

Cabinet

14th October 2021

Warwickshire Children & Young People Strategy 2021-2030

Recommendation

- 1) Cabinet approve the Warwickshire Children & Young People Strategy 2021 - 2030.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The establishment of the first Warwickshire Children & Young People Strategy offers a real opportunity to take positive steps forward prioritising children and childhood in our post pandemic recovery work and in the future Council Plan.
- 1.2 The Warwickshire Children & Young People Strategy has been designed by cross-services within the Council and with partner agencies. This allows for a whole council and partner, long-term plan. This is a County Council strategy but to be successful it is vital that we build and use the power of partnerships. Multi-agency endeavours underpinned by one aim, one set of collective principles, ambitions, outcomes, and measures will allow us to collectively improve the life chances and outcomes of children, young people and families.
- 1.3 The strategy establishes a clear and simple aim, to achieve a Child Friendly Warwickshire. This means that Warwickshire is a county that puts children at the heart of all we do. This will support our Council's overall vision for Warwickshire to be the best it can be.
- 1.4 Accountability for the plan will be held by the Strategic Director People in their statutory role as Director of Children's Services. However, it will be overseen on a regular basis by the Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Health & Wellbeing Board. Other partnership boards will have some cross over into the strategy including the Corporate Parenting Board, Warwickshire Safeguarding Partnership and the Warwickshire Together for Children Board.
- 1.5 In forming the strategy we have engaged with many people. This has included cross Council teams and partner agencies including headteachers, health colleagues, police, various commissioned services and voluntary and community organisations. Over 146 individual comments and suggestions were received. We have also engaged with 1,807 children and young people through the Child Friendly Warwickshire survey which helped identify our priority areas and with the parent and carer forums. On 30th September 2021

the Children & Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee also provided their views about the draft strategy, which has resulted in changes being made.

- 1.6 The audience for the strategy is predominantly those working with children and young people to send a clear aim and direction of travel for integration, collaboration and council led partnership to improve outcomes for children. Whilst this version of the strategy will be published, we intend to also establish a version for children, young people and parents/carers in Warwickshire.
- 1.7 We have worked with colleagues in Leeds City Council as part of the Strengthening Families, Protecting Children Project in formulating the strategy. In particular, the establishment of clear measurable objectives has been established. This will allow us to have one children's outcomes framework which we intend to implement within power BI to help elected members and senior managers to measure, monitor and scrutinise the delivery of the strategy. The five outcomes, fourteen prioritise and twenty-two measures are designed to incorporate all parts of Children's Services.
- 1.8 There will be a more detailed delivery plan established to support the strategy and to monitor how our ambitions are achieved. This will be supported by a new Power BI dashboard that will measure impact and outcomes, this will be available to elected members and will also be published, at least annually on our website.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no financial implications arising from this strategy. Any specific projects that have a financial implication will need to be managed by the Assistant Directors within the current budget.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 There are no adverse environmental implications.

4. Implementation of the strategy

- 4.1 The table on page six onwards will be formulated into a more detailed delivery plan. An update on progress of the strategy will be timetabled on at least an annual basis at the Children & Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee and an update of the strategy, with any revisions, will be provided to Cabinet on an annual basis.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 Cabinet are asked to approve the first Warwickshire Children's Strategy 2021-2030.

6. Background papers

6.1 There are no background papers.

7. Appendices

7.1 Appendix A – Warwickshire Children & Young People Strategy 2021 -2030.

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