's Plan, will ensure that this progress is targeted towards the themes and priorities and further encourage collaboration across the partnership.

Proposed Onward Journey & Publication

22. Once the Impact Report is completed, it will be ratified at the Children and Families Executive board and then shared as part of the next Children & Families Forum Agenda to allow our partners to review the document. The Report will also be shared with members of this committee simultaneously to allow the committee to have sight of the document.
23. Currently, the Impact Report is being drafted in an accessible way to ensure that Young People, and residents more widely, are able to see our progress against the Children & Young People's Plan. As such, once the Impact Report has been reviewed and signed off, we propose to explore opportunities for publishing the document electronically for residents to digest.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

24. There are no alternative options within this report as the intention is to provide the Committee with an opportunity to note and consider the information presented.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

25. There are no specific risks associated with this report.

IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES

26.

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>Doncaster Working: Our vision is for more people to be able to pursue their ambitions through work that gives them and Doncaster a brighter and prosperous future;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better access to good fulfilling work • Doncaster businesses are supported to flourish • Inward Investment 	<p>The Children & Young People's Plan is a cross cutting strategy that supports all the Council's outcomes by holistically supporting Children & Young People's development and transition to adulthood. This is achieved through the delivery of specific projects, service modernization and transformation, and collaborative approaches to problems within Doncaster.</p> <p>Although the Impact Report does not set out new work that has a direct impact on the Council's outcomes, it is a method of ensuring the Children & Young People's Plan delivers on its commitments and has a tangible impact on the Council's achievement of its outcomes.</p>
	<p>Doncaster Living: Our vision is for Doncaster's people to live in a borough that is vibrant and full of opportunity, where people enjoy spending time;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The town centres are the beating heart of Doncaster • More people can live in a good quality, affordable home • Healthy and Vibrant Communities through Physical Activity and Sport • Everyone takes responsibility for keeping Doncaster Clean • Building on our cultural, artistic and sporting heritage 	
	<p>Doncaster Learning: Our vision is for learning that prepares all children, young people and adults for a life that is fulfilling;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every child has life-changing learning experiences within and beyond school • Many more great teachers work in Doncaster Schools that are good or better 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning in Doncaster prepares young people for the world of work 	
	<p>Doncaster Caring: Our vision is for a borough that cares together for its most vulnerable residents;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children have the best start in life • Vulnerable families and individuals have support from someone they trust • Older people can live well and independently in their own homes. 	
	<p>Connected Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A modern, efficient and flexible workforce • Modern, accessible customer interactions • Operating within our resources and delivering value for money • A co-ordinated, whole person, whole life focus on the needs and aspirations of residents • Building community resilience and self-reliance by connecting community assets and strengths • Working with our partners and residents to provide effective leadership and governance. 	

RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS

27. There are no specific risks associated with this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials KDW... Date 04.06.18]

28. There are no specific legal implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials DB Date 04.06.18]

29. There are currently no specific financial implications with this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials MLV Date 04.06.18]

30. There are no specific HR implications associated with this report.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials...PW Date...04/06/18]

31. There are no specific technology implications in relation to this decision.

32. The Children and Young People's Plan Impact Report should provide members with evidence of impact both directly and indirectly on health and wellbeing outcomes. Members will want to take this opportunity to ensure that the Impact report is aligned to the Health and Wellbeing Board outcome framework.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS [Officer Initials CH Date 01.06.18]

33. There are no significant equality implications associated with this report. Within its programme of work, Overview and Scrutiny gives due consideration to the extent to which the Council has complied with its Public Equality Duty and given due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, promote equality of opportunity and foster good relations between different communities.

CONSULTATION

34. There is no consultation required for this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

35. None

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