

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

SALISBURY AREA BOARD 9th March 2017

SALISBURY'S CHILD WELLBEING GROUP UPDATE

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. To update the board on matters debated and progressed by the Child Wellbeing Group in 2016/17.

2. Background

- 2.1 In January 2016, following the lead of nearly 100 people at the area board meeting, councillors agreed to set up a Child Wellbeing Group to seek to improve the lives of the nearly 1000 children living 'in poverty' in Salisbury.
- 2.2 The group was set up in response to discussion concerning updated public health statistics for children's health and wellbeing in Salisbury, and given the following mandate:
- Improve communication of information, advice and services
 - Strengthen support for parents
 - Strengthen support for children's mental and emotional wellbeing

3. Progress update

- 3.1. The group has met 4 times over the course of the year and, through collaboration with partners listed at appendix 1, and taking into account the vote on children and young people's issues at the Our Community Matters Conference in December 2016, has adopted the following plan of action:
- To focus on 0-5 year olds (as the first phase of work)
 - To focus on The Friary
 - To commission parenting support and advice to complement existing forms of intervention
 - To consider how marriage/relationship guidance might also be offered
- 3.2 Over the next 2 years, the group intends to commission projects, events and initiatives which deliver these actions, aiming to:
- Respect and complement existing work on The Friary
 - Strengthen partnership links with the Friary Action Group

- Work with those who have a track record for building and maintaining trust with children and families in poverty, e.g. pre school leaders, parent support advisers, children centre staff, Homestart, health visitors
- Seek to develop a number of parenting peer mentors
- Contribute to existing, or deliver new, events that are family-fun orientated and represent an attractive and winsome approach to local people
- Focus on children and families who are not at the stage of being referred to an early help/health service (i.e. 'children in need' or the subject of a 'common assessment framework', or under child protection) – but those who are 'just about managing' and could benefit from some parenting / relationship support and advice
- Offer a variety of activities for both children and parents , e.g. regular fun sporting activities, cookery, pampering for parents - with structured fun activities for children.

3.3 This work will be steered by a smaller sub-section of the Child Wellbeing Group, including Neighbourhood Officers on the Friary,(Salisbury City Council and Wiltshire Council Housing), Children's Centre Managers, Homestart, the Friary Action Group Chairman and Parent Support Advisors.

3.4 Work will take place over the coming few months to shape a proposal for the new Area Board to agree at the May 2017 meeting.

4. Recommendation

4.1 That the board notes this progress update and thanks all those involved in this work.

Report Author: (KAREN LINAKE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER)
Tel No: 01722 434697, E-Mail: karen.linaker@wiltshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1

- Lead councillor from Salisbury Area Board
- City Councillor representative
- Churches
- Carers Support Wiltshire
- HomeStart
- SW Mencap
- Health Visitors
- Midwives
- Salisbury Hospital
- Pre schools
- Schools
- Children's Chance
- Salisbury Rotary – Our Children Our Future Group
- Children & Families Voluntary Sector Forum
- Wessex Community Action
- Wiltshire Parents & Carers Association
- Learning Curve
- Sports Development Officers
- Youth Leaders
- Parenting Specialists
- Early Years Service Managers
- Salisbury Arts Centre
- Family Counselling Trust
- Health Schools reps