

SHEFFIELD HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD PAPER

Report of: Sue Greig, Public Health Consultant

Date: 12th December 2013

Subject: Better Outcomes for Children and Young People's Pledge

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Summary:

To introduce a request to the Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board to sign up to the **Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge**.

The Sheffield Children's Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board recently undertook a review of its work programme priorities and considered the Pledge as part of this process. The Children's Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board has committed to 'sign up' to working to achieve the ambitions outlined in the Pledge and is requesting that the Sheffield Health and Well Being Board also endorses the Pledge.

Recommendations:

- The Board is asked to 'sign up' and endorse the Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge, ensuring that as a City Sheffield commits to meet the ambitions outlined in the pledge.

Background Papers: Better Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge

BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLEDGE

1.0 SUMMARY

1.1 To introduce a request to the Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board to sign up to the ***Better health outcomes for children and young people pledge.***

2.0 WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR SHEFFIELD PEOPLE?

2.1 Commitment from the Health and Wellbeing Board to deliver the ambitions outlined in the Pledge will ensure that as a city we are working in partnership to promote the health and well-being of our children and young people.

2.2 The Pledge provides a joint commitment to ensure service improvement and re-design to best meet the needs of children, young people and families.

3.0 BETTER HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR 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 Lead Members of Children's Services and Chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards to invite them to sign up to a Pledge to improve health outcomes for children and young people. The preamble to the Pledge notes that although children and young people growing up in England today are healthier than they have ever been, international comparisons and long term trends are concerning.

The Pledge and invitation is part of a system wide response to the Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum Report (2012): <http://www.dh.gov.uk/health/2012/07/cyp-report/>

The full Pledge can be accessed at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-national-pledge-to-improve-children-s-health-and-reduce-child-deaths>.

The Pledge confirms the following shared ambitions:

Our shared ambitions are that:

- 1** 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.
- 2** 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.
- 3** 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.
- 4** Services will be integrated and care will be coordinated 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.
- 5** There will be clear leadership, accountability and assurance and organisations will work in partnership for the benefit of children and young people.

And the following commitments:

Through our joint commitment and efforts we are determined to:

- **reduce child deaths** through evidence based public health measures and by providing the right care at the right time;
- **prevent 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.

April 2013 marked the transfer of public health from the NHS to local authorities. Local authorities are now responsible for delivering and commissioning a range of children and young people's public health services for five to 19-year-olds, with responsibility for children under five following from 2015. This puts local authorities and health and wellbeing boards in a prime position to tackle the poor health outcomes experienced by children and young people.

As well as perhaps an unsurprising emphasis upon partnership working and integration, and prevention and early intervention, the Pledge calls for sign up to a shared ambition to optimise the experience of transition into adulthood and, perhaps most importantly, for the

voice of children, young people and families, especially those most vulnerable, to be ‘at the heart of decision making, with the health outcomes that matter most to them taking priority’.

The Sheffield Children’s Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board recently undertook a review of its work programme priorities and considered the Pledge as part of this process. The Children’s Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board has committed to ‘sign up’ to working to achieve the ambitions outlined in the Pledge and is requesting that the Sheffield Health and Well Being Board also endorses the Pledge.

If all local areas were as good as the best, together we could improve children and young people’s quality of life now, and their ability to live fulfilling lives as they move through childhood. Local authorities, health and wellbeing boards, health, schools and wider partners are being invited to share examples of good practice so that learning can be promoted nationally. If we would like to share what our Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board is doing or planning to do to improve health outcomes for children and young people we are invited to email a short description to Samantha.Ramanah@local.gov.uk. All examples will be published on the LGA’s website and Knowledge Hub for the National Learning Network for Health and Wellbeing Boards to share learning.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Sheffield Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:

- ‘Sign up’ and endorse the Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge, ensuring that as a City Sheffield commits to meet the ambitions outlined in the pledge