
CHILD HEALTH AND DISABILITY PLAN - UPDATE

Reason for the Report

1. To provide the Committee with an up dated progress report on the implementation of the Child Health and Disability Teams Development plan, copy attached at **Appendix A**. This plan addresses the recommendations included in this Committee's inquiry report in to Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD).

Background

2. The Cabinet approved a response to the Committee's inquiry report at its meeting on 15 December 2014. The report noted that the findings and recommendations are comprehensive and relate to a very wide range of complex strategic, policy and practice issues in relation to services for disabled children and their families. Several of the key findings and recommendations can only be realised over a sustained period and programme of improvement. Of particular significance were recommendations 1 and 9. Recommendation 1 was concerned with undertaking an exercise to ascertain the staffing complement necessary to meet need. Given the likely strategic direction in favour of integration with partners, staffing resources will be a critical consideration in the development of the new model of delivery. Recommendation 9 was concerned with reviewing eligibility criteria. Although there has been a review of eligibility criteria to support improvements to the operational effectiveness of the CHAD Team, it is clear that these will need to be revisited in any remodelling of services.

3. The report noted that on 13 May 2014, the Director of Children's Services reported to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee on a CHAD Development Plan. This plan was designed to respond to each of the recommendations in the report of the Scrutiny Inquiry. It was noted that whilst the Development Plan has enabled the Children's Services Directorate to address significant deficits in the operation of CHAD it has also initiated key strategic work streams to enable the implementation of a new strategic approach and model of service in partnership with the Vale of Glamorgan Council, the Education Directorate and the University Health Board (UHB). This includes the preparation of detailed proposals to introduce a model of services base on a 0-25 age range (instead of as now 0-18); improve transitions; secure cost reductions in education, children's and health and social care directorates; improve outcomes and service quality.
4. The report also noted that agreement has recently been reached with the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the UHB to joint fund a 'Change Manager' post to prepare the detailed proposals and an accelerated implementation programme to enable delivery of these improvements. There is clear partner confidence in the prospects for achieving this strategic change.
5. The response report also included a copy of the Child Health and Disability Team's development plan. Members commented that they wished to receive a further update of the plan at a future Committee meeting.

Policy Context

6. Cardiff's single integrated plan "What Matter 2010 - 2020" includes as a Priority Programme for Families and Young People, a work stream activity "Reshaping services for disabled Children". This is reflected in the Council's Corporate Plan 2015-2017, as an Improvement Objective, under Priority 2 "Supporting People in Vulnerable Situations" to Improve the effectiveness of transition support for disabled and vulnerable

children approaching adulthood. It is also captured in the Council's Organisational Development Programme, as approved by Cabinet in May 2014, "Remodelling Services for Children and Young People". As a result the Directorates Delivery Plan 2015-2017 has as a key aspiration to "Progress the remodelling of services for disabled children and young adults across Cardiff to improve effectiveness and efficiency of services". In addition the remodelling of the service is part of the action to optimise opportunities for working collaboratively across the region and more widely where there is potential to deliver more effective services.

Scope of Scrutiny

7. The scope of this scrutiny is to consider the Children Health and Disability team's development plan, and to pass on any observations, comments or recommendations to the Director of Children's Services.
 - a. the progress being made to undertake the Actions identified in the Development Plan.
 - b. the impact of the actions to improve the effectiveness of the support for disabled children and young people;
 - d. any identified risks and the appropriateness of any proposed countermeasure;
 - e. That the rationale set out in "What Matters", the Council's Corporate Plan, Organisational Development Programme and Children's Services Business plan will be achieved within the given timescale.

Way Forward

8. Councillor Sue Lent (Cabinet Member for Early Years, Children & Families) has been invited and may make a statement. Tony Young, Director of Social Service have been invited to present the Development Plan and to answer any questions members may have.

9. Members are invited to consider the information set out in the attached report and to identify any issues on which they would wish to receive further information.

Legal Implications

10. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend, but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to the Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

11. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend, but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is recommended to:

- consider the contents of the development plan attached at **Appendix A** and provide the Cabinet Member and Director of Social Services with any comments, concerns or recommendations.

MARIE ROSENTHAL

Director Governance and Legal Services

8 September, 2015