

Cabinet 11th December 2017

Report title: Children and Young People's Plan 2017-2022

Wards: All

Portfolio: Councillor Jane Pickard, Cabinet Member for Families and Young People

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Report summary

This report proposes that Cabinet endorse the Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2017-22. This is the overarching strategy for children and young people in Lambeth. It is proposed that the implementation of the plan is undertaken by the the Lambeth Children's Partnership (formerly known as the Lambeth Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership).

The Children and Young People's Plan has been co-produced with the Lambeth community and has benefited from extensive engagement with partners in both the statutory and voluntary and community sectors. The Children and Young People's Plan outlines a compelling vision for Lambeth, aiming to make the borough one of the best places in the world for children and young people to grow up. The Plan outlines five priority delivery programmes to support realisation of this vision and sets out some design principles to guide how partners will work together to secure the best outcomes for children and young people.

Finance summary

There are no new financial implications arising from this report. The council contribution to the programmes in the Plan will be met from service budgets across the Children's Services Department, which has a total budget allocation of £69m in 2017/18.

Recommendations

1. To endorse the Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2017-22.

1. Context

- 1.1 There are 67,900 children and young people in Lambeth (aged 0-19; they come from a diverse range of backgrounds and life experiences and with varied needs.
- 1.2 As part of the “Every Child Matters” reforms, the Children Act 2004 gave local partnerships a duty to cooperate to improve the wellbeing of children and young people. This included the statutory requirement to set up a Children’s Trust and publish a Children and Young People’s Plan. In 2010, children’s trust reforms removed the requirement to produce a Children and Young People’s Plan. The previous Lambeth Children and Young People’s Plan was for 2011-14.
- 1.3 Although the statutory obligations for local partnerships have changed, in Lambeth there is a belief that it is still very important that partners continue to work together to set and deliver shared objectives for children. For this reason, the Lambeth Children’s Partnership agreed to develop a new Children and Young Peoples Plan in January 2017.¹
- 1.4 The Lambeth Children’s Partnership is the main forum that brings together agencies working to support children and young people in the borough. This includes representation from Lambeth Council, NHS Lambeth Clinical Commissioning Group, other health partners, schools and the voluntary and community sector.²
- 1.5 The Lambeth Children and Young People’s Plan 2017-22 has been developed in the context of significant challenges and opportunities within Lambeth. Key pressures include reducing budgets, growing demand for services and rising inequality in the borough. The Plan also responds to a number of major opportunities. These include the excellent performance of Lambeth’s schools and health services, the vibrance and diversity of the local community and the growing evidence base about the type of interventions that make a tangible difference to the lives of children and young people.
- 1.6 The Children and Young People’s Plan 2017-22 reflects the priorities of the Borough Plan 2016-21. Reducing inequality is a particularly important priority for the Children and Young People’s Plan, which sets out a targeted focus on population groups at risk of experiencing poorer outcomes.

2. Proposal and Reasons

- 2.1 This report proposes that Cabinet endorse the Lambeth Children and Young People’s Plan 2017-22.
- 2.2 The benefits of having a Children and Young People’s Plan include:
 - To engage and enthuse partners and the community in the process of agreeing a new vision for children and young people in Lambeth.
 - To set the overarching context and “strategic glue” for a range of other strategies and plans relating to children and young people in Lambeth.
 - To provide a framework for focusing resources across the partnership on a number of outcomes where we want to “turn the curve” over the next five years and on a number of priorities areas where there is opportunity to redesign services in pursuit of those outcomes.

¹ Please note that the Lambeth Children’s Partnership is the partnership forum that replaced the Children’s Trust, following legislative change in 2010. This Partnership has also been known previously as the Children and Families Strategic Partnership.

² For the full membership of the Lambeth Children’s Partnership, please see Page 2 of the Lambeth Children and Young People’s Plan 2017-22.

- To co-ordinate and strengthen partnership work to support children and young people in Lambeth, supported by a set of “design principles” for impactful, collaborative working.

- 2.3 The Plan sets out a compelling partnership vision for making Lambeth the best place for children and young people to grow up. The Lambeth Children’s Partnership will oversee work across the children’s system towards this aim. Over a five year period, this will include a strong focus on five priority delivery programmes:
- Lambeth Made: Our Children, Our Future campaign
 - A Better Start (0-5)
 - A New Approach to Early Help (5-19)
 - Children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND)
 - Children at risk of harm and Children Looked After
- 2.4 These programmes include universal services for children and young people aged 0-19, alongside additional support for children and young people with SEND, and work across the partnership to safeguard and support children at risk of harm and children looked after. The Lambeth Made campaign programme seeks to build on existing support and create new opportunities for children and young people in the community, by looking beyond public services alone for a more holistic offer.
- 2.5 The Children and Young People’s Plan sets out the vision and ambitions for children and young people in Lambeth, with a high-level overview of the programmes designed to help achieve the strategic aims of the Plan. Each programme has specific governance arrangements and plans in place for delivery.
- 2.6 The Lambeth Children and Young People’s Plan 2017-22 has been developed through extensive engagement with the Lambeth community, including children, young people, and parents. The findings of the engagement activity are described in Section 5 of this report. Additionally, partners from agencies across the children’s system have been closely involved in creating this partnership Plan, including the local authority, health, police, children’s centres, and the voluntary and community sector.
- 2.7 Our Lambeth Made (draft title) campaign has been modelled on the success of the UNICEF ‘Child Friendly City’ model. This high profile campaign is aimed at motivating businesses, residents, community organisations and families to contribute time, effort, funding, opportunities and talent to improve the collective life chances of Lambeth’s youngest residents, in particular those who are struggling with the poorest outcomes.
- 2.8 The campaign will contribute to the ambitions of the Children and Young People’s plan and will set out an inclusive vision and framework to challenge and inspire our key audiences to set up or get involved in initiatives that they may not have considered before. This could include businesses offering work placements to young people, more family friendly access for local facilities, corporate volunteering that benefits schools and children’s charities, new mentoring or intergenerational schemes. The campaign also hopes to raise awareness of the issues that negatively impact on children such as Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES), unhealthy diet, or poor parental attachment and ways to mitigate against them.
- 2.9 After exploring many concepts and ideas, the following names were shortlisted for the campaign: Lambeth Village; Lambeth Generators, The People Project; Generation Lambeth, Made in Lambeth and Lambeth Made. From these ideas two strap lines were created: ‘Growing Better Futures’ and ‘Our Children Our Future.’

3. Finance

- 3.1 There are no new financial implications arising from this report. The council contribution to the programmes in the Plan will be met from service budgets across the Children's Services Department, which has a total budget allocation of £69m in 2017/18.
- 3.2 Where activities are met from central government grant funding, it is assumed that the current level of funding will continue over the period of the Plan. Any changes to the level of such grant funding, may have an impact on the programmes and service managers will be required to take into their service planning.

4. Legal and Democracy

- 4.1 There is no longer a statutory requirement to produce a Children and Young People's Plan. The Lambeth Children's Partnership opted to produce a partnership plan voluntarily; therefore the document is not governed by any specific legislative framework.
- 4.2 The Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2017-22 has been developed in connection with the Lambeth Strategy for Children with SEND 2017-20. This strategy outlines how Lambeth will meet the requirements of the Children and Families Act 2014, to ensure that Lambeth fulfils its responsibilities for children and young people with SEND in a way that is ambitious, inclusive and realistic in the challenging financial context.
- 4.3 This proposed key decision was entered in the Forward Plan on 21 July 2017 and the necessary 28 clear days' notice has been given. The report will be published for five clear days before the decision is considered by Cabinet. Should it be approved, a further period of five clear days, the call-in period, must then elapse before the decision becomes effective. If the decision is called-in during this period, it cannot be enacted until the call-in has been considered and resolved.

5. Consultation and co-production

- 5.1 The Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2017-22 has been developed through close engagement with partners and co-production with children, young people and families in the borough.
- 5.2 Between May and August 2017, over 350 children, young people, parents and community members participated in engagement activities to co-produce the Children and Young People's Plan.³ There were three main channels for participation: face-to-face engagement sessions across the borough, a community event on 12th July 2017 and an online survey.
- 5.3 The Plan has been benefited from the insights of groups from a diverse range of ages, genders, cultural and ethnic backgrounds. This involved a particular focus on listening to children living in poverty, looked after children, children and young people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds and children with special educational needs and/or disability as key groups who are particularly vulnerable to poor outcomes.
- 5.4 Groups who participated in the face-to-face engagement sessions include:
- Children looked after at the Children in Care Council
 - Primary school pupils at two Lambeth primary schools
 - Pupils aged 16-18 at Lambeth College

³ 151 children and young people, 136 parents, 75 voluntary and community sector representatives, 12 'other' (additional responses to online survey).

- Year 6 pupils with speech, language and communication needs participating in the Afasic Transition Course at Evelyn Grace Academy
- Young people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) at the London Nautical School ASD Resource Base
- Groups of young people at two Young Lambeth Co-op focus groups
- A group of teenagers on the Prince's Trust Team Programme at Marcus Lipton Youth Centre
- Young Commissioners from the Young Lambeth Co-op
- Young parents in focus groups with the Family Nurse Partnership and St. Michael's Fellowship
- Parents of children with special educational needs and/or disability at a Parents Forum focus group
- Parents of young children at Jubilee and Woodmansterne Children's Centres

5.5 The views of children, young people and parents are reflected throughout the Children and Young People's Plan. In short, key messages included:

- Children, young people and parents want to be able to access support more easily. Several participants recognised that there are some excellent resources in the community, but these can be difficult to identify as the overall offer is fragmented and publicised in different places.
- Children, young people and families should always be listened to and treated with respect by professionals and the community. A number of young people told us about the importance of feeling understood by teachers. Parents of children with special educational needs and disabilities spoke about the need for disability awareness in the community and appropriate training for staff working with children with additional needs.
- Young people need support to pursue their ambitions – not just in formal education, but through training, work experience and paid employment.
- There are strong links between resilience and emotional wellbeing.
- Concerns about safety and youth violence came out strongly in conversations with teenagers. Several young people described how it is easy to become desensitised to youth violence and start to see it as normal, but it shouldn't be.
- Children and young people agreed that they are often more likely to share their problems with a peer or family member than authority figures. This indicates the importance of equipping the whole community to support children and young people at the earliest possible stage.

6. Risk management

6.1 The Children and Young People's Plan sets out the strategic direction for the Lambeth children's system, with priority programmes to help deliver the intended outcomes. Within specific programmes, plans will be in place to measure outcomes and to manage risks to delivery.

7. Equalities impact assessment

7.1 Reducing inequality is a central objective of the Children and Young People's Plan. The Plan is guided by Public Health evidence, including the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, concerning rising inequalities within the borough. The Plan has been developed in connection with the Equality Commission, the recommendations of which have informed the aims and actions of the Children and Young People's Plan.

7.2 The Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2017-22 sets out a focus on those groups most at risk of experiencing poorer outcomes. In light of the evidence base, this means improving outcomes for children living in poverty, Black African and Caribbean children, children with disabilities and looked after children in particular. The Plan aims to secure significant improvements for these groups across a

number of key outcomes over the life course – such as school readiness at age 5, childhood obesity and engagement in education, employment and training post-16.

7.3 A presentation about the Children and Young People’s Plan was delivered to the Equality Panel on Monday 6th November 2017 regarding the equalities objectives and anticipated impacts of the Plan. There is no specific equality impact assessment (EIA) in place for the Plan at this stage. However, each of the priority programmes within the framework of the Plan will have an EIA if they result in significant service changes.

7.4 **Community safety**

7.5 The Children and Young People’s Plan reflects the crime and community safety priorities agreed by the Safer Lambeth Partnership. The Plan has been developed in line with the Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy 2016-20 and the four LSCB priorities (child protection, child exploitation, neglect and violence).

7.6 The ambition that all children and young people are safe is a core element of the Plan. Support for children at risk of harm and children looked after is recognised as a distinct delivery programme. The ‘New Approach to Early Help’ programme also provides a co-ordinated offer of services for young people aged 10-19, which includes youth offending. A reduction in youth offending and youth violence is one of the target outcomes of this programme.

8. **Organisational implications**

8.1 Staffing and accommodation

The Children and Young People’s Plan is a partnership strategy for all agencies working with children and young people in Lambeth. The Plan outlines six ‘design principles’, which describe the ways of working required for partners to provide the best support to children, young people and families. This includes a drive towards greater integration across public services (including health and social care) for future.

Detailed resourcing requirements and service models will be outlined in the plans sitting beneath the Children and Young People’s Plan.

8.2 Procurement

None specific.

8.3 Health

The Children and Young People’s Plan is a partnership plan for joint working across the local authority and health, as well as the wider children’s system (including schools and the voluntary and community sector). The Plan sits within the strategic direction of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016, with the strategy’s priorities and outcomes reflected in the Children and Young People’s Plan. This includes the Health and Wellbeing Strategy’s focus on ‘early action and prevention’, ‘health and wellbeing in all policies’ and ‘transforming systems and integration’.

9. **Timetable for implementation**

9.1 The Children and Young People’s Plan has been endorsed by Lambeth Clinical Commissioning Group’s Governing Body in November 2017 and will be discussed for final approval at Lambeth Council’s Cabinet in December 2017.

- 9.2 Delivery of the Plan (including each of the delivery programmes that sit within it) will be overseen by the Lambeth Children's Partnership. These delivery programmes are currently in the design stages and new service models will be outlined from 1st April 2018.
- 9.3 From the start of 2018 onwards, Lambeth will launch a campaign aimed at increasing community participation to improve outcomes for children and young people. This campaign will promote the ambitions of the Children and Young People's Plan through a dynamic call to action.

Audit trail				
Consultation				
Name/Position	Lambeth cluster/division or partner	Date Sent	Date Received	Comments in para:
Annie Hudson, Strategic Director	Children's Services	06.11.17	17.11.17	Throughout
Councillor Jane Pickard	Cabinet Member for Families and Young People	06.11.17	17.11.17	Throughout
Councillor Jane Edbrooke	Cabinet Member for Children and Schools	06.11.17	29.11.17	
Nilesh Jethwa, Assistant Director	Finance, Children and Young People	06.10.17	13.10.17	
Alison McKane, Director	Legal Services	06.10.17	1.11.17	
Fateha Salim, Principal Social Services Lawyer	Legal Services	06.10.17	08.10.17	
Henry Langford, Senior Democratic Services Officer	Democratic Services	06.10.17	1.11.17	4.3

Report history	
Original discussion with Cabinet Member	11.07.17
Report deadline	09.11.17
Date final report sent	17.11.17
Part II Exempt from Disclosure/confidential accompanying report?	No
Key decision report	Yes
Date first appeared on forward plan	21.07.2017
Key decision reasons	Meets community impact test
Background information	Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2016 refresh) Future Lambeth: Our Borough Plan 2016-21 NHS Lambeth CCG Healthier Together Five Year Strategy: 2014/15 – 2018/19
Appendices	Appendix 1 - Lambeth Children and Young People's Plan 2017-22