

REPORT TO: Executive Board
DATE: 3rd December 2009
REPORTING OFFICER: Strategic Director – Children & Young People
SUBJECT: Pilot Health Visiting Service Partnership Project at Warrington Road Children's Centre
WARD(S) Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Executive Board of the proposed arrangements for a pilot Partnership working project at Warrington Road Children's Centre.
- 1.2 To seek approval for the pilot to take place.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That:

- i) Executive Board note the information contained within the report
- ii) Executive Board supports the pilot Health Visiting Project at Warrington Road Children's Centre

3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 DCSF Children's Trusts guidance (2008) requires Local Partners, through inter-agency arrangements, to integrate frontline delivery organised around the child, young person and family, rather than professional boundaries. Such an inter-agency approach to services improves the prospects of positive outcomes for children and young people.
- 3.2 The Pilot will be overseen by Halton's Children's Trust. The proposed Pilot Project meets the five essential elements of Children's Trust Arrangements:
- Integrated Front Line delivery
 - Integrated processes fostering professional understanding between services and agencies
 - Inter-agency governance, leadership and whole system change
 - Integrated strategic planning and commissioning
 - Children and Young People, parents and family focussed
- 3.3 The proposed pilot project initially involves a re-design of the PCT's Halton Health Visiting Service to provide a new geographical approach to service delivery. This will be initially tested at Warrington Road Children's Centre as the first phase of a possible

roll out across the Borough.

- 3.4 The pilot would include the relocation of a Health Visiting Team to Warrington Road Children's Centre. The Team would provide universal, targeted and specialist support to children and families. It would work closely with staff of the Children's Centre and Children's Social Care to join up provision more effectively.
- 3.5 A Pilot Project Steering Group will be established to agree the principal areas of partnership working; these are:
- Management systems
 - Sharing skills
 - Integrating key processes for children
 - Aiding inter-professional learning
- 3.6 Subject to Executive Board approval, the Pilot Project will start between January to March 2010 and then formally evaluated in terms of outcomes for children and families.
- 3.7 The Pilot is intended to inform the place that the PCT's Health Visiting Service will take in relation to the proposed new structure for the Children & Young People's Directorate, and specifically within the Locality Teams for early intervention and prevention proposed for Widnes and Runcorn. (See CYPD Structural consultation document).
- 3.8 Should the Pilot prove successful, the PCT will consider rolling out the Health Visiting Service in this way across the Borough.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The Pilot Project is consistent with guidance on Children's Trust Arrangements; Every Child Matters and Halton's Children & Young People's Plan.

5.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- 5.1 The cost of facilitating the re-location of the Health Visiting Team to Warrington Road Children's Centre is £49,753.50. The costs will be met equally by PCT and the Council. Funds have been earmarked from the Children's Centre to undertake this work.
- 5.2 Costs are made up of:
- Establish Health Visitor/Children's Centre Office - £12.5k
 - Relocation of IT Room - £10k
 - Additional Car Parking (Year 2) - £21k
 - Rental fees at £3.5k per year will be met by the PCT thereafter

6.0 **IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

- 6.1 **Children & Young People in Halton**
The Proposal meets the requirements of the Halton Children & Young People’s Plan and the aspirations of Halton’s Children’s Trust
- 6.2 **Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**
The proposal fosters inter-agency working and sharing skills.
- 6.3 **A Healthy Halton**
The proposal will ensure the PCT’s core “Ambition for Health” that all children have a healthy start in life.
- 6.4 **A Safer Halton**
The Pilot Project will further join up safeguarding practice at the front line.
- 6.5 **Halton’s Urban Renewal**
The Children’s Centre function will be enhanced through the Pilot as a focus for services for the Local Community.
- 7.0 **RISK ANALYSIS**
- 7.1 The opportunities within the proposal enable better communication and joined up working to promote effective outcomes for Children and Young People.
- 7.2 The proposed project will see the Health Visiting Team in the Warrington Road locality relocate from a GP attachment. The risk assessment carried out highlights the need for GP practices in the locality to have a named Health Visitor to facilitate communication in relation to the health needs of the families registered with the practice.
- 8.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**
- 8.1 The Pilot will improve access to services for a range of vulnerable young people and their families; including those ‘hard to reach’.
- 9.0 **REASON(S) FOR DECISION:**
- The project has the potential to influence the development of integrated services in Halton that offer support and early intervention for families.
 - The PCT’s aspiration for the future delivery of Universal Health Services is across a children’s centre footprint.
 - The proposed pilot will test out how we might roll out this way of working across Halton.
- 10.0 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**
- 10.1 The alternative is that we remain working as separate organisations. Given the need to constantly improve efficiency and the safety of

children, this needs to change.

11.0 **IMPLEMENTATION DATE**

- January – March 2010

12.0 **LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

Document	Place of Inspection	Contact Officer
Ambition for Health	PCT	Dympna Edwards
Transforming Community Services Commissioning Strategy	PCT	David Tanner