

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD  
THURSDAY, 5 MARCH 2015 AT 10.00 a.m.**

**Disabled Children's Charter for Health and Wellbeing Boards**

Report of the Director of Children's Services Hertfordshire County Council

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**1.0 Purpose of report**

- 1.1 This report is to request that Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board sign up to the Disabled Children's Charter.
- 1.2 The decision to sign the charter will mean that the Health and Wellbeing Board and all related services will need to take account of the expectations and values rooted within the Charter and ensure compliance with the charter within one year of signing up.

**2.0 Summary**

- 2.1 The Charter has been developed to support Health and Wellbeing Boards meet their responsibilities towards disabled children, young people and their families, including children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and health conditions.
- 2.2 Health and Wellbeing Boards who sign the Charter will agree to meet its **7 commitments** focusing on improving **health outcomes** for disabled children, young people and their families, and to provide **evidence** after 1 year on how they have met each one of the seven commitments.
- 2.3 The outcomes identified within the Charter are as follows:
  1. We have **detailed and accurate information** on the disabled children and

young people living in our area, and provide public information on how we plan to meet their needs

2. We **engage directly with disabled children and young people** and their participation is embedded in the work of our Health and Wellbeing Board

3. We **engage directly with parent carers** of disabled children and young people and their participation is embedded in the work of our Health and Wellbeing Board

4. We set **clear strategic outcomes** for our partners to meet in relation to disabled children, young people and their families, monitor progress towards achieving them and hold each other to account

5. We **promote early intervention** and support for smooth transitions between children and adult services for disabled children and young people

6. We work with key partners to **strengthen integration** between health, social care and education services, and with services provided by wider partners

7. We provide **cohesive governance** and leadership across the disabled children and young people's agenda by linking effectively with key partners

2.4 Education, health and Social Care partners each have a respective responsibility to manage and/or commission services within the framework provided by the Disabled Children's Charter. An exercise to benchmark our current position and establish an action plan for compliance will need to be finalised in coming weeks.

### **3.0 Recommendation**

3.1 That Health and Wellbeing Board Leads sign the Charter.

3.2 That the Health and Wellbeing Board task implementation of the Charter to the Shaping the Future, 0-25 Programme Board.

3.3 That the Health and Wellbeing Board request a Review within 6 months on areas of potential non-compliance with the charter.

### **4.0 Finance**

There are no immediate financial pressures related to this activity and an expectation that all agencies will achieve compliance within existing resources.