

**HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL****Report**

<b>Committee/Panel:</b>	Health and Wellbeing Board
<b>Date:</b>	22 October 2013
<b>Title:</b>	Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge
<b>Reference:</b>	5267
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services, Hampshire County Council

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**1. Executive Summary**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to:

- Inform the Board about the opportunity to sign up to the Better Health Outcomes for Children and Young People Pledge (Pledge) to improve children and young peoples health and reduce avoidable child deaths

1.2 This report seeks to:

- Outline the content of the pledge
- Highlight the risks and benefits to signing up to the pledge and possible next steps

**2. Recommendation**

2.1 This report requests that the Board

- Considers signing up to the pledge
- That the Children's Trust Child Health Commissioning Group oversee the required action
- Receive six monthly reports on progress using the starting well section of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy Scorecard

### **3. Background**

- 3.1 All chairs of Health and Wellbeing Boards have been invited to sign up to the pledge in order to improve services from pregnancy to adolescence and beyond and reduce avoidable deaths.
- 3.2 The pledge commits signatories to 'put children, young people and families right at the heart of decision making' and work to tackle health inequalities among vulnerable groups of children. It sets out overarching targets with a particular emphasis on the need to improve the wellbeing of groups of children and young people that have the worse health outcomes, such as looked after children, those with disabilities and young offenders.
- 3.3 At a national level a new Children's Health and Wellbeing Partnership has also been created to provide national leadership and work on key priority areas. The Department of Health are developing a series of actions to improve child health such as data improvements to inform NHS and local authorities decision making.

### **4. The Pledge**

- 4.1 The Pledge highlights five key aims. The full version is available as Appendix 1. It includes:
- reducing child deaths
  - preventing ill health for children and young people and improving their opportunities for better long-term health
  - improving the mental health of children and young people
  - providing better care for those with long term conditions and disabilities
  - supporting and protecting the most vulnerable

### **5. What would signing up to the pledge mean?**

- 5.1 Signing the pledge requires working with children, young people and their families to make improvements to the health of children and young people. It provides a challenge to better integrate services and ensure care is co-ordinated around the individual. It will require a coordinated approach across commissioning and provider organisations to ensure services are high quality, evidence based and safe.
- 5.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board alongside the Childrens Trust has a clear leadership role in helping the ambitions of the Pledge to be realised. As they have a distinct role in the system, helping local organisations and services tackle the health and wellbeing priorities affecting our children and young people.

### **6. What would the benefits be?**

- 6.1 Signing up to the Pledge will demonstrate, at a local and national level, that the Boards is intent on taking action. Our Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) has a focus on children and young people through the starting well

theme. Both the JHWS theme and the Pledge complement one another as they “demonstrate a commitment to giving children the best start in life”. This is further reinforced by the Disabled Childrens Charter.

- 6.2 The pledge provides an opportunity to accelerate action to bring services together and achieve the aspirations that local people voiced during the consultation of the JHWS. These included ‘services working better together’ and ‘focusing help where it is needed the most’.
- 6.3 The principles embedded in the pledge support partners current approach, but more can still be done. There are increasing local opportunities for partners, parent carers and disabled children and young people to realise the ambitions expressed in the Pledge through working more collaboratively.

## **7. What would the risks be?**

- 7.1 As the Pledge mirrors the aspirations of the Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP) and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy partners are already committed to making the required changes. However it should be noted that there are significant challenges to delivering the required changes. Areas such as improving the lives of disabled children, transition from children’s to adult services and Child and Adolescent Mental Health services require considerable effort to make the required changes. The areas chosen are challenging and need a system wide approach to transform the outcomes of young people. There are inherent risks in working on difficult issues
- 7.2 The pledge has a focus on service and care integrating around the individual. The Board has a significant role in providing system leadership and influencing others. The Board is in its infancy and still working towards operating at its optimum. It is still finding its feet and will take time to become established.
- 7.3 The Board needs to exercise caution in signing up to the variety of campaigns that it is being presented with. The rationale on signing up to the Pledge is there is a clear relevance and compatibility with the CYPP and JHWS.

## **8. Next steps**

- 8.1 In order to ensure appropriate action takes place the Child Health Commissioning Group should lead the work. This will fit with the groups lead role for the Starting Well theme. Initial work would require ensuring delivery plans for the Children’s and Young Peoples Plan and Starting Well theme of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy adequately address the requirements of the Pledge.

## **9. Conclusion**

- 9.1 Partners have identified ambitious programmes to improve the outcomes of the most vulnerable children. Signing the Pledge will add focus to the work. The Child Health Commissioning Group is well placed to lead this piece of work.

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	yes
Corporate Improvement plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>		<u>Date</u>
Health and Social Care Act		2012

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

**IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

**1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

1.1. Impact assessments will be undertaken in relation to actions supporting the pledge.

**2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

2.1. None anticipated.

**3. Climate Change:**

3.1. How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

Not applicable

3.2. How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

Not applicable