

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

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0-25 INTEGRATION PROGRAMME

Report of the Director of Children's Services

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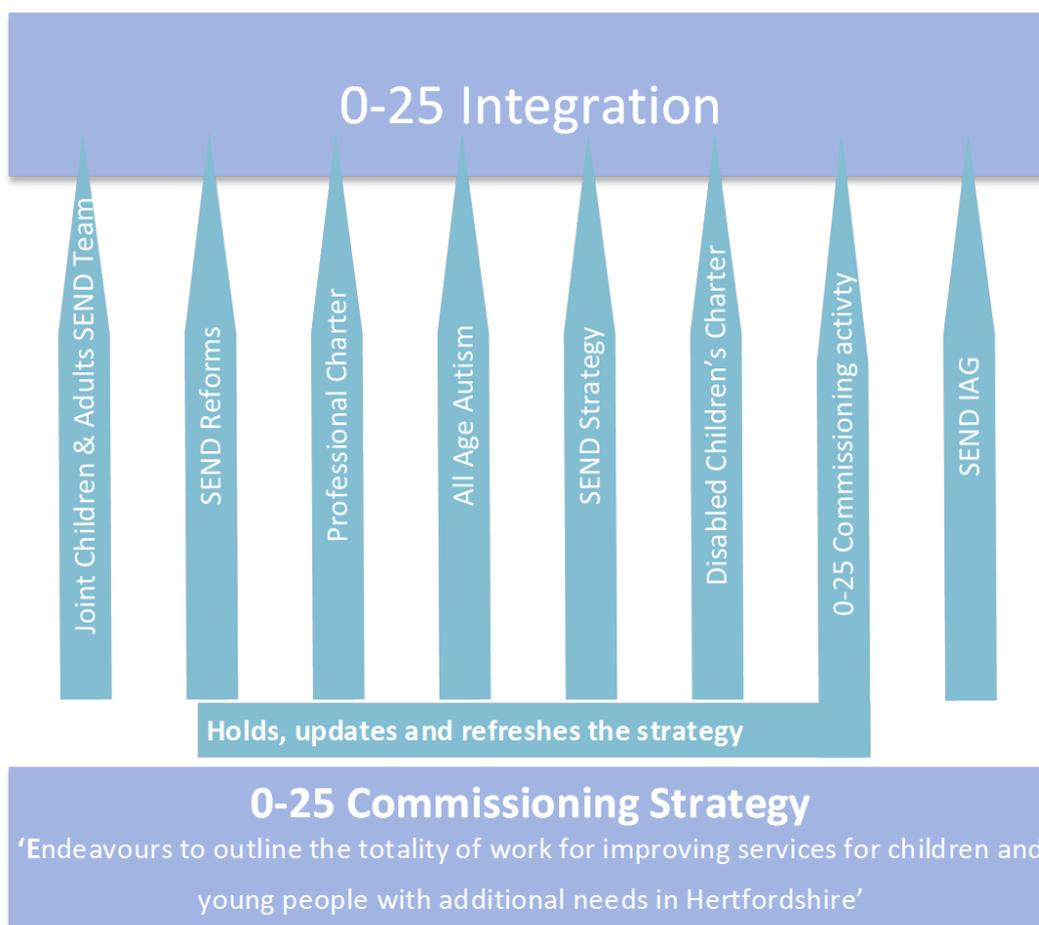
1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. This report sets out the countywide approach to improving support and services for Children, Young People and Young Adults with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) in Hertfordshire that is being driven forward by the 0-25 Integration Programme Board.

2. Summary

- 2.1. In Hertfordshire, there are a number of projects and workstreams that aim to improve support and services for Children, Young People and Young Adults with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) and their families. The 0-25 Integration Programme Board brings together these separate strands of activity to provide oversight, promote alignment and ensure that our countywide ambitions for this cohort are achieved.
- 2.2. The 0-25 Integration Programme Board membership includes representatives from North and East Herts CCG, Herts Valleys CCG, Children's Services, Health and Community Services, Public Health, Herts Parent Carer Involvement (HPCI), Carers in Herts, as well as representation from Hertfordshire Colleges and Primary, Secondary and Special Schools.
- 2.3. The Programme board has responsibility and authority for the definition and delivery of the 0-25 Integration Programme. It has ownership of the overall direction and management of the programme, projects and initiatives, and is accountable for delivery.

- 2.4. The areas of work which feed into the 0-25 board are shown in the image below, with a brief description of each area included in the 'background' section of this report.



3. Recommendation

- 3.1. The Professional Charter (appendix A) is acknowledged by the Board as a countywide standard for working with Children, Young People and Young Adults with SEND and their families.
- 3.2. The Board are asked to agree the Disabled Children's Charter evidence file (appendix B) for submission to Every Disabled Child Matters (EDCM).

4. Background

- 4.1. The 0-25 Integration Programme was set up as part of the wider 'Shaping the Future' programme in Children's Services. It responds to the need for continued development to ensure that the way with we work with Children, Young People and Young Adults with SEND and their families, and the services that we provide for them, are in line with the values that were set out in the 'Support and Aspiration' Green Paper. Consultants from

iMPower were contracted in the Summer of 2015 to help us shape our vision for the future.

- 4.2. Following the review from iMPower, work is now underway to develop a joint service between Children's Services and Health and Community Services for disabled children, young people, young adults and their families. A key driver is promoting independence; planning for adulthood from an earlier point and ensuring that we focus on long term outcomes as well as shorter term outcomes. This new service will reduce the number of assessments and plans that service users are subject to, leading to a smoother transition into adulthood and reducing duplication of efforts. The service will combine the current Disabled Children's Service and the Transition Team. As the planning progresses, we will actively seek suggestions and opportunities for how we can further streamline this area by closely aligning with and possibly incorporating other service areas, including Health services. The development of this service is being undertaken with strong involvement from staff, as well as Children, Young People and Young adults with SEND and their families. The new service is due to launch in October 2016.
- 4.3. The SEND Reforms became law in September 2014 as part of the Children and Families Act. Hertfordshire were a Pathfinder, and latterly a Pathfinder Champion for these reforms. This area of work seeks not only to ensure statutory compliance, but to strive for excellence and to ensure readiness for the new joint CQC and Ofsted SEND Inspection framework which will come into force from May 2016.
- 4.4. Throughout our time as a Pathfinder authority for the SEND Reforms, and latterly in the development of the 0-25 Integration Programme, parents have highlighted that the systems we put in place will not be successful if we do not ensure that staff are working in the person centred and transparent way that is outlined in the SEND Code of Practice. The Hertfordshire Professional Charter (Appendix A) has been developed to help address this. The Charter was coproduced with Young People, Families and professionals from Education, Health and Care services, and builds upon the professional standards that already exist across the partnership. The Charter was signed off by the 0-25 Integration Programme Board in November 2015, and we are now planning how this is rolled out throughout the workforce.
- 4.5. The All Age Autism Partnership Board was set up following a review of Autism Services in the County and a review of Autism support in Schools. Although this work goes beyond the scope of the 0-25 Integration Programme, the crossovers are strong and, as such, it is vital that these two work areas are closely aligned.

- 4.6. The SEND Strategy is specifically focussed on addressing SEND support in Schools and settings. This strategy comprises ten workstreams and will ensure that Children and Young People with SEND have access to high quality local provision that meets their needs. This work area will develop a core quality SEND offer across all schools, settings and local areas, build capacity in local schools, settings and services so that best use is made of resources and facilitate local schools, parents and services to work together in Delivering Special Provision Partnerships to review and improve provision. By the summer term, each of the workstreams are expected to have completed their review and produced options for further developments.
- 4.7. The Disabled Children's Charter is a national project from Every Disabled Child Matters (EDCM), which asks all Health and Wellbeing Board to agree to a set of pledges which ensure that Children, Young People and Young Adults with Disabilities (including SEN and Health Needs) are well represented in their work. Hertfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board agreed to sign the Charter in March 2015 and, as such, we are due to submit an evidence file which demonstrates how we have been working to meet the pledges. The 0-25 Integration Programme is aligned with the Charter and a multi-agency group have produced this file, which is included for agreement (Appendix B) before it is submitted to EDCM. We still have some way to go before we are fully compliant with the pledges; we have outlined how we will cover the remaining distance within the file and will monitor progress through the 0-25 Integration Programme Board.
- 4.8. Commissioning has been a major focus of the 0-25 Integration Programme to date, and significant achievements have been made in this area. A new 0-25 SEND Integrated Commissioning Strategy was coproduced with Children, Young People, Families and professionals from across the partnership, and has now been signed off by North and East Herts CCG, Herts Valleys CCG, Children's Services, Health and Community Services and Public Health. This strategy will be driven forward by the new SEND Commissioning Team. Taking a more integrated approach to commissioning in the county will provide opportunities to explore how we can make best use of our resources by pooling, joining and aligning our resources. This area of work is currently governed by the 0-25 Integration Programme Board, but a new governance structure, the SEND Performance and Planning Group, will come into force in the Spring, reporting to the 0-25 board for information only.
- 4.9. The 0-25 Integration Programme recognises that clear and accurate information must be at the centre of all our work to enable families to support themselves and to ensure that if they do need a service they know

which service would meet their needs and how they can apply for it. The iMPOWER review supported this and went a step further by suggesting that a 'navigation' function be developed for those that need some support but would not meet statutory thresholds. The Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) workstream will review how this function is currently delivered in the county and work with families to ensure that what is provided meets their needs.

Report signed off by	Eg Exec/Board of CCG, Local Authority Board meeting etc
Sponsoring HWB Member/s	Identify Board member(s)
Hertfordshire HWB Strategy priorities supported by this report	Identify which priority/ies: Eg Reducing the harm from tobacco
Needs assessment a Joint Strategic Needs assessment (JSNA) for 0-25 SEND was completed to support this work.	
Consultation/public involvement Public consultation and involvement will be ongoing. Parents are a key strategic partner in this work and their involvement is embedded throughout. Wider involvement with Parent Carers, Children and Young People has been achieved through co-production days and will be further developed through our Young People's Reference Group and Young Commissioners project.	
Equality and diversity implications EQIAs are completed for individual work areas.	
Acronyms or terms used:	
SEND	Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities
IAG	Information, Advice and Guidance
EDCM	Every Disabled Child Matters
Attachments & appendices:	
 Appendix A - 0-25 SEND Integration - Pr	 Appendix B - 0-25 SEND Integration - Hk

