

Health and wellbeing boards and children, young people and families

Key success factors

- A local partnership dedicated to children and young people (linked into the governance of health and wellbeing boards) is essential.
- Commissioning of NHS services for children and young people must sit alongside commissioning of all services for children (the concept of holistic commissioning).
- Health and wellbeing boards should prioritise interventions for children and young people which are proven to work.
- Commissioning of services should be informed by the views of children, young people, parents and families.
- Health and wellbeing boards should ensure a focus on early intervention, within an overall understanding of a 'lifecourse' approach to provision.

Key strategic questions and challenges for boards

- Does the health and wellbeing board link effectively with the local children's trust, safeguarding board and clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) to ensure cohesive governance and leadership across the children's agenda?
- Does the health and wellbeing board have an agreed process to ensure children's issues receive sufficient focus?
- Has the health and wellbeing board contributed to defining the early help offer, as recommended by Professor Munro?
- Is the health and wellbeing board making appropriate use of local mechanisms to listen to the views of children, young people and families?
- Does the local health and wellbeing strategy analyse and prioritise the health needs of children and describe success?
- Have the views of frontline staff and clinicians been factored into the board's planning?
- Has the health and wellbeing board got an agreed method of engaging with schools?
- Has the health and wellbeing board got a clear plan to maximise the use of public assets (children's centres, schools, youth services, health centres, etc.) to improve health outcomes for children?
- Is the health and wellbeing board satisfied that the common assessment framework is sufficiently embedded in the local partnership?

Vision

That health and wellbeing boards
make an effective contribution
to improving health and
wellbeing outcomes for children
and young people.



Further resources

- The Department of Health Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Strategy (due to be published in July 2012)
- A plethora of Local Government Association resources, collated by the LGA: www.local.gov.uk/childrens-health
- Local authority child health profiles (published by the Child and Maternal Health Observatory ChiMat): www.chimat.org.uk/profiles
- The NHS Atlas of Variation in Healthcare for Children and Young People: www.chimat.org.uk/variation
- NHS Confederation review of policy documents on children and young people's health and wellbeing: www.nhsconfed.org/hwb
- Assured Safeguarding – GP and Health Leader Edition (safeguarding advice for GP and health leaders developed by the East Midlands group of Directors of Children's Services): www.jriep.com
- Commissioning Child Health and Wellbeing Services (information and guidance framework developed by the East of England Strategic Network for Child Health and Wellbeing Commissioning Champions) – EOE Info and guidance framework
- National Institute for Health Research (for health-related research materials): www.nihr.ac.uk
- A guide for commissioners of children's and young people's and maternal health and wellbeing services NHS North West: www.northwest.nhs.uk/childhealth

The spectrum of children's health needs

Taken from the project scope of the Department of Health Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum

- Health promotion, prevention and improvement
- Primary care
- Children with poor mental health
- Urgent care for children with acute illness
- Children with long-term conditions
- Children with complex health needs
- Children with disabilities
- Looked after children
- Palliative care
- Ensuring the use of medicines for children optimises health outcomes
- The health sector's contribution to safeguarding children
- The health sector's contribution to support for troubled families

This poster was produced in June 2012 by the health and wellbeing board learning set for children and young people. It represents their key learning and does not necessarily showcase best practice but aims to provide health and wellbeing members with an accessible and helpful resource. This learning set was led by Anthony May, Corporate Director for Children and Families and Cultural Services for Nottinghamshire County Council, anthony.may@nottscc.gov.uk.

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