

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for
People

to

Cabinet

on

20th September 2016

Report prepared by: Carol Compton Group Manager, Early
Help Family Support & Youth Offending Service

Early Help Family Support Strategic Plan

People Scrutiny Committee

Executive Councillor: Councillor James Courtenay

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To present the Early Help Family Support Strategic Plan 2016 and accompanying action plan for consideration

2. Recommendation

That Cabinet approves the Strategic Plan and action plan attached as Appendix

3. Background

- 3.1 As of April 2016, the former Integrated Locality Service and Streets Ahead, the service responsible for delivering the Troubled Family Programme in Southend, were refreshed and brought together. These services, alongside the Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) are now known as the Early Help Family Support & Youth Offending Service.
- 3.2 The purpose of the proposed document is to establish a Strategic Plan that governs local delivery of the refreshed Early Help Family Support Service. A separate Strategic Plan that covers those programmes in place in the operational area covered by Southend Youth Offending Service (YOS) has also been established.

4. Other Options

- 4.1 Whilst there is an option not to have a Strategic Plan overseeing the governance of Early Help Family Support this is not recommended

5. Reasons for Recommendations

- 5.1 The Plan requires us all to support children and families to address their needs at the lowest possible level, to prevent their needs escalating and to not refer to services at a higher level until we are sure we have done everything we possibly can to meet such needs at a lower level.
- 5.2 The plan gives a clear focus and enables resources to be directed at those actions that will make the biggest improvement in outcomes for children, young people and their families.
- 5.3 It will enable the focus of work to move into Phase 2 of the Early Help Refresh and provide a base from which much wider integration with partners can be established, beyond the new 'core' EHFS service, and alignment with other key transformation programmes.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

Achieving the priorities set out in the proposed Southend Early Help Family Support Strategic Plan 2016-17 will contribute to the Council's vision and aims to create a better Southend - safe, healthy, prosperous and excellent. It will also meet the Council's priorities of: reducing crime and disorder and anti-social behaviour; improving outcomes for vulnerable children; enhancing the prosperity of Southend and its residents; increasing the life chances of people living in Southend and becoming a higher performing organisation.

6.2 Financial Implications

This plan is deliverable within the resources available within the Council and DCLG Grant Funding.

6.3 Legal Implications

None

6.4 People Implications

None

6.5 Property Implications

None

6.6 Consultation

This plan has been devised following staff consultations, and consultation with partner agencies and organisations.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The proposed plan will help to promote equalities by focussing on improving outcomes for all children and young people and narrowing the gap between those who do well and those who do not.

6.8 Risk Assessment

Risk management is an active process within Southend EHFS & YOS, one which is incorporated into our performance management framework

6.9 Value for Money

Agreeing key priorities and actions ensures that available resources are targeted at children and families as soon as difficulties start to emerge or when there is a strong likelihood that challenges for a young person may emerge in the future.

6.10 Community Safety Implications

The proposed plan, alongside the Youth Offending Strategic Plan delivers strategies and planned actions for keeping children and young people safe

6.11 Environmental Impact

None

7. **Background Papers**

None

8. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Early Help Family Support Strategic Plan
Appendix 2 - Early Help Family Support Action Plan