

Regional Priorities

Draft Briefing Paper for CYPSP November 2020

Context

The chairs of the 5 CYPSP Outcomes Groups have agreed 4 key priorities in relation to the Early Intervention needs of children and families. These priority needs have been identified as a result of information derived from:

- Feedback from Multi-Agency Locality Planning Groups across the region.
- Learning from the 2019/2020 Family Support Hub Annual report card.
- Challenges which have been magnified, and/or have emerged as a result of the impact of Covid 19 on Children and families.

A focus on these priorities and associated actions will drive the Childrens Services planning process for 2021, and contribute to formation of the next 3 year Childrens services plan for 2021-2024, in line with the 8 parameters of wellbeing set out in the Children and Young Peoples Strategy 2019-2029.

Feedback from CYPSP Locality Planning Groups

Locality Planning Groups work to identify and respond to the early intervention needs of children and young people within their specific geographical location, however the following priority needs have been identified across all localities.

- Poverty/financial issues/food/fuel/digital poverty/increase dependency on foodbanks
- Education support including managing anxiety/stress/disrupted routines and boundaries
- Support for children with disabilities and their families

- Mental health and emotional wellbeing support for children and parents

Learning from the Family Support Hubs 2019/20 Annual Report

- The highest reason for referral is for emotional behavioural support for primary school children
- Children aged between 5-10 constitute the highest number of referrals
- 1804 children with disabilities were referred with the highest referral category being ASD.
- Increase in referrals from the BAME community

The Impact of Covid 19

The coronavirus pandemic continues to disrupt the life of every child and young person in the country as they experience significant changes to their daily routine and social infrastructure. Locality based services and the Family support hubs have made concerted efforts to respond to an increase in requests for early intervention services, which have been magnified as a result of the pandemic. There is already a growing body of evidence which acknowledges that the full impact of the crisis is expected to be substantial, therefore it is imperative that the needs emerging from the impact of Covid 19 are amalgamated into our Childrens Services planning process going forward.

The priorities emerging from the impact of Covid 19 are:

- Impact of food and fuel poverty and socio economic deprivation
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing needs of children and families
- Challenges of engaging with children and families through virtual platforms

Agreed CYPSP Priorities

On the basis of the information above, the following 4 priorities have been identified, and will inform collaborative action planning, at Outcomes group level and through the work of regional sub groups.

- Childrens Mental Health and Emotional wellbeing, in particular but not exclusively children in the 5- 10 age groups.
- Early Intervention support for Children with Disabilities and their families.
- Support to children who's wellbeing is being affected by disruption to their schooling.
- Contribution to strategic cross departmental actions in response to food and fuel poverty, as well as locality based service responses.

In addressing the priorities above the CYPSP will support a blended approach to service delivery through the use of virtual platforms and resources, and will continue to ensure inclusive service delivery responses in recognition of the specific needs of the BAME community, and in conjunction within the participation of children and young people.



Maxine Gibson
CSP Professional Advisor