
NEW DELIVERY MODEL FOR AN INTEGRATED EARLY HELP AND PREVENTION SERVICE FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE – BRIEFING

Purpose of the Report

1. As part of the Children & Young People Scrutiny Committee 2018-19 Work Programme, the Committee agreed to receive a report on the a review of the Headline Actions set out in the Directorate Delivery Plan 2019/20, in particular the Committee requested a verbal briefing (copy of presentation attached at **Appendix A**) on the. new delivery model for an integrated early help and prevention service for families, children and young people.

Background

2. The new delivery model for an integrated early help and prevention service for families, children and young people was launched by June 2019 that brings together a variety of multi-agency provision across three distinct services; Family Gateway, Family Help and Family Support with the aim of reducing the impact of adverse childhood experiences on well-being.
3. The Cardiff Family Advice Service is under the Housing and Communities Directorate. Children's Services is directly responsible for the 'Family Support' element, although robust joint working is required in order to deliver a fully integrated service.

Issues

4. The Social Service Directorate Delivery Plan summarises its strategic Directorate Priorities, which includes - **Early Intervention, Prevention and Well-being** - Children, young people and adults are supported to live safely and independently within their families and communities with the lowest appropriate

level of intervention. Within this priority is a specific action to complete a service review of the Youth Offending Service and review the effectiveness of interventions by the service to offending / re-offending rates.

5. The Directorate Delivery Plan sets out over four quarters the key milestones to complete the review:
 - Q1 - Recruitment process for the Family Support element of the Cardiff Family Advice Service (CFAS) completed
Staff training programme for the team developed and delivered
 - Q2 - Continuous improvement and development ensured through robust support and challenge; work undertaken with the Institute of Public Care to ensure connectivity and fluidity between the various components of the service
 - Q3 - Robust tools to measure outcomes implemented to effectively measure the impact of the support and interventions delivered by the Family Support team.
Awareness raising undertaken for all Children's Services staff re: the resources available within the CFAS and how best to access those for families
 - Q4 - Safeguarding concerns that currently go direct to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub incorporated into the CFAS

Scope of Scrutiny

6. This report enables the Committee to review, assess and comment of the progress being made in undertaking the new delivery model for an integrated early help and prevention service. In particular Members may wish to inquiry whether, the key milestones highlighted in the Directorate Delivery Plan have been met, as well as whether there have been any challenges or obstacles in undertaking the review.

Way Forward

7. Councillor Graham Hinchey (Cabinet Member for Children & Families) Claire Marchant (Director of Social Service), Deborah Driffield (Interim Assistant Director), Jane Thomas (Assistant Director Housing and Communities) and

Avril Hooper (Operational Manager Early Help), will present the briefing to the Committee, and will be available to answer any questions Members may have.

8. This report and verbal briefing will also enable Members to provide any comments, concerns or recommendations to the Cabinet Member for Children & Families and Director of Social Services around the implementation of the approach.

Legal Implications

9. 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 Cabinet 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

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 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 will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Committee reviews the information provided at the meeting and offer any recommendations, comments or advice to the Cabinet Member and / or Director of Social Services.

Davina Fiore

Director of Governance and Legal Services

11 December 2019