

**REPORT TO THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014**Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge.****1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To invite the members of the Health and Well Being Board to sign up to the Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge to improve the health of children and young people in Barnsley and reduce avoidable child deaths.

**2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**2.1 Members note the report and agree to sign up to and endorse the Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge.**

**2.2 Members agree that progress on the implementation of the Pledge be overseen by the Children and Young People's Trust Executive Group with exception reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board as necessary to highlight any issues requiring further consideration by the Board.**

**2.3 Members note the work being undertaken to develop Child Health Profiles based on Area Council and Ward Alliance boundaries as part of the continuing development of the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.**

**3. BACKGROUND**

The need for improvement in children and young people's health outcomes is not new. There have been initiatives that have led to improvements in specific areas, but these have not resulted in the system wide changes required to improve outcomes.

At a national level, the Children and Young People Outcomes Board chaired by the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) brings together key system leaders in child health to provide a sustained focus and scrutiny on improving outcomes across the whole child health system. A Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum has been established which provides ongoing expertise in child health, but also offers constructive challenge to the leadership and implementation of this work.

Locally, the responsibility for commissioning and delivery of a range of public health services for children and young people aged 5 to 19 transferred to Barnsley Council in April 2013, with responsibility for 0 to 5 child public health services also transferring to the Council in October 2015. This puts the Council, and its partners through the Children and Young People's Trust and Health and Wellbeing Board in a strong and prime position to tackle the poor health outcomes experienced by many of our children and young people.

An Alliance of the Department of Health, the Local Government Association, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health and Public Health England recently wrote to Chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards inviting them to sign up to a Pledge,

with a commitment to improving health outcomes for children and young people and tackling health inequalities.

The Children's Trust Executive Group has received the Pledge and agreed to endorse it and recommend it to the Health and Wellbeing Board for signing.

#### **4. THE BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLEDGE.**

The Pledge confirms the following shared ambitions:

- Children, young people and their families will be at the heart of decision-making, with the health outcomes that matter most to them taking priority.
- Services from pregnancy through to adolescence and beyond, will be high quality, evidence based and safe, delivered at the right time, in the right place, by a properly planned, educated and trained workforce.
- Good mental and physical health and early interventions, including for children and young people with long term conditions, will be of equal importance to caring for those who become acutely unwell.
- Services will be integrated and care will be co-ordinated around the individual, with an optimal experience of transition to adult services for those young people who require ongoing health and care in adult life.
- There will be clear leadership, accountability and assurance and organisations will work in partnership for the benefit of children and young people.

By signing the Pledge, Barnsley Health and Wellbeing Board partners will demonstrate a joint commitment and effort to improve health outcomes by:

- Reducing child deaths through evidence-based public health measures and by providing the right care at the right time.
- Preventing ill-health for children and young people and improve their opportunities for better long-term health by supporting families to look after their children, when they need it, and helping children and young people and their families to prioritise healthy behaviour.
- Improve the mental health of our children and young people by promoting resilience and mental wellbeing and providing early and effective evidence based treatment for those who need it.
- Support and protect the most vulnerable by focusing on the social determinants of health and providing better support to the groups that have the worst health outcomes.
- Provide better care for children and young people with long term conditions and disability and increase life expectancy of those with life limiting conditions.

Signing the Pledge will require all partners working with children, young people and their families/carers to make a commitment to better integrate services and challenge ourselves to ensure that there is personalised care, co-ordinated around the child, young person and their family.

## **5. RISKS AND BARRIERS**

Lack of commitment from one or more partners could potentially jeopardise the ability to commission and deliver services in an integrated way.

The Pledge encourages an early intervention approach. If this is not achieved through sufficient investment targeted at prevention and early intervention, it is likely that this will result in more costly interventions required at a later stage.

If partners plan, commission and deliver services in isolation this will reduce the opportunities to make best use of resources and have a potentially negative impact on achieving the required improvements in health and wellbeing outcomes and reducing inequalities for children and young people across the Borough.

By all partners signing the Pledge and making a commitment to work together to adhere to its principles these risks can be minimized.

## **6. NEXT STEPS**

Signing of the Pledge will be an important public statement that will demonstrate the commitment of the Health and Wellbeing Board to improving the health outcomes of children and young people in Barnsley and our commitment to work together to ensure that every child in Barnsley has the best start in life.

Signing of the Pledge alone will not drive forward this important agenda. The Child Health Programme Board, chaired by the Director of Public Health, has been charged with the responsibility for developing an action plan and ensuring that targeted action is focused on those areas that will make the most difference, based on health needs assessment. The Child Health Programme Board will report to the Children's Trust Executive Group who will have oversight of progress and monitoring of performance against key child health outcomes indicators.

The Public Health team has been leading a programme of work to develop Child Health Profiles based on the geography of Area Council and Ward Alliances. Consultation has taken place on the draft profiles with children's services partners and with the Youth Council and the feedback has been extremely positive. The Child Health Profiles form part of the continuing development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and will be published shortly on the JSNA website once approval obtained for publication from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group who are jointly responsible for the JSNA. The Child Health Profiles will provide a robust baseline on which to monitor ongoing progress in improving health outcomes for children and young people and demonstrating progress in narrowing the gap in health inequalities across the Borough and between Barnsley and the rest of the country.

**7. ATTACHMENTS**

The Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge

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