



Report for: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date of Meeting:	25 January 2024
Subject:	Health and Wellbeing strategy Update: Healthy People – start well
Responsible Officer:	Carole Furlong Director of Public Health
Public:	Yes
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	Presentation

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out the work and commitments being taken forward as part of the healthy people domain of the health and wellbeing strategy, with a particular focus on children and young people & starting well in life.

Recommendations:

The Board is requested to:

- Note the work that has been completed to date to support the delivery of more integrated services for children, young people and families in Harrow, in addition to promoting and supporting healthy early years and school settings in the borough; enabling the delivery of the Start Well elements of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
- Endorse the integrated CYP model and roadmap to implementation.

Section 2 – Report

This update of the health and wellbeing strategy will cover aspects of the healthy places domain of the strategy. At this meeting, there will be a presentation of the community safety strategy and an update on housing including: homelessness, damp and mould, increasing the quality of existing council homes, and new affordable homes, with reference to partnership working.

They are being presented to the health and wellbeing board because each has an impact on the health and wellbeing of residents and those working and visiting the borough.

CYP integration and family hubs

There has been recognition locally that although there are many excellent service offers for children, young people and families in Harrow, these are often not joined up to provide the most effective care to families.

Following the Covid Pandemic and with the growing cost of living crisis, existing areas of concern in children and young people (CYP) services seem to have been exacerbated, and inequalities in the delivery of those services have potentially deepened.

For families to receive the best help, services need to be joined up and integrated in their approaches. There is a strong case for supporting families during the early years of a child's life (conception to age 5) as this is a critical period that determines the lifelong effects of physical, cognitive, social and emotional, and behavioural development. The right support for families during this time can fundamentally change lives. At present, family members often have to tell their stories again and again, do not know where to go to get help, and are often not met with the right support at the right time. Family members need to know who to turn to when they need help, and trusted relationships sit at the heart of this. We also know that we need to adapt our services to reach our underserved populations.

Our frontline practitioners need to understand the system that they work in and who to contact when they want to intervene proactively to support a family member. They need to be able to share information easily so that they can work seamlessly with other professionals and the families under their care. They also need to feel supported and empowered to work collaboratively across the system, and make decisions that enable them to offer the best care they can.

With the financial pressures currently being felt by the system, the urgent need to tackle health inequalities, and the growth in the demand for many of our services, we need to make better use of our current resources and develop offers that are sustainable and adaptable.

In response, the borough-based partnership in Harrow set out a mission to support better care and healthier lives for CYP and families, by transforming and integrating CYP services, and taking a family-centred approach to doing

so. Our engagement and co-production work has helped us to determine four key programmes of work that will help deliver our ambition, namely:

1. Early Help for the Under 5s in the central integrated neighbourhood.
2. Family Hub Networks.
3. Harrow Family Front Door.
4. Team Around the Family (“TAF”) and Lead Professional Model.

These programmes of work are in progress and we are seeking investment from Harrow’s health and care partners to establish three TAF coordinator roles, a digital tool for the Family Front Door and a communications campaign.

Healthy Early Years London & Health Schools London

Healthy Schools London (HSL) and Healthy Early Years London (HEYL) are award schemes sponsored by the Mayor of London, which recognise and celebrate schools/settings that are making a difference to children and young people’s health. It underpins public health’s health and wellbeing strategy ‘start well’. HSL is school focussed and HEYL is tailored for early years and children under 5. Evidence shows that embedding good behaviours and practices from an early age stays with the child into adulthood.

HSL is an evidence-based “whole school approach” to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people. The aim of HSL is to encourage schools to improve their health-promoting environments, reduce health inequalities, improve educational achievement and supports; pupils, staff and the wider community to develop health and wellbeing behaviours. The programme seeks to help schools develop their health and wellbeing policies and procedures and recognise and reward health promoting activities through accreditation.

The evidence-base for improving health within school settings is clear and supports a multitude of cross governmental strategies and statutory guidance. It supports local education providers to optimise health outcomes; contributing to the success of our own local health and education strategies and provides demonstratable evidence toward achieving Ofsted goals. Taking part in Healthy Schools will enable schools in Harrow to directly support the health and wellbeing of their pupils and staff and work toward reducing inequality within their communities and reflect the ‘start well’ in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Public health has a built an excellent partnership with schools/settings over the last 5 years. The Fit4Life group was set up comprising key stakeholders, including schools, to look at the progress of the awards and responds to the HAY Harrow findings. This partnership and collaborative working has not only promoted core health improvement messages but has developed real tangible actions. Each school and early years provider is given a HSL and HEYL pack which outlines what is required to participate in the award.

The HSL and HEYL awards are not just about achieving a certificate. They take a whole school/setting approach to improving health and wellbeing for children and young people. They make schools/settings think about what food and snacks they provide, how they encourage physical activity and reduce obesity, how they help to improve children's mental health, etc.

Healthy Schools London awards to date:

- 41 Bronze
- 34 Silver
- 21 Gold

Healthy Early Years London awards to date:

- 21 Bronze
- 11 Silver
- 8 Gold

Harrow are the second highest scoring borough for achieving HEYL Gold awards across London.

Link to main site for HSL: <https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/health/healthy-schools-london/awards/home>

Link to HEYL site : <https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/health-and-wellbeing/healthy-early-years-london>

Both programmes are well embedded but depend on the close collaborative working with colleagues in education and early years teams. In order to be compliant, the awards need to be quality assured. We are in discussions with the teams to ensure ongoing commitment as HSL and HEYL meet both health and education priorities.

Financial Implications/Comments

There are no direct costs associated with delivering the health and wellbeing strategy.

However, to be able to deliver the full integrated CYP model, including family hubs, additional recurrent and non-recurrent funding is required. A business case is being taken to the next Harrow Joint Management Board (JMB) in February. As a partnership board, if the business case is approved, JMB will be responsible for agreeing the contributions from each of the partners. The additional funding will be funding:

- TAF coordinator roles (£60K per role – recurrent funding). Work is currently being undertaken to confirm whether the requirement is for two or three roles. TAF coordinators will coordinate trusted, preventative, multi-agency support for families who have an unmet or emerging need. This can currently not be offered to families due to capacity constraints, which in turn increases the risk of escalations to late-stage crisis management.
- branding and communications for the TAFs and Family Hubs Networks (£10K sought – non-recurrent funding) The launching of the new family

hub networks will require a rebranding of the current children's centres and early support sites, as well as a communications campaign to inform wider practitioners and the public about the new networks.

If the business case is not approved, the CYP integration programme will not be able to deliver the TAF model, and the rebranding of the current children's centres and early support sites, as well as wider communications to the public, would be impacted.

Legal Implications/Comments

Section 116A of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, stipulates that it is the responsibility of the local authority and integrated care boards to prepare a local health and wellbeing strategy.

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 provides responsibility to the Health and Wellbeing Board for the oversight of the local health and wellbeing strategy. The purpose of the Board is to improve health and wellbeing for the residents of Harrow and reduce inequalities in outcomes. The Board will hold partner agencies to account for delivering improvements to the provision of health, adult and children's services social care and housing services.

A key responsibility is to consider how to best use the totality of resources available for health and wellbeing, subject to the governance processes of the respective partner organisations as appropriate

Risk Management Implications

The health and wellbeing strategy does not present any risks, or suggest any mitigation

Risks included on corporate or directorate risk register? **No**

Separate risk register in place? **No**

The relevant risks contained in the register are attached/summarised below.
n/a

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? **No**

Harrow's Health and Wellbeing strategy plays a crucial role in advancing the equality, diversity, and inclusion agenda across the borough. By addressing the unique health needs of a diverse population, committing to addressing the building blocks of good health as a priority, as well as ensuring that health and care services are accessible and tailored to different

demographics, this therefore reduces health disparities and promotes equality. It also fosters inclusivity by actively engaging with underrepresented groups and involving them in the planning and implementation of initiatives - a key priority for this strategy. This strategy can help create an environment where all residents, regardless of their background or circumstances, feel valued, supported, and empowered to lead healthier lives, ultimately contributing to a more inclusive and equitable society.

Council Priorities

A council that puts residents first

A place where those in need are supported

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance (Council and Joint Reports)

Statutory Officer: Donna Edwards

Signed on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 11/01/2024

Statutory Officer: Sharon Clarke

Signed on behalf of the Monitoring Officer

Date: 10/01/2024

Chief Officer: Carole Furlong on behalf of Senel Arkut

Signed on behalf of the Corporate Director by Director of Public Health

Date: 10/01/2024

Mandatory Checks

Ward Councillors notified: NO as it impacts on all Wards

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Carole Furlong, Director of Public Health,

Carole.Furlong@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers:

[Harrow Health and Wellbeing Strategy](#)

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

- | | |
|-----------------|----|
| 1. Consultation | NO |
| 2. Priorities | NO |