

## WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

**11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

<b>Report Title</b>	<b>Children and Young People Health Needs Assessment</b>
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### List of Appendices

#### **Appendix A – Children and Young People Health Needs Assessment Summary**

##### **1. Purpose of Report**

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- 1.1 The purpose of this HNA is to provide a snapshot of the health and wellbeing needs of children, young people aged 0-19, and up to 25 where there's a statutory responsibility and their families.
- 1.2 The report captures what are the current needs of this population across WNC, highlight the existing offer provided by the council whilst also understanding the impact of COVID-19 pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis on children and their families. The objectives of the health needs assessment report is to:
  - 1.3 The objectives are to:
    - Review the current model of 0-19 services delivery across WNC and NNC
    - Identify opportunities to improve, integrate and re-align local provision to better meet the needs of this population
    - Make recommendations to commissioners and policy makers based on the findings and conclusion of the HNA to develop more effective and efficient services, reduce inequalities and help meet the national targets for the HCPO programme

## **2. Executive Summary**

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- 2.1 This health needs assessment takes a life course approach to children and young people's lives and is divided into 7 main chapters starting with Demographics, Maternal and Infant Health, Early Years, Primary School age, Secondary school age, Transition to Adulthood and Engagement and Insights. The following recommendations are based on the findings of the health needs assessment and consultation and engagement that was undertaken with stakeholders, children, young people, and their families earlier in May-June 2023.
- 2.2 These findings (see below in Recommendation section) will inform the future commissioning of the 0-19 services across WNC and NNC particularly after the split into two unitary authorities and will provide us with a snapshot of the needs across both areas.

## **3. Recommendations**

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The key strategic findings of this health needs assessment are:

- 1- In reviewing the 0-19 service currently provided as a county-wide offer, there has been recognition of the need to develop a new service model and service specification with a greater emphasis on a whole family approach, reflecting the need of making prevention and early intervention everyone's business to support children, young people, and their families with a focus on existing universal services.
- 2- There is a wide variation in the needs of children and young people across WNC and NNC as shown by the epidemiological data. The 0-19 service must ensure that resources (including workforce) are targeted to meet the needs of children and families most in need, whilst at the same time maintain universal offer. This also include working on a locality basis, aligning with local area partnerships, and restructuring the service workforce to increase capacity and meet the needs identified.
- 3- Lack of early help services across WNC and NNC. This was identified as the underpinning cause of many significant gaps identified through this health needs assessment. It also means that services are being overwhelmed dealing with complex cases and crisis due to the lack of prevention and early intervention practice across the system. The need to invest in early help and preventative services was evident across the HNA and the stakeholder engagement to prevent the escalation of need and embed prevention and early intervention approach across our integrated way of working across the system.
- 4- Improve partnership working, join up and integration across the system to meet the needs of children, young people and their families living in West Northamptonshire and North Northamptonshire. It was clear from the stakeholder consultation that partnership working across the system have improved in the last 2 years, however it still needs to be more integrated. This includes making decisions on commissioning for new services, the co-location of services, improved understanding of services, closer relationships, and information sharing.

- 5- The development of clear pathways of support for services available for children, young people and families was highlighted as being unclear. It was agreed that support pathways for children and families should be accessible and easy to understand and navigate. It was also agreed that we need to map the existing service provision alongside the referral pathways to enable the workforce and frontline workers to signpost appropriately.

#### **4. Report Background**

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- 4.1 The foundations for virtually all aspects of human development – physical, intellectual, emotional, and social – are established in early childhood. It is therefore important that every child can have the best start in life. Building resilience and reaping the maximum benefits from education are important markers for good health and wellbeing throughout life (Source: Marmot Review, CMO Report 2012).
- 4.2 Since April 2015 local authorities became responsible of commissioning of the school nursing service, health visiting and the family nurse partnership programme. These services deliver the 0 – 19 Healthy Child Programme (HCP), which is the universal clinical and public health programme for children and families from pregnancy to 19 years of age.
- 4.3 The Healthy Child Programme (HCP) is an evidence-based, universal, clinical, and public health programme for children and families from pregnancy to 19 years of age. The HCP provides a universal offer and enables the identification of any difficulties or issues a family may encounter at an early stage to receive the support needed and prevent issues from escalating. The HCP programme is delivered by school nurses and health visitors while working in partnership with health professionals, Sure Start children centres, schools, and range of voluntary, community sector organisations. The objectives of the HCP are to:
- Identify and treat problems early
  - Help parents to care well for their children
  - Change behaviours which contribute to ill health
  - Protect against preventable diseases
- 4.4 This health needs assessment (HNA) provides a focus on the health and wellbeing of all children and young people aged 0-19 and up to 25 for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) living across West Northamptonshire and North Northamptonshire. This includes the mapping of the current service provision, and identification of gaps in support or service provision. The aim is to offer a strategic review of the health needs of children, young people, and families across West Northamptonshire council (WNC) and North Northamptonshire council (NNC). The results of this health needs assessment will inform our future commissioning decisions across both unitary councils particularly after the disaggregation and influence service configuration and development for residents of WNC and NNC.

#### **5. Issues and Choices**

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- 5.1 The following methods were used to inform this health needs assessment:

- **Literature Review** – A literature review of national and local evidence was carried out by a public health officer to inform this HNA. Findings are summarised at the beginning of each chapter.
- **Epidemiological** – A wide variety of data sources have been used to inform this HNA. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) and Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) Fingertips data. Local data have also been used and supplied by our system partners where available. Limitations in finding data have also been noted.
- **Surveys** - Three surveys were undertaken in March-April 2023 to gather insights into the health and wellbeing of children and young people, and their families. The surveys were targeted at parents and carers, primary and secondary school staff and stakeholders and wider partners.
- **Semi-structured Interviews** – 32 semi-structured interviews were undertaken with stakeholders including Maternity services, ICB senior executives, Northamptonshire Children’s Trust (NCT) colleagues, 0-19 service provider, Strong start, Local Authority public health and Education colleagues and Voluntary community sector organisations. The key themes were identified using a thematic analysis and are summarised in the Engagement and Insight chapter.
- **Public Engagement** – WNC and NNC have commissioned Free2Talk in partnership with HomeStart Daventry and south Northants and NHFT participation to deliver a series of engagement workshops with children young people aged 0-19 and their families, as well as stakeholders and wider system partners. More than 120 children and young people, and 68 stakeholders were engaged throughout these workshops. A copy of the full engagement report can be found in the appendix.

## 6. Implications (including financial implications)

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### 6.1 Resources and Financial

There are no financial implications at this stage. This report will inform our commissioning intentions for 0-19 services moving forward.

### 6.2 Legal

There are no legal implications arising from the proposals.

### 6.3 Risk

We will be having a detailed workshop on the recommendations and emerging findings of this Children and young people health needs assessment report where we will be discussing the risks

### 6.4 Consultation

Included in Section 5

### 6.5 Consideration by Overview and Scrutiny

This report has only been shared with ELT

**6.6 Climate Impact**

None

**6.7 Community Impact**

To be discussed at the dedicated workshop

**7. Background Papers**

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None