

Report of the Strategic Director Children's Services to the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board

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Subject:

Progress update on the work of the Children's Trust in 2018/19 and the proposals for the Children's Trust from 2019/20

Summary statement:

In 2011 when Children's Trusts ceased to be statutory, Bradford took the decision that the continuation of a strategic partnership leadership group for children remained a priority and the Children's Trust continued to meet. This paper sets out the work that the Children's Trust has undertaken in 2018/19 and sets out proposals to refresh the Board and clarify its role moving forward from 2020 with recommendations to the Health and Wellbeing Board in relation to this.

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Portfolio:

Children and Families

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Children's Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 In 2011 when Children's Trusts ceased to be statutory, Bradford took the decision that the continuation of a strategic partnership leadership group for children remained a priority and the Children's Trust continued to meet. This paper sets out the work that the Trust has undertaken in 2018/19 and sets out proposals to refresh the Board and clarify its role moving forward from 2020.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Board met quarterly in 2018/19 and is chaired by Cllr Adrian Farley the Portfolio Holder for Children and Families.
- 2.5 Membership of the Board includes schools and governor representatives; police and fire; probation and CRC; health commissioners and providers; public health, children's social care and education; the university and FE colleges, early years and the VCS.
- 2.7 The Board received reports and considered a range of areas which related to children and young people in Bradford. In 2018/19 these included:
- Prevention and early help including the buildings review
 - The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
 - Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)
 - SEND inspection preparation
 - Key Stage 4 results
 - The Year of Safety in Keighley
 - Trusted Relationships Home Office funding for Child Criminal Exploitation support
 - Better Start Bradford

The Trust also undertook a deep dive into bullying with presentations from young people.

The Children's Trust in 2018/19 worked alongside the Children's TIG (Transformation and Integration Group). This group was set up when the Integration and Change Board was put in place to provide a systems group to review cross system issues for children. The group was previously chaired by Public Health and in 2018/19 was chaired by Ali Jan Haider from the CCG. In 2018/19 this group has looked in depth at a number of cross cutting issues including:

- Child suicide
- Self help and prevention for children
- ACEs
- Speech and language Therapy
- Teenage pregnancy

3. Proposal for 2020

The Bradford District Partnership was brought under the remit of the Health and Wellbeing Board in 2019. This includes the work of the Children's Trust which now reports directly to the Health and Wellbeing Board. A short internal review was undertaken in 2019 to look at the work of the Trust alongside other strategic groups. The review was undertaken with children's services, public health, the CCG and the HWBB strategic lead to enable proposals for the role and function of the Board within the new framework to be presented to the HWBB.

Context

Bradford has a large and growing population of children and young people with over 140,000 children and young people in the district. This makes Bradford Europe's youngest city with our young population one of our greatest assets.

Despite this there are still young people in Bradford who face significant challenges and outcomes for children across health, education and social care are not as good as we want them to be. Much of this comes from the high levels of poverty in the district, with 28% of young people living in families in poverty, and in work poverty a significant factor. In 2018 Bradford received an inadequate judgment for its children's social care services.

The importance of partnership and system leadership for children and young people

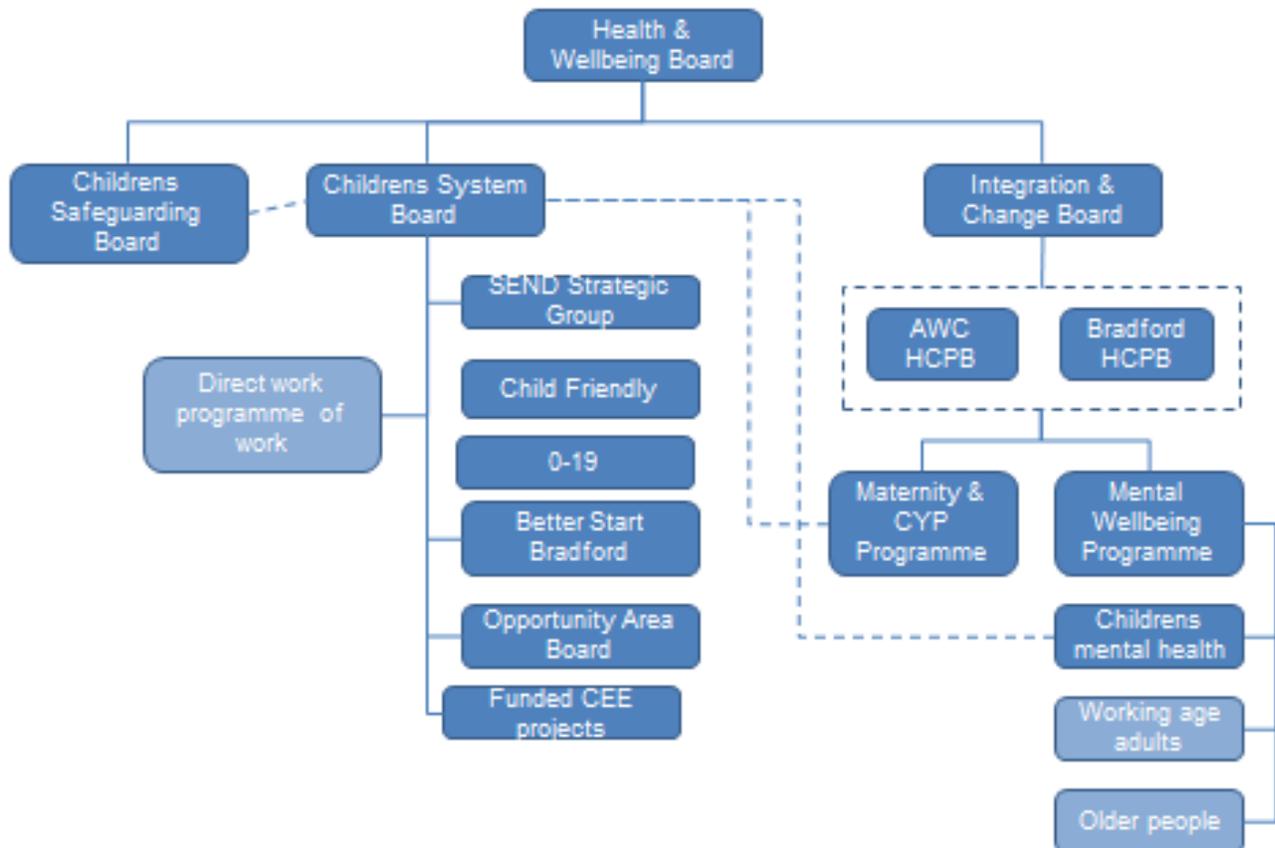
There has never been a greater need to forge strong strategic leadership across the system, making sure that as a district we make real our pledge that "Children are at the heart of everything we do". The strategic system leadership of the Children's Trust needs to be the driver of this, to hold all partners to account and to deliver the strategic plan for children and young people and to drive integration across the system. There is also a role for the trust in identifying, naming and problem solving blockages that occur in services for children and young people.

Given the context and the importance of the group, as well as the move to the HWBB governance, a number of changes are proposed for the Board in 2019 for discussion and agreement at the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Proposal for the Children's Trust from autumn 2019

A review of system meetings which relate to Children's proposes that the following groups report to the Children's Trust where issues can be discussed in detail, linkages made to other programmes and suitable and robust challenge and support put in place at a system level

Childrens Governance Architecture – proposal v0.1



This proposal formalises reporting for a number of groups which are currently not reporting anywhere and incorporates this into the role of the Children’s Trust. Decision making in relation to children would either be through delegation from the HWBB or through recommendations from the Children’s Trust to the HWBB.

In this proposal the current Children’s TIG has it’s work programme incorporated into the work programme of the Children’s Trust , clarifying the role of the Trust as the strategic leadership board for all things relating to children that have a system element and disbanding the TIG as it stands.

Key work of the Children’s Trust Board:

- To own, drive and monitor the Children and Young People’s Plan (current plan ends in 2020)

- To have oversight of outcomes for children and young people in Bradford
- To provide linkage and coherence in programmes for children across the system
- To identify blockages and lead work to find system solutions to these
- To receive reports from, challenge and support the strategic groups outlined above
- To deliver a programme of work than includes consideration of system issues for young people and emerging challenges and opportunities.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

The current Children's Trust arrangements do not have a resource allocation for facilitation or servicing of the board. The proposal is that there is a system contribution to a one day per week resource to support the Boards operation and development.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

This proposal aims to clarify governance for children's system groups and to put this on a sustainable footing.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

This role of the Children's Trust includes responsibility for identifying and addressing issues relating to equality and diversity for children in the district.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

None.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

None.

7.6 TRADE UNION

None.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS
None

7.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS
(for reports to Area Committees only)

None.

7.9 IMPLICATIONS FOR CORPORATE PARENTING

The Children's Trust will link with the Corporate Parenting Panel through the membership of the Portfolio Holder on both groups.

7.10 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

None

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

- a) To continue the work of the Children's Trust as it is now
- b) To disband the Trust
- c) To put in place refreshed governance

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That the HWBB formally accepts the reporting line from the Children's System Board to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2. That the Health and Wellbeing Board formally agrees to change the name of the Children's Trust to the Children's System Board and that Terms of Reference and paperwork is changed to reflect this.
- 3. That the Health and Wellbeing Board clarifies the decision making of the Trust as either delegated or by recommendation.
- 4. That the refreshed governance of the Children's System Board is accepted by the Health and Wellbeing Board and put into operation from October 2019.
- 5. That the resource issue for supporting the Children's System Board is considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 6. That the revised Terms of Reference and work plan of the Children's System

Board is submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board prior to January 2020 for ratification.

7. The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the work undertaken by the Children's System Board.

11. **APPENDICES**

Appendix one: BDP Governance structure.

12. **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.

