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**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2017- 2022**

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**Responsible Cabinet Member – Councillor Cyndi Hughes,  
Children and Young People Portfolio**

**Responsible Director – Suzanne Joyner,  
Director of Children and Adults Services**

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**SUMMARY REPORT**

**Purpose of the Report**

1. This report asks Council to approve the content of the draft Children and Young People's Plan 2017-2022 (**Appendix A**). Although no longer a statutory requirement the production of a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) as a strategic plan for delivering outcomes for children and young people and the setting of priorities for the medium term is considered to be best practice.

**Summary**

2. The CYPP is one of the identified delivery plans within the Sustainable Community Strategy and identifies what key actions will be taken to deliver the agreed Sustainable Community Strategy priority of "*The best start in life for every child.*"
3. The CYPP forms a part of the Council's Policy Framework and must therefore be approved by Council.
4. Engagement activity with a wide range of stakeholders, including children and young people has been used to develop the Plan. Consultation feedback on the draft ambitions and priority actions has also been used to inform the final CYPP 2017-2022 Plan.
5. The Children and Young People's Plan was considered and approved by Cabinet on the 12 September 2017 and it was agreed that it should be submitted to Council for consideration and approval.

**Recommendation**

6. It is recommended that Council approve the draft Children and Young People's Plan (Appendix A).

## Reason

7. To have in place an updated Children and Young People's Plan for Darlington.

**Suzanne Joyner**  
**Director of Children and Adults Services**

## Background Papers

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report

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S17 Crime and Disorder	This plan will support measures to reduce crime and disorder amongst young people
Health and Well Being	This report supports the strategy to improve the health and well-being of children and young people
Carbon Impact	There are no implications arising from this report
Equality Impact Assessment	An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and no negative impacts have been identified.
Wards Affected	All
Groups Affected	Children and young People
Budget and Policy Framework	This plan is part of the Councils policy framework
Key Decision	This is not an Executive decision
Urgent Decision	This is not an Executive decision
One Darlington: Perfectly Placed	This report contributes to the priorities agreed by the sustainable community strategy
Efficiency	This report supports the efficient use of partner resources through shared priorities
Impact on Looked After Children and Care Leavers	The plan helps the Council to support the wellbeing and safeguarding of Children and Care Leavers

## MAIN REPORT

### Information and Analysis

8. Although there is no longer a statutory requirement to produce a CYPP, it is considered good practice to produce a strategic document across partner organisations as there is still a statutory duty for partner agencies to co-operate to support and safeguard children. Regulatory bodies, such as Ofsted also routinely comment on the existence or otherwise of a strategic plan.
9. Development of the Plan has taken place with input from a wide range of stakeholders including children and young people; young carers; health; police; the voluntary sector, and schools.
10. The Plan has been produced at a time of relative austerity in public finances and will need to be delivered within existing resources, maximising partnership working to deliver the Plan, and use every opportunity, where possible, to attract additional funding.
11. The Children and Young People's Plan is a five year plan and each year will be reviewed to identify key actions based on where the greatest need is and where the biggest impact can be made.
12. Progress against the CYPP will be managed through the Health and Well Being Board.

### Outcome of Consultation

13. The draft CYPP and its priorities have been extensively consulted on using the Darlington Borough Council consultation web page which included a short survey. Direct consultation was carried out with a range of stakeholders via email, face to face with the Darlington Youth Partnership and the Youth MP, and engagement of key partners has taken place through a multi-agency Steering Group. Social media has been used throughout the duration of the consultation period, as well as the One Darlington Magazine, and the Darlington Partnership.
14. Overall there has been a positive response to the consultation which has not generated any significant changes to the Plan, ambitions or priorities. Where more detailed feedback was given this has been considered and been incorporated into the Plan as appropriate.
15. There were 31 responses to the Survey as part of the public consultation and overall there was agreement with the four ambitions and priority actions.

#### **(a) The Children and Young People's Plan in 2017 – in summary**

- (i) Ambition 1: Ensuring that all children and young people are safe from any perceived harm

- (ii) Ambition 2: Improving the health and wellbeing of all babies, children and young people
- (iii) Ambition 3: Improving achievement and academic attainment for all children and young people
- (iv) Ambition 4: Empowering families to be resilient and to achieve economic wellbeing

**In order to achieve all four ambitions the following seven key priority actions have been identified:**

**(b) Priority actions for the next five years**

- (i) Increase breastfeeding rates and reduce the incidence of smoking at the time of delivery
  - (ii) Reduce obesity levels
  - (iii) Reduce the number of self-harm cases recorded at A&E
  - (iv) Reduce the number of children and young people living in poverty
  - (v) Improve school attendance and attainment
  - (vi) Increase the number of young people in work, education or training
  - (vii) Strengthen families to reduce the need for statutory intervention.
16. Following consideration given to feedback received on the draft plan, priority action 3 above (reduce the number of self-harm cases recorded at A&E) has been reworded to state the following - Improve the Mental Health and emotional wellbeing of all children and young people. This is now reflected in the Plan.
17. In order to monitor delivery of the priority actions, an action plan will be developed, informed by existing strategies. This will be developed through the Multi-Agency Steering Group, and progress will be reported into the Health and Well Being Board. The action plan will be subject to annual review by the Multi-Agency Steering Group to ensure appropriate actions are identified and updated as relevant.