

# East Cambs & Fenland Children & Young People's Area Partnership Report for CTEP July 2016

## ECF Area Partnership Priorities:

- 1 To impact positively on children, young people and families in poverty
- 2 To improve the mental health of children and young people across East Cambs and Fenland
- 3 Safeguarding Children and Young People

### **Supporting parents eligible for Free 2's childcare to enable them to make positive steps back into sustainable work**

Initiatives located in Wisbech; Whittlesey and Burwell/Bottisham/Soham Children Centres.

Wisbech project have developed an information sharing consent statement on their registration forms that allows them to share information with Job Centre Plus and has resulted in more joined up work and support with target families. This is now being implemented in BBS. They have also introduced a Stay/Play and Job Search session

BBS have introduced a volunteer and work experience programme

Whittlesey have recently hosted an information event with CCC and Job Centre Plus which resulted in adults from target groups accessing new services/opportunities

Issues raised by this project:

- Job Centre Plus are not always easy to engage with – seems to depend on personalities
- Needs are raised but then suppliers not available in more rural area – eg Whittlesey have a group of parents wanting to do Early Years training but the Centre can't identify a training provider who can deliver in Whittlesey

### **Supporting migrant families to access adequate childcare to reduce incidents of children left at home or in inappropriate situations**

This project was initially set up with a small grant from the Area Partnership but has since gone on to receive funding from the LEP for a one year extension to develop the findings. Members of the community are training to take on childcare roles at different levels

- Baby sitting
- Child minding
- Fostering

This will ultimately help to reduce some of the issues leading to inappropriate childcare eg opening times of current facilities; languages spoken and contribute to the skills base of local people

This project is now independent of the Area Partnership and will be removed from the plan but will be asked to participate in a broader discussion about Migrant Families at the September meeting

### **Free School Meals**

We continue to work with the Education Welfare Benefits Team on information sharing

## **Accelerating Achievement**

The Area Partnership hosted a workshop on Accelerating Achievement as part of an extended meeting. A new project was added to the plan following discussions. The project will aim to increase the vocabulary of pre-school children. There will be 6 weekly sessions with an interesting visitor at each eg fire, police, builder who will have key vocabulary to introduce at the session. An evaluation will take place at the end of the 6 week course

## **Mental Health and Young People**

The Area Partnership has been supporting the Heads Up project in ECF primary schools that offers interventions to children with early signs of mental health problems eg issues related to anger; emotional resilience, self esteem and confidence. The project has funding to February 2017 but has not identified funding beyond this date

## **Healthy Relationships**

Following a presentation on the Health Related Behaviour Survey; the findings of the evaluation of the Chelsea's Choice tour and a workshop at the Area Partnership. The Area Partnership has agreed to take forward the following new actions

1. A mapping of 'healthy relationship' activities that can be offered to schools and other settings working with young people by Area Partnership members and contacts
2. Support for a further tour of Chelsea's Choice in Fenland (led by the Community Safety Partnership) and a tour of Tough Love in East Cambs

## **Young People who Go Missing**

This is a new project for the Area Partnership identified because of the large number of Children's Homes in Fenland, the number of young people who go missing and the impact on young people's vulnerability and police resources

The project is currently in a research phase mapping communication and protocols in use but will provide recommendations on improving practice and communications and hopes to influence good practice around safeguarding and risk limitation for new care homes

## **Health and Wellbeing of Migrant Communities**

A JSNA on migrant communities has recently been compiled. The findings fall under 3 themes

- Public Health Support and Advice
- Primary Care
- Cohesion and Building Community Resilience

Time has been allocated at the September Area Partnership meeting to consider issues arising and what support can be offered by the Area Partnership

## **Sponsorship**

The Partnership has recently begun to consider sponsorship opportunities for specific projects

## **Youth Grants**

£12 700 was distributed to projects working with children and young people, with applicants supported access a further £4 700 from other sources. Impact of the funding will be reported back to the Area Partnership in 2017