

Agenda Item:

Committee(s) Health and Wellbeing Board	Date 10 November 2016
Health and Wellbeing Board	Public
Subject: Review of Children's Trust Board	
Report of : Cllr Melinda Tilley, Chairman of the Children Trust Board	For information
Report Author : Tan Lea, Strategic Safeguarding Partnerships Manager	

Summary

The Children's Trust Board (the Board) has undertaken a review of its role, function and purpose.

As a consequence the Board agreed to realign its role and purpose and the way that it operates, with a particular focus on:

- Effective multi agency working at a strategic level across children's services by prioritising three key shared areas which all agencies agree that they can commit to actively working in partnership to exercise influence and ensure positive outcomes for children.
- Enabling Children, young people, their families and carers to shape and inform Children's Trust Board discussions and decisions.
- Developing the Children's Trust Board as a strategic body, able to influence policy and plans where they impact on children and young people.

Recommendation(s)

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the key change in focus for the Children Trust Board and the intention to strengthen strategic partnership links between the Children's Trust Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Main Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At a workshop held on 27 July 2016, members were consulted on:
- The role and purpose of a Children's Trust Board
 - The mechanisms for effective strategic partnership working
 - The mechanisms for involving children, young people, their families and carers
 - How the Children Trust Board could be established as a strategic body linking with key partnerships boards and structures across children's services and able to influence key plans, policies and agendas in relation to children and young people.
- 1.2 Following the workshop, officers drafted a proposal for the Children's Trust Board. The model was finalised and agreed with members at the Trust meeting on 29 September 2016 and is presented below.

2. Recommended role and purpose

- 2.1 Members agreed that the role and purpose of the Children's Trust Board should be to:
- Strengthen key areas of multi agency strategic planning for children and young people, whilst recognising the statutory role of individual agencies.
 - Improve outcomes for children in relation to keeping safe, staying healthy, narrowing the gap and raising achievement under the priority areas outlined in section 3 below.
 - Drive the integration agenda where there is evidence that integrated working will improve outcomes for children and young people
 - Champion the involvement of children, young people their families and carers in partnership working with senior managers and politicians.
 - Ensure the Health and Wellbeing Board and other partnerships are sighted on the key challenges facing children and young people in Oxfordshire.

3. The key partnership working mechanisms

3.1.1 *A joint focus and three top priorities*

Members agreed a joint, strategic focus on the following three priority areas, to be developed either through task and finish groups or existing groups, which will be responsible to the Trust for delivering against agreed objectives.

Priority 1: Early Help and Early Intervention.
Led by Lucy Butler, Deputy Director, Children's Social Care, Oxfordshire County Council

Priority 2: Educational attainment for vulnerable groups of children.
Led by Janet Johnson, Children with SEN Manager, Oxfordshire County Council

Priority 3: Managing transitions into adulthood
A lead representing the Oxfordshire County Council Strategic Transitions Group

3.2 *Involving children and young people*

The newly launched Youth Forum will be a key communication and engagement vehicle for the Trust Board. Further consultation and scoping with the Forum will be undertaken to agree the mechanisms for active involvement with the wider Board.

3.3 *A cohesive, coordinated and focussed approach*

The Trust will meet four times a year, the agenda for three of the meetings will include a focus on at least one of the priorities listed above and also include time to consider emerging and core business¹. The fourth meeting will be dedicated to business planning purposes, developing the Children and Young People's Plan and core Children's Trust dataset and potentially linking with other boards to align plans.

3.4 *Linking with the Health and Wellbeing Board*

The Board intends to use its links with the Health and Wellbeing Board more effectively and escalate children and young people's issues where these are wider than the remit of the partnership and input of the Health and Wellbeing Board would be valuable.

To achieve this the Children's Trust Board will ensure representation at all Health and Wellbeing Board meetings.

3.5 *Analysis of need and priority setting*

¹ Core business includes:

- Performance monitoring and management
- Updates from partnerships, organisations and members
- New and emerging national, regional and local policy developments and their impact on Business of the Trust.

The Board will use data and analysis from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to identify priorities for its business plan and revised Children and Young People's Plan (2017-20).

In line with this, a new revised data set and performance framework is being developed , This will form the basis of regular performance reporting to the Board.

3.6 Have the right membership and representation

The Board has reviewed and updated its membership to align with its new role and purpose.

Details of representative organisations is presented in Appendix 1.

4 Key actions for forward plan

- Publication of annual Business Plan
- Review and publication of Children and Young People's Plan (2017-18)
- Finalise the Children's Trust Performance dataset

5 Summary and Recommendations

This report presents the new role and purpose of the Children's Trust Board.

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note this report and that a key function of the Children's Trust will be to strengthen strategic links between the two structures.

Report of: Councillor Melinda Tilley, Chair of Children's Trust Board

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**Appendix 1:
Children Trust Board Revised Membership (by sector / organisation)**

The Trust membership is drawn from each of the agencies or organisations as set out below:

- Oxfordshire County Council services for education and learning, children's social care, public health, joint commissioning
- City and District Council Members
- Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Thames Valley Police
- Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board
- Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust
- Safer Oxfordshire Partnership
- Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust
- Voluntary Sector representation
- Representation from schools and colleges
- Parents appointed by Healthwatch Oxfordshire as Healthwatch ambassadors
- Formal links to Oxfordshire Youth Forum

Membership will be reviewed and agreed annually

The Chairman

The Trust will be chaired by the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families Oxfordshire County Council.

The Vice Chairman

The Vice Chairman will be a representative from Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group.