

**From:** Peter Oakford, Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services  
Andrew Ireland, Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing  
Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director, Education and Young People's Services

**To:** Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee – 17 March 2016

**Subject:** Education and Young People's Services Directorate Business Plan 2016-17

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Previous Pathway of Paper:** None

**Future Pathway of Paper:** None

**Electoral Divisions:** All

**Summary:** The Education and Young People's Services (EYPS) Directorate encompasses three Divisions; Education, Planning and Access; Education Quality and Standards and Early Help and Preventative Services (EHPS). Of these three, the work of EHPS is closely aligned to that of Specialist Children's Services (SCS).

This reports highlights areas of the EYPS Business Plan that relate to SCS.

**Recommendations:** The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to:

- (i) **CONSIDER AND COMMENT** on elements of the draft Education and Young People's Services Directorate Business Plan 2016-17 (Attached as Appendix A) that directly relate to Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and in particular SCS.
- (ii) **NOTE** the final Directorate Business Plan will be published online in May 2016.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 EHPS was established in April 2014, and working with partners in Health and other agencies and in close cooperation with schools, provides early help and additional support to the children and young people at risk of poor outcomes and emotional and physical harm. The key target groups are those children, young people and families whose needs are just below the thresholds for Specialist Children's Services (SCS).
- 1.2 EHPS embraces a number of key functions for the EYPS Directorate including:

- 0 – 25 Early Help Services (including Children’s Centres and Youth Hubs)
  - Pupil; Referral Units, Inclusion and Attendance
  - Youth Justice (including responsibility for Prevent)
  - Troubled Families (including responsibility for HeadStart)
  - Information and Intelligence
- 1.3 Individual and family work within EHPS is arranged according to the Kent Safeguarding Children’s Board (KSCB) Inter-Agency Threshold Guidance levels of need and the response is delivered by partners, SCS or EHPS, according to appropriate application of the KSCB inter-agency threshold guidance.
- 1.4 The EHPS offer for children, young people and their families who need Universal support is Children’s Centres, Youth hubs and outdoor education. This offer is available to all, although EHPS aims to target those families that are most likely to require support, especially children and young people known to SCS.
- 1.5 Work with children, young people and families with additional needs takes place in universal settings or through targeted and outreach work to vulnerable communities or identified children and families. All EHPS staff providing open access universal provision are expected to undertake 20% of their work delivering targeted additional needs casework. This is often supporting statutory SCS intervention cases or other intensive work.
- 1.6 Where additional support is required for children known to SCS, in the form of targeted open access support, this arrangement is agreed locally between the respective EHPS and SCS District teams and put in place swiftly to complement the support being provided by the family’s social worker.
- 1.7 For children, young people and families whose needs are intensive the Kent Family Support Framework provides a clear pathway for Notification, Screening, Assessment, Planning, Outcome Tracking and Reviewing of Early Help cases. Work with this cohort is undertaken in Early Help Units

## **2. EYPS Business Plan 2016/17 and Social Care, Health and Wellbeing (SCHWB)**

- 2.1 In January 2016, EYPS Cabinet Committee received a report detailing Cabinet Members' Priorities for the Business Plans in 2016-17. The key priorities that link with SCS are:
- Further embed the PREVENT strategy in schools and other settings and across the council
  - Achieve all the targets set out in the Early Help Strategy and Three Year Plan which include key outcomes for Youth Justice, Youth Services, Children’s Centres and the Troubled Families programme
- 2.2 EYPS is driving change and improvement through the realisation of a number of ambitious targets for early help and preventative services. Of these the following are pertinent to SCS:

- Have delivered the Early Help Three Year Plan, so that there is at least a 30% reduction in the numbers of children in need and those with a child protection plan, and at least 88% supported through an early help programme achieve a positive outcome.
    - Reduce the rate of re-referrals to either Early Help or Specialist Children's Services within 12 months of case closure by EHPS down to below 20% by 2019.
    - Work with SCS to increase the number of step-downs to EHPS up to 28% by 2019.
    - Ensure appropriate levels of early help support are given to children, young people and their families in order to reduce the number of notifications leading to assessment down to 60% by 2019.
    - Increase the timeliness of response for targeted casework to ensure that 95% of plans are in place within 4 weeks of notification by 2019.
- 2.3 The Business Plan includes timescales for the strategic commissioning of services, including major contracts with defined milestones for the commissioning cycle of Analyse, Plan, Do and Review.
- 2.4 EHPS commissions several external Family Support and Parenting services including a County Parenting Service, Intensive Family Support Service, Adolescent Support Service. The EHPS Commissioning Intentions have been agreed and are reflected in the EYPS Business Plan.
- 2.5 Transformation projects for both the EYPS Directorate and SCHWB Directorate are overseen and supported by the 0-25 Change Portfolio Board. The Board reviews progress, receiving monitoring and evaluation reports on all 0-25 transformation programmes across the Council, and takes necessary remedial action where programmes are not on track. Projects and programmes currently being considered include:
- 0-25 Unified Programme (which includes early help and specialist children's services projects) – EYPS and Social Care, Health and Wellbeing (SCHWB)
  - Early Help Commissioning Programme (which includes 4 sub projects) - EYPS
  - Emotional and Mental Health – EYPS, SCHWB (including Public Health)
  - 16-25 Accommodation programme (which includes 5 sub projects) - SCHWB
  - Health Visiting – SCHWB (lead by Public Health but of interest to EYPS)

### **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1 The EYPS Business Plan reflects the joint work taking place between SCS and EHPS to improve outcomes for children, young people and their families and prevent costly escalation into SCS.

#### **4. Equality Implications**

4.1 There are no equality implications associated with this report.

#### **5. Legal Implications**

5.1 There are no legal implications associated with this report.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

6.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

#### **7. Recommendations**

**7.1 Recommendations:** The Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee is asked to:

(i) **CONSIDER AND COMMENT** on elements of the draft Education and Young People's Services Directorate Business Plan 2016-17 (Attached as Appendix A) that directly relate to Social Care, Health and Wellbeing and in particular SCS.

(ii) **NOTE** the final Directorate Business Plan will be published online in May 2016.

#### **8. Background Documents**

The EYPS Vision and Priorities for Improvement 2015-2019

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s63841/b11%20-%20Vision%20and%20Priorities%20Performance%20and%20Targets%202015-2019.pdf>

Report to EYPS Cabinet Committee – 17 March 2016

<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s63839/B11%20-%20Mem%20PLapp%20ECC%20Report%20Directorate%20Business%20Plan%20March%202016.pdf>

#### **9. Appendices**

Appendix A - draft Education and Young People's Services Directorate Business Plan 2016-17

#### **10. Contact details**

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