

Report subject	Children and Young People's Partnership Board
Meeting date	22 September 2020
Status	Public Report
Executive summary	<p>The remit of the BCP Learning Partnership Board (LPB) has been expanded and is evolving into the new BCP Children and Young People's Partnership Board (C&YP PB). The reason for the change is to emphasise the importance of other services to children and young people such as those provided by the NHS and Police, if children and young people are to reach their potential and to be protected.</p> <p>This newly formed BCP C&YP PB retains a strong focus on learning and education and aims to maximise the life chances through education of all children and young people in the BCP area.</p> <p>The Board is forming during unprecedented times and aims to build upon the effective partnership working that has characterised the last few months when everyone has worked together to minimise the negative impacts of the pandemic.</p> <p>A Children and Young People's Plan is being developed that will be shaped by balancing pre and post COVID 19 priorities and ambitions. The immediate priority is to ensure the safe return of all children into education and learning after the lockdown restrictions.</p> <p>Through this report, Overview and Scrutiny are provided with an update on the evolution of the Board and are offered the opportunity to contribute to shaping the new Board's arrangements, and the Children and Young People's Plan which is currently under development.</p>
Recommendations	It is RECOMMENDED that members of Overview and Scrutiny take this opportunity to contribute to the development of the Board and to the Children and Young People's Plan.

Reason for recommendations	To ensure that all members of this committee are fully informed of the progress of the newly formed board.
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Sandra Moore, Portfolio Holder for Children and Families
Corporate Director	Elaine Redding – Interim Corporate Director, Children’s Services
Contributors	Neil Goddard, Service Director, Quality and Commissioning Debra Jones, Children’s Commissioning Manager – Partnerships and Development (interim) Anthony Douglas CBE, Interim Chair, Children & Young People’s Partnership Board
Wards	Council Wide
Classification	For Recommendation/Update and Information

Background

1. Prior to LGR and the creation of BCP, the legacy organisations had Children’s Trust arrangements in place. The respective boards stood down in 2019 with a view to developing relevant and appropriate systems leadership for the new organisation (BCP).
2. Earlier this year discussions began to expand the remit of the BCP Learning Partnership Board (LPB), and for it to evolve into the new BCP Children and Young People’s Partnership Board (C&YP PB).
The newly formed BCP C&YP PB retains a strong focus on learning and education as it evolves from the LPB and aims to maximise the life chances through education of all children and young people in the BCP area.
3. The BCP C&YP PB membership has expressed a strong commitment to taking active steps together to make further improvements to the lives of all children and young people in the BCP area. All board members are committed to taking personal and organisational commitment and responsibility to make this happen believing that working together well changes lives for the better.
4. This board will have a distinct role whilst sitting in the context of other relevant partnership boards in the area – e.g. the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board, Pan Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership and Community Safety Partnership.
5. Anthony Douglas CBE is the interim Chair of the Board. Anthony is also the interim chair of the Pan-Dorset Safeguarding Children Partnership.
6. The BCP Children and Young People’s Plan will be a strategic plan owned and driven by the C&YP PB. Underpinning this plan each partner agency will have its own ambitions, priorities and work programmes that support children and young people across the BCP area.

7. The Board is forming during these unprecedented times and aims to build upon the effective partnership working that has characterised the last few months when everyone has worked together to minimise the negative impacts of the pandemic.

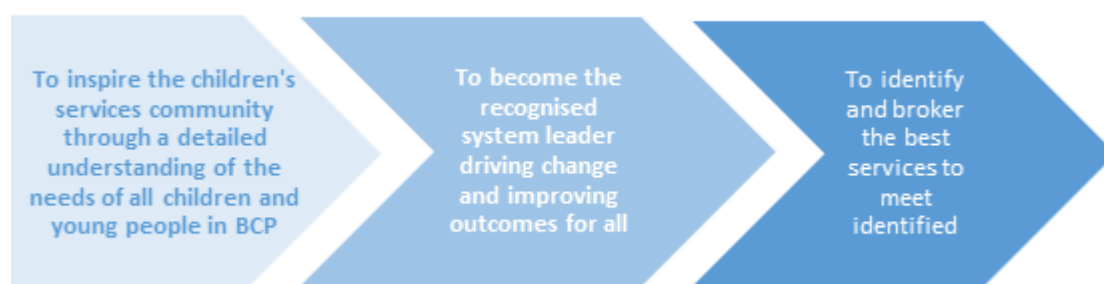
Children and Young People's Partnership Board

The Partnership

8. The Children and Young People's Partnership is an alliance of leaders of organisations from across the BCP council area that support children and young people to stay safe and achieve the best possible outcomes. Board members come from a range of organisations including BCP council (Children's Services, Housing and Communities), Education providers, Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, DHUFT, CAMHS, Dorset Police, Community and Voluntary Sector.

Principles

9. The Partnership's strategic approach is shown in the diagram below.



The mission

10. 'To bring together representatives of everyone involved in supporting and safeguarding children and young people in the BCP council area. To focus on improving outcomes for all with particular focus on effecting positive changes for the life chances of the most vulnerable. To achieve this through fostering collaboration through system leadership and holding each other to account.'

11. To achieve this, the Partnership is combining its capabilities:

- (a) **Strategic Connectivity:** being able to engage with all organisations, inspiring them and enabling accountability to the whole community.
- (b) **Strategic Intelligence:** understanding and interpreting the area within regional, national and international contexts. Prioritising effectively; identifying areas for development /innovation and needs at organisation, partnership and council area levels.
- (c) **Strategic Intervention:** knowing, selecting, accessing and harnessing the individual and collective capabilities of organisations. Ensuring ambitious outcomes are achieved and holding to account.

Governance arrangements

12. The Children and Young People's Partnership Board comprises representatives from across the Partnership. The Board is the strategic arm of the Partnership. It

provides direction and governance to the children's services community in BCP to help it raise standards and improve children's lives.

13. This Board relates to other local boards through membership - members of this board sit on other boards, organisational representation – organisations are represented at this board and others, and our common interest which is to have positive impacts on the lives of children and young people of BCP.

14. The Boards that this Board most closely aligns to are:

- (a) BCP Joint Health and Wellbeing Board
- (b) Pan Dorset Children's Safeguarding Board
- (c) BCP Community Safety Board
- (d) BCP SEND Transformation Board

15. Care will be taken to ensure the work of this Board is distinct from that of others, does not duplicate the work of others and makes clear its role and purpose.

Board meetings

16. The multi-agency Board met for the first time on 10th July 2020. The meeting took the form of a workshop.

17. Jo Wilson, Head of Programmes for Public Health Dorset gave a presentation providing an overview for Children and Young People in BCP. See Appendix 1.

- (a) BCP is a good place to live, grow up and work and most children and young people in BCP experience a happy and safe childhood. However, when we drill down below the high-level LA data, we start to uncover differences and variation in need, experience and outcome. This presentation touches on some of our known local inequalities.
- (b) 9,400 children (under 16) live in families with a low income, whilst over 20% of our local population live in the 20% least deprived areas in England, giving significant variation within BCP.
- (c) Children living in low-income families or neighbourhoods have worse health outcomes on average than other children including; infant mortality, low birth weight, asthma, overweight and obesity, tooth decay, injuries, mental health problems and readiness to learn. They are more likely to have experienced the effects of parental smoking both during pregnancy and in their homes.
- (d) Adult health, social choices and their economic capability impacts on children and young people's outcomes indicating taking a whole family approach is crucial.
- (e) The Universal Health Visiting offer for families with children under 5 years performs well with mandated checks completed, breastfeeding initiation rates

and children at 2.5 years achieving a Good Level of Development, all above the England and South West average comparators.

- (f) Not all children Thrive equally, through the SEND JSNA data indicates greatest needs reflected in both SEND Support and EHCP's for Communication and Language and Social, Emotional and Mental Health

18. Investing in education also improves health outcomes, as a virtuous circle. Educational outcomes for children in BCP are good, but we are aware of gaps for our most disadvantaged students and recognise for some key areas e.g. reading and progress in maths, gender differences exist.
19. The workshop focused on how the Board will work and provided an opportunity to explore the best possible framework for the joint development of a BCP Children and Young People's Plan which reflects our joint priorities and aspirations.
20. In the spirit of partnership working, members of the board spoke at the workshop about the priorities for the partnership as they saw them. This enabled the development of the first set of priorities to be drawn up and for the board to start taking the right action about the right issues.
21. All priorities will be taken forward simultaneously within a managed programme which is within available resources and different time scales.
The immediate and short-term ambitions, to be addressed by December 2020, that emerged from this workshop are

- (a) Ensuring sufficient summer programmes for children who need them (historic now)
- (b) Collectively and collaboratively managing the return to all settings
- (c) Looking after the mental wellbeing of children and professionals
- (d) Embedding the team around the school model in all BCP schools
- (e) Reducing exclusions
- (f) Co-producing change with parents e.g. over new curriculum challenges

With the longer-term ambitions being:

- (a) Narrowing and bridging attainment gaps, including 'catching up academically'
- (b) Strengthening multi agency working for the most vulnerable cohorts e.g. CE, CSE, SEND
- (c) A continuous programme to redress any gender and BAME inequalities across the public sector
- (d) Working together to produce a CYPP by March 2021 which aims for the highest possible positive impact and outcomes successes

- (e) Reducing exclusions (eventually to the irreducible minimum)
- (f) Compliance at all time with the spirit and detail of the Board's TOR, attached at appendix 2.

22. During the workshop participants expressed a strong commitment to taking active steps together to make further improvements to the lives of all children and young people in the BCP area.

The Children and Young People's Plan

23. This plan is being developed at the end of the first wave of COVID 19 and we know that the recovery period will be challenging to get right, with so much to do and so many justifiable concerns about the level of care and support some local children and young people will need from us.

Capturing the Voice of Children and Young People

24. Each partner organisation will have their own mechanisms to enable participation and to gather views and feedback, finding out what children and young people are worried about. BCP is developing a Participation Strategy having listened to children and noted what they've said.

25. Ensuring that children's and young people's views are sought, and our plan and the work of the board is informed by them is important to the partnership.

26. All organisations are now having to balance Pre COVID 19 concerns with Post COVID concerns in their reset of priorities, with education, mental health and concerns about domestic abuse, anticipated to have risen during the last few months. As we develop the plan, we will be looking back at recent consultation and participation outcomes and talking with children and young people to check that we have got the Plan's priorities right. For example, we will be contacting the BCP Youth Parliament and school children. We will also contact workers who lead on participation agendas.

Timeline of the Plan

27. The first draft of the plan will be presented at the C&YP PB meeting in October 2020. The target date for publishing the plan is by 1st April 2021. The published plan will contain the first set of ambitions for the Board. We will aim to bring a draft of the Plan to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January 2021, and the final version in March 2021.

BCP C&YP Plan ambitions

28. To achieve these ambitions, it is envisaged that the Partnership will have 2 or 3 active programmes at any single point in time working on both short-term priorities, and other continuous programmes addressing the longer-term priorities.

29. We will update this plan when we have achieved our targets and confirmed their desired impact, and with each next set of priorities as they are identified and agreed.

30. The ambitions identified at the recent workshop fall into 4 broad priority areas.

- (a) Children and young people have the opportunities and are supported to achieve their full potential in education, learning and future employment.

- (d) Children and young people can enjoy healthy lifestyles and make positive choices
- (e) Children and young people are accepted as valued members of society enabling them to achieve within, and contribute to, the wider community
- (f) Children and young people are supported to be resilient in the face of the challenges presented by the COVID 19 pandemic.

COVID -19 recovery and building resilience across the system - why this is one of our priorities.

- 31. We recognise that the pandemic has been generally harmful to the health, social and material well-being of children and young people, with the poorest children hit hardest. Not being able to go to school, social distancing and staying home increase the risk of poor nutrition for children and increase their exposure to domestic violence.
- 32. Widespread digitalisation has mitigated the education loss caused by not being in school, but the poorest children are least likely to live in good home-learning environments with internet connection. Furthermore, increased unsupervised on-line internet use has magnified issues around sexual exploitation and cyber-bullying.
- 33. The ongoing impact on families who face unemployment and economic hardship are yet to be fully realised. We want our children and young people to have access to good food, receive protection against child abuse and neglect, make up for time lost in education, have continued access to child physical and mental health services, and be able to navigate the internet safely. . Working across partnerships and wider organisations to support parental employment is also instrumental in fighting child poverty.
- 34. The response to COVID 19 has bought about innovative and creative practice, including the acceleration of good practice to improve the response to vulnerable children and young people.

Summary of financial implications

- 35. The Children and Young People's Plan will guide and enable joint allocation of resources across the partnership to ensure we meet our objectives and develop effective and efficient ways of working.
- 36. Where there is opportunity to jointly bid for additional funding this will be considered by the board. The day to day working of the board will be delivered through existing resource across the partnership.

Summary of legal implications

- 37. As part of the LGR framework, BCP is required to have a jointly agreed plan by April 2021. The Board will ensure that this is achieved

Summary of public health implications

- 38. The Children and Young People's Plan strengthens the partnership commitment to ensuring every child in BCP has the "best start in life" and development into

adulthood, as outlined within the Public Health Prevention at Scale ambitions. Public Health are represented on the Board and are actively involved in the development of the Plan.

Summary of equality implications

39. In achieving the ambitions of the Board as set out in the Plan resources will be targeted at the disadvantaged.

Summary of risk assessment

40. A risk assessment will be carried out as the Board develops.

Background papers

None

Appendices

1. Presentation given to the July 2020 meeting of the BCP Children and Young People's Partnership Board
2. BCP Children and Young People's Partnership Board Terms of Reference – draft

Double click image for full presentation.

Appendix 1



BOURNEMOUTH, CHRISTCHURCH & POOLE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE

Agreed on:	
Review due:	

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The Children's and Young People's Partnership

The **Children's and Young People's Partnership** is an alliance of leaders of organisations from across the BCP council area that support children and young people to stay safe and achieve the best possible outcomes.

For the purpose of clarity we define Children and Young People as being children and young people up to the age of 18 generally and to 25 when they are in transition to adult service needs e.g. through an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

Its mission is:

"To bring together representatives of everyone involved in supporting and safeguarding children and young people in the BCP council area. To focus on improving outcomes for all with particular focus on effecting positive changes for the life chances of the most vulnerable. To achieve this through fostering collaboration through system leadership and holding each other to account."

1.2 The Children's and Young People's Partnership Board

The **Children's and Young People's Partnership Board** (C&YP PB) comprises representatives from across the Partnership. The Board is the strategic arm of the Partnership. It provides direction and governance to the children's services community in BC&P to help it carry out its mission.

The Board's purpose is to achieve the Partnership mission, i.e. to:

- Build, foster and advocate a shared, ambitious vision that inspires. This vision encapsulates what children and young people could achieve in a BCP that embraces responsibility for all with particular focus on the most vulnerable.
- Be a champion of the needs of Children and Young People and their views to other sectors and the wider community

- Foster and develop a shared, strong moral purpose. This is, that all children irrespective of background, earlier experience or status achieve the best possible outcomes – to intervene early to address identified need and to be a champion for children, particularly those at risk or already experiencing disadvantage and vulnerability .
- Create local coherence through system leadership in the changing landscape of children’s services through planning, organising, improving, evaluating, holding to account and working in partnership.
- Create a shared voice and substantial influence for children’s services across the conurbation from local to national level, e.g., LEP, OFSTED, national government.
- Develop a common understanding of the differential outcomes of Children and Young People in the BCP area, whether that be in terms of variation in health and/or educational outcomes
- Collectively use our data and intelligence to agree our joint priorities to address and improve variations in outcomes for Children and Young People
- Foster collaboration, support and challenge between organisations and combat isolation.
- Provide robust challenge and accountability to all, advocating the best interests of children and young people.
- Enable higher impact through combining capabilities and reducing duplication.

2. STRATEGIC APPROACH

The Board’s strategic approach is shown in the diagram below.



3. CORE CAPABILITIES

To achieve this, the Board must have the following capabilities:

1. **Strategic Connectivity:** being able to engage with all organisations, inspiring them and enabling accountability to the whole community.

2. **Strategic Intelligence:** understanding and interpreting the area within regional, national and international contexts. Prioritising effectively; identifying areas for development /innovation and needs at organisation, partnership and council area levels.
3. **Strategic Intervention:** knowing, selecting, accessing and harnessing the individual and collective capabilities of organisations. Ensuring ambitious outcomes are achieved and holding to account.

4. SCOPE OF THE BOARD: CORE ACTIONS

Establishing and coordinating a vision that inspires, engages and challenges the whole Partnership.

- Reviewing the progress of all partners individually and collectively.
- Celebrating success together and collectively holding each other to account.
- Establishing priorities and operational plans to deliver the strategy outcomes.
- Identifying how to commission support and invest in our community.
- Overseeing and coordinating resource (and seeking new resource) to ensure they match the core priorities.
- Regularly reviewing the impact of the work of all partners.
- Engaging and communicating regularly with partners.

Responding and being accountable to the Partnership.

5. MEANS OF OPERATION

The core means of operation of the Board is via:

1. meetings (face-to-face or via other communication technologies); and
2. the use of task and finish groups.

5.1 MEETINGS

Meetings will be planned. Members will be notified of meetings at least 4 working weeks in advance. The Council will conduct the administration of the meeting, including clerking, unless decided otherwise by the Board.

Any papers, including agendas, will be made available at least 5 working days in advance of any meeting.

Each meeting will be led by the appointed chair.

Meetings will be open to all members of the Partnership to attend. Non-board members of the Partnership may be excluded from part/ all of a meeting where a confidential matter is identified, and this is agreed by the Chair.

All meetings will be minuted. Minutes will be distributed to all members within 5 working days.

5.2 USE OF TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

The Board will identify priorities and key matters for attention or action. From time to time, the Board will need to examine issues or options in greater detail or, for example, require action to be taken. The Board will establish “task and finish groups” to consider matters further, or act on their behalf.

The groups will receive clear commissions and instruction, including as minimum:

- purpose
- membership
- expected outcomes
- timeframe
- resource
- accountability
- communication

The groups will remain accountable to the Board and can be established for a fixed period and ended at the decision of the Board.

These groups are responsible to the Board for delivering against agreed objectives. They will be expected to report their achievements against priorities to the Board on a regular basis.

All groups will be reviewed at least annually to ensure that they still have a purpose.

5.3 CHAIR

The Partnership Board will appoint a Chair either from the members of the Board or appoint an appropriate independent person through a skills-based selection process.

5.4 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The Board will decide the frequency of meetings to match need. Additional meetings may be convened outside of the usual pattern to address urgent items as required.

6. FORWARD PLAN

The Board will develop a forward plan of agendas and issues for discussion. The plan will reflect the yearly data cycle and academic year.

7. MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Board will be selected to be representative of the broader partnership.

7.1. MEMBERSHIP TENURE AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUBSTITUTION

A substitute may be allowed when absence is otherwise unavoidable. Each member, upon invitation to join the Board, should nominate a substitute who has agreed to take on this role. . The substitute should reflect as closely as possible the role and experience of the member, e.g., organisation; seniority; representative role. The board member should ensure that any substitute is fully briefed for any substitution.

Given the importance of the Board, if a member is absent more than 3 meetings in a year, the member may be invited to withdraw, and a new member appointed.

7.2 CO-OPTING MEMBERS

The Board may find that representation is comprehensive but there may be gaps in either the range of representation (e.g., infant/junior phase) or expertise. The Board may co-opt members to fill these gaps. Up to 15% further members may be co-opted to the Board. Co-opted members will have the same rights, responsibilities (including substitution) as other members.

8. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The key role of members of the Board (and their substitutes) is to pursue the Partnership's mission. Each member acts for the benefit of the whole Partnership and makes decisions on their behalf.

A secondary role is to ensure that the Board takes into account the interests and views of the group(s) that each member represents.

All members will:

- promote the best interests of children and young people
- actively address inequality and discrimination
- seek to facilitate a provider-led self-improving system
- act in a way that best fosters collaboration

- work to achieve the aim and expected outcomes of the Board
- seek to understand and further the interests of all the members of the Partnership taken together
- communicate with and gain the views of all players within the provider-led self-improving system
- communicate regularly with the groups they represent to ensure that their interests are taken into account and they are kept informed (see also the section headed Communication, below).

The roles, responsibilities and contribution that each member can fulfil will differ. Each group that is represented on the Board will have its own contribution to make. It may be useful, once the Board has become established, to define more fully what each group can do to ensure the Board is as effective as possible.

9. QUORACY AND DECISION MAKING

The meeting is quorate if 3 of the following 5 are represented – Local Authority, Schools, Clinical Commissioning Group, Police, Public Health (including the Chair) are present. If lower numbers are present, the meeting may continue but decisions will not be implemented.

Decision making will usually be by consensus. However, if the Chair considers that consensus is unachievable, a decision may be made by vote and will be binding if:

- It has been agreed by 80% of agencies present (not individuals)
- The proposed actions fall within the statutory and regulatory framework governing the operation of partner agencies
- It is within the delegated decision-making powers of the Board
- Any decision relating to increased expenditure for individual partners is only taken with their consent.

Where there is need for a decision that decision will be taken by agreement of the Board members.

If a meeting is not quorate any required decisions will be carried forward for approval at the next quorate meeting. Or the Chair may initiate and coordinate out of session decision making, via written (electronic or hard copy) communication with all Board members.

10. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

If any conflict of interest is identified, this must be raised with the Chair. The party may be requested to leave the meeting during the relevant part of the discussion.

11. GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Members of the Board remain wholly accountable to their employing organisations, and so should be sufficiently empowered to discuss and influence the strategic direction of that organisation in a partnership context.

The Board will work alongside, and from time to time may share accountability for key areas of work with other local Boards e.g. the Joint Health and Wellbeing Board, The Pan Dorset Safeguarding Board.

12. BOARD MEMBERS (LIST)

To be confirmed at board meeting on 2 October 2020.

13. REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed at least once every 2 years, or at times when the Board is otherwise reviewing its constitution or activity.