

## Report to OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

# Children's Health and Wellbeing

### Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Chauhan, Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care  
Councillor Chadderton, Cabinet Member for Children

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### Purpose of the Report

The report aims to provide the Overview and Scrutiny Board with an update on children's health in Oldham.

### Executive Summary

This report includes:

- 1 A summary of national policy guidance to support children's health and wellbeing
- 2 A summary of Oldham's Child Health Profile summary
- 3 An overview of the 0-19 Healthy Child Programme evidence based integrated delivery model
- 4 The current service provision and service arrangements which contribute to children's health and wellbeing

### Recommendations

The Overview and Scrutiny Board are asked to consider: the wide range of factors which influence children's health and wellbeing; current services and delivery arrangements in place in the borough; and comment upon steps that are being taken to support continuous improvement of integrated working across the local system to ensure services are effective, evidence based, offer value for money and are performing to deliver optimum outcomes for children, young people and families.

## Children's Health

### 1 Background

- 1.1 An update on Children's Health (Best Start in Life and Start Well) was requested at the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Link Meeting on 27 March 2018. It was proposed that Children's Health would form part of the draft Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2018/19.
- 1.2 The scope of child health and wellbeing is broad and complex. Children's health is influenced by a wide range of social and economic determinants, such as education, employment, housing, transport, access to services, access to food, welfare and financial support, family context, and community support.
- 1.3 The Marmot Review: Fair Society, Healthy Lives (2010) outlined six policy recommendations to address health and economic inequalities, and improve population health and wellbeing, which included:
- Give every child the best start in life
  - Enable all children, young people and adults to maximise their capabilities and have control over their lives
  - Create fair employment and good work for all
  - Ensure healthy standard of living for all
  - Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
  - Strengthen the role and impact of ill health prevention
- 1.4 Giving every child the best start in life was given the highest priority for reducing health inequalities in the Marmot report, recognising that a child's experiences in the early years (0–4) have a major impact on their health and life chances, as children and adults.
- 1.5 **Healthy Child Programme model.** The Healthy Child Programme (HCP) (Department of Health, 2009, Public Health England 2015) is a prevention and early intervention public health programme offered to all families that lies at the heart of the universal service for children and families. It aims to support parents, promote child development, reducing inequalities and thus contribute to improved child health outcomes and health and wellbeing, and ensure that families at risk are identified at the earliest opportunity. The 0-5 years elements of the Healthy Child Programme are a mandated public health function for all Local Authorities in England.
- 1.6 Core elements of the Healthy Child Programme include health and development reviews, screening, immunisations, promotion of social and emotional development, support for parenting, and effective promotion of health and behaviour change. Public Health Specialist Children's Nurses (Health visitors and School Nurses) lead on the delivery of the Healthy Child Programme, which is delivered through multiagency and multidisciplinary working, across the continuum of need.

### 2 Children's Health and Wellbeing in Oldham

- 2.1 Produced and published regularly by Public Health England, Child Health Profiles<sup>1</sup> provide a set of health and wellbeing indicators designed to help local authorities and health services improve the health and wellbeing of children and tackle health inequalities. By

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<sup>1</sup> <https://fingertips.phe.org.uk/profile/child-health-profiles/data#page/1>

using these indicators, local organisations can work in partnership to plan and commission evidence based services based on local need. The profiles allow comparison between the outcomes in local populations with others in order to identify and learn from better performing areas.

- 2.2 According to the Child Health Profile published in June 2018, Oldham performance is significantly better than the England average on:
- Childhood immunisations
  - Family homelessness
  - Hospital admissions for mental health conditions
- 2.3 Areas where there is more work to do to improve performance include:
- Infant mortality (under 1 year old) & child mortality (1-17 years old)
  - Children with one or more decayed, missing or filled teeth
  - Obesity in 10-11 year olds
  - A&E attendances (0-4 years)
- 2.4 Activity to reduce infant and child mortality includes implementation of the 'saving babies lives care bundle' in maternity services, improved access to stop smoking support in pregnancy, and specialist genetics outreach and counselling in communities with a preference for consanguineous (between blood relatives) marriage.
- 2.5 Activity to reduce childhood obesity includes interventions to increase breastfeeding rates, improve access to good quality healthy food, for example through the 'Growing Oldham: Feeding Ambition' programme, and work to increase physical activity. As of September, 28 schools in Oldham have registered to take part in the daily mile, whereby schools encourage pupils and staff to walk or run a mile as part of the school day.
- 2.6 Most recent data on levels of dental decay in 5 year old children suggests there has been significant improvement over the last two years. In the 2014/15 survey 50.9% of 5 year olds had some form of dental decay; this reduced to 34.8% in 2016/17. Activity undertaken to achieve this reduction has included:
- training for the wider professional workforce, including health visitors and midwives
  - targeted provision of toothbrushes and toothpaste
  - increasing provision of fluoride varnish
  - healthy food and drink policies in early years settings
  - campaigns and awareness raising (Smile Month and the Big Brush campaign)
- 2.7 Through the Greater Manchester population health plan, additional investment is being made in improving oral health in Oldham. This includes introduction of a supervised toothbrushing programme with nurseries and early years settings – an evidence based intervention which has not yet been delivered at scale in Oldham.

### 3 **Current Position**

- 3.1 Currently in Oldham, there are a wide range of programmes which support babies, children, young people and families, which specifically aim to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people, including:
- 3.2 **Start Well.** Start Well is an Oldham Cares transformation programme which focuses on children. The main objective of the Start Well programme is to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes of 0-5 year olds in Oldham. The Start Well Programme Board provides the governance for the Start Well programme within the Oldham Cares structure, and is aligned to oversee the local delivery of the GM Children's Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2018-2022. The Start Well programme is currently focussed on 'Delivery Wave

1' which includes three of the ten priorities in the GM Children and Young People Health and Wellbeing Strategy, namely:

- Objective 2: Early years and school readiness
- Objective 3: Mental health and resilience (CAMHS Transformation plan)
- Objective 6: Preventing avoidable admissions particularly for long-term conditions

- 3.3 **Avoidable admissions.** This is a central project within the Start Well programme, in which Oldham is taking a lead in GM in piloting an approach to reducing avoidable admissions. The pilot is being undertaken in two clusters: central and south. Pilot activity will be launched in late September / October with a view to a full roll out across the whole of Oldham from April 2019. The structure of the Avoidable Admissions Project is aligned to objective 6 of the priorities of the GM Children's Health and Wellbeing Strategy, which includes the following outputs:
- Establishment of paediatric hubs (multidisciplinary teams, GP advice and guidance)
  - Revised care pathways (respiratory, gastrointestinal and allergy)
  - Avoidable admissions framework (GP / Paediatrician advice line, observation and assessment unit, children's community nursing team)
  - Preventable activity in the community (public health awareness and community engagement). For example 'Healthy Gems' have been commissioned to work with parents to improve their health literacy and understanding of how to keep their children well, and where they can access help if their child is unwell. In addition Oldham CCG have launched the 'Choose the right care for you little one' app and website, which provides information about how to care for your child at home, when to seek advice from a health visitor or call a doctor and when to use emergency services.
- 3.4 **Mental health and resilience.** Addressing mental health, including children and young people's mental health, is a key part of the GM wide health and social care priorities, outlined in the *GM Children and Young People Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the GM Mental Health Strategy*. Local Authorities, CCGs and partners are required to work together to develop and implement the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) Transformation Plan, and as such children and young people's mental health and building resilience is a priority within Oldham's Start Well programme.
- 3.5 Local governance for this priority is provided through the Children and Young People's Emotional and Mental Health Partnership Board, with oversight from Oldham's Start Well Board and Children's Safeguarding Board. As part of the Opportunity Area plan, work is underway to improve children and young people's social, emotional and mental health, through whole school or college universal approaches, and collaborative leadership from health, education and social care.
- 3.6 **Right Start.** On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 a new integrated 0-19 delivery model for Oldham commenced called 'Right Start', which brought together a number of services and providers into a single integrated service delivered by Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Trust. The aim of the service is to deliver a range of children's public health and early years' education services, including mandated health and development reviews and evidence based interventions, from the antenatal period through to 19 years, to improve universal population health and wellbeing outcomes for children and families. A key principle of the integrated delivery model was the co-location of health visitors into children's centres, to work alongside early years education practitioners, to facilitate integrated working across health and early years education, and to enhance the children's centre offer for children and families in localities.

- 3.7 Whilst the Right Start contract is a core children's public health service for delivering on the five 0-5 mandated reviews, it should be seen in the context of a wider multi agency and multi-disciplinary 0-19 Healthy Child Programme model. The integration of services into the Right Start service model should be seen as phase one of the mobilization of an evidence based integrated delivery model for children, young people and families, which requires further stakeholder support and alignment of resources to fully realise the potential benefits of integrated neighbourhood teams to improve a range of outcomes for children, young people and families. Current services for children which contribute to the local Healthy Child Programme delivery model include:
- a. **Homestart** provides breastfeeding peer support to new mothers through 1-1 support and group sessions. The service also supports the Breastfeeding Welcome scheme which aims to increase the number of breastfeeding friendly venues in Oldham.
  - b. **Maternity services.** Most women who give birth in Oldham access maternity care from Pennine Acute Hospitals Trust at Royal Oldham Hospital. This service is commissioned by Oldham CCG. The Royal Oldham Hospital's women and children's facility includes antenatal wards, labour delivery rooms, midwife-led birth centre, obstetric theatres, children's unit and paediatric theatre, and a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Community antenatal clinics are delivered from a number of children's centres and some health centres across the borough.
  - c. **Children's Community Health Services.** Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust provide Oldham's Community Paediatric health services as outlined in Appendix E, which are commissioned by Oldham CCG. The service provides assessment and diagnosis for children up to the age of 18 years, who experience difficulties in their development. It also helps and supports the co-ordination of services involved with children and young people, which includes: Assessment and care management for children with complex health needs; multiagency assessments for children with learning difficulties who may require ongoing support; medical information for children undergoing Education Health and Care (EHC) plan assessments; and statutory health assessments for Looked After Children and those who are about to be adopted or fostered. The service is made up of consultant paediatricians and specialty doctors, specialty nursing staff, service co-ordinators, specialist outreach nursery nurses and admin staff.
  - d. **Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health services (CAMHS)**, are primarily commissioned by Oldham Clinical Commissioning Group, which includes Healthy Young Minds (targeted and specialist). Specialist inpatient treatment is commissioned by NHS England. In addition, **Oldham Youth Service** commission the Kooth.com online support service, and Department of Education (DfE) Opportunity Area funding is supporting development of school-based approaches to improving children and young people's mental health and emotional wellbeing. Furthermore supporting children's emotional health and wellbeing is an element of many universal and targeted services provided for children and young people in Oldham.
  - e. **Integrated Health Service**, delivered by Positive Steps provides young people's substance misuse and sexual health services, and is part of a wider integrated service including careers advice and guidance and youth offending services.
  - f. **Sports Development:** Oldham Sports Development helps schools to deliver a high quality PE and sports programme for pupils via a range of programmes. The team take a holistic approach and focus on overall health and wellbeing, including mental health and emotional wellbeing, in addition to physical activity. The team work with

schools and communities in a variety of ways to deliver health messages and promote healthy choices and lifestyles through behaviour change.

- 3.8 There are good working relationships between many of these services, but there is the potential to consider opportunities for services to work more closely together through an expanded integrated delivery model.

#### **4 Key Issues and areas for further development**

- 4.1 **New strategic framework for children.** The emergence of a distinct agenda for children and young people at a GM level and changing local context means that it is timely to revise Oldham's arrangements to ensure clarity of purpose and effective governance arrangements within an agreed strategic framework.

- 4.2 The current improvement programmes for the Borough, all of which require partners working together, include:

- 'Getting to Good' in Children's Social Care and Early Help
- SEND Improvement Programme
- Opportunity Area Programme
- Right Start 0 - 5 Programme
- Startwell Integration Programme
- Education Partnership Programme

- 4.3 Whilst these programmes have outcomes for children and young people as their focus the importance of support to families and carers is vital to ensure success. Alongside these programmes are those with a wider focus on health improvement and our work to create Thriving Communities and Placed Based Integrated teams which will also have a significant impact.

- 4.4 Work is currently underway to develop Oldham's strategic framework for children and young people to deliver the ambition of Oldham being '*a place where children and young people thrive*'. In June, the Health and Wellbeing Board was asked to approve the proposal to establish the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board, which will provide leadership and co-ordination of the new strategic framework for children's health and wellbeing in Oldham.

- 4.6 The Healthy Child Programme provides an evidence based framework in which to build local integrated delivery models, and integrated multi-disciplinary delivery teams, to ensure a holistic children's health and wellbeing offer for Oldham.

- 4.7 An expanded integrated delivery model could potentially include: schools, children's social care, education services, youth services, sports development and leisure, primary care (GPs, pharmacists, dentists, optometrists), paediatricians, speech and language therapists, youth justice, sexual health services, substance misuse services, child and adolescent mental health services, maternity services, community nursing, and specialist children's packages of healthcare, the community voluntary and faith sector, and many more.

- 4.8 Furthermore, efforts to secure improvements in children's health and wellbeing need to consider the wider context in which children and young people live including environmental factors such as access to food and opportunities to be physically active, air quality and access to green spaces, and the impacts of poverty and inequality.

## 5 **Recommendations**

- 5.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Board are asked to consider: the wide range of factors which influence children's health and wellbeing; current services and delivery arrangements in place in the borough; and comment upon steps that are being taken to support continuous improvement of integrated working across the local system to ensure services are effective, evidence based, offer value for money and are performing to deliver optimum outcomes for children, young people and families.

## 6. **Links to Corporate Outcomes**

- 6.1 Improving children's health and wellbeing will have an impact on all aspects of the Oldham Plan. Children's Health and wellbeing services make a specific contribution to Corporate Objective 2: Thriving Communities - where everyone is empowered to do their bit.

## 7 **Additional Supporting Information**

- 7.1 None

## 8 **Consultation**

- 8.1 This briefing has been presented at both the Children's and Strategic Reform Department Management Teams for discussion and comment.
- 8.2 Lead members for Children and Health and Social Care have also been briefed.
- 8.3 No other third parties have been consulted on this briefing, as it is for information and discussion only (no decisions).

## 9 **Appendices**

- 9.1 None