

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Peter Oakford,
Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services

DECISION NO:

16/00116

For publication**Key decision:**

Affects more than 2 Electoral Divisions

Subject: Working Together to Improve Outcomes: Kent Children and Young People's Framework 2016-2019**Decision:** As Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services :

APPROVE the adoption of Working Together to Improve Outcomes: Kent Children and Young People's Framework 2016-2019, as Kent's partnership strategy for children and young people.

Reason(s) for decision: The Children and Young People's Framework supports Kent County Council in the collaboration and the delivery of partnership working within the districts to enable a local response to issues impacting the lives of the children and young people of Kent. The framework will enable local partners to work more closely together, focusing on the key challenges in their communities and developing local action plans to enable the children and young people in their communities to flourish.

Legal Implications:

Under the Children's Act 2004, Kent County Council has a duty to ensure that partner organisations in Kent co-operate to improve outcomes for children and places responsibility upon the council to put in place arrangements to support collaboration

Financial Implications:

None

Equality Implications:

There are no equality implications associated with this decision as there is no change to any policy or eligibility criteria.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The proposed decision was discussed at the Children's Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee on 10 November: Mr T Wilson, Programme Director and Ms K Sharp, Head of Public Health Commissioning were in attendance for this item.

1. Mr Wilson introduced the report. Ms K Sharp then responded to comments and questions from the Committee, as follows:

- (a) Each Local Children's Partnership Group (LCPG) had their own local indicators.
- (b) Small pots of funding were available, and the grant process had now opened, with a decision due early in 2017.
- (c) It was recognised that there were funding disparities between areas, and the government was looking at reshaping the Free School Meals scheme.

(d) LCPGs had been set up in a way to focus them, preventing them from becoming 'talking shops'. The use of the dashboard and prioritisation was designed to track process, encouraging a link with and feedback from the groups. Partnership working was tricky, but the LCTPs seemed to be going in the right direction. Priorities varied between the different partners which was a fundamental issue.

(e) There were 12 LCPGs across the county, and each one was different.

(f) Members played an important role on the LCPG as they had a good understanding of the issues affecting local people.

2. Members agreed that it could be useful to have a local members' briefing where good examples of the LCPG, such as Canterbury and Tunbridge Wells, could be shared.

3. RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Specialist Children's Services to adopt "Working Together to Improve Outcomes: Kent Children and Young People's Framework 2016-2019", as Kent's partnership strategy for children and young people, be endorsed.

Any alternatives considered:

None

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None

signed

date

12 December 2016