

Agenda Item No:	15
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Report to:	Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
Date of Meeting:	9 July 2025
Subject:	Radically Improving Children's Wellbeing, Health and Care: Humber and North Yorkshire Children's Plan
Director Sponsor:	Peter Thorpe, Executive Director of Strategy and Partnerships
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STATUS OF THE REPORT:

Approve ☒ Discuss ☐ Assurance ☐ Information ☐ A Regulatory Requirement ☐

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

In March 2024, the ICP agreed a simplified version of its Integrated Strategy for Wellbeing, Health Care which lifted and better framed our ambitions, rationalised, and clarified the priorities and described how we would achieve them with a focus on the important and transformative actions. The refreshed Strategy clearly articulates the aims and outcomes as well as the 3 main ambitions; enabling wellbeing, health, and care equity; transforming people's health and care experiences and outcomes and introducing the **'golden ambition' to radically improve children's wellbeing, health and care**. This golden ambition for children distinguishes Humber and North Yorkshire from most integrated care systems in England.

The Start Well Board was established to drive forward the strategy's 'golden ambition' aims to achieve generational change in population health by focusing on children's wellbeing, health, and care. Over the last 6 months the Board has been developing a **Children's Plan** to ensure that resources are directed where they are needed most, fostering a more unified support system that meets children's needs more effectively.

The development of the Children's Plan has emphasised integration across children's social care, public health, education, and health and focuses on the principles of a **child centred approach, prevention and early help, and one system for children** to ensure children are safe, healthy, and ready for school and life. The plan also aims to reduce inequalities and support vulnerable children, ensuring they thrive in their families, schools, and communities.

Following discussions with the Directors of Children Services and Directors of Public Health plus a series of workshops with key stakeholders the framework is built around 3 key outcomes:

- **Children are Safe:** Children will be safe from harm and are supported and protected in their families and communities
- **Children are Healthy:** Children and young people will have healthier lifestyles with better physical and mental health.
- **Children are Thriving:** Children and young people will flourish in environments that support their growth and development and be encouraged to reach their full potential.

Having agreed the outcomes, principles, enablers and success measures for the system the plan has been subject to wider engagement to ensure that it is easily understood, aligns with partner organisation's goals and objectives and is inclusive and respectful, promoting a positive and collaborative approach.

The Integrated Care Partnership approved the Children's Plan in March 2025.

Next Steps:

A refreshed Start Well Board will continue to drive the implementation Children's Plan with detailed delivery plans being developed for priorities and leadership distributed across the integrated care system to reinforce shared ownership and accountability.

Through the system approach and high engagement from local authority statutory officers with responsibility for children, implementation of national health and social care policy is being co-developed, for example we are coordinating DfE policy on Family Hubs with DHSC policy for integrated neighbourhood teams (children). This is avoiding duplication and ensuring that services collectively address population health needs for children and families.

Humber and North Yorkshire is also a forerunner ICS in its scale of ambition for children and young people. National prominence and influence are being fostered through our wider partnerships, including work with Baroness Anne Longfield (Centre for Young Lives) and Professor Mark Mon-William (Deputy Chair of the Scientific Advisory Council, Department for Education).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Members are asked to:

- i) To adopt the Humber and North Yorkshire Children's Plan.

ICB STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Leading for Excellence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leading for Prevention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leading for Sustainability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Voice at the Heart	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IMPLICATIONS

Finance	The delivery of the Children's Plan will be through existing partner resources. The plan aims to encourage organisations to work more collaboratively with various stakeholders, including health, education, and social care services, to create a unified support system that meets children's needs effectively.
Quality	The Children's Plan has a golden ambition which aims to radically improve children's wellbeing, health and care.
HR	The Children's Plan supports culture change by emphasising a fundamental shift in both culture and approach to create meaningful, transformative change for children and young people. To support this cultural shift, the framework encourages staff to:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embrace and drive transformation by adopting a systems thinking approach and fostering a culture of continuous learning and adaptability. • Adopt a child-centred approach, placing the rights and needs of children at the forefront of all decisions. This involves thinking Additionally, the framework includes the I Thrive requirement, which emphasises creating supportive and inclusive environments where children can reach their full potential and achieve positive outcomes. <p>Use the framework to ensure that resources are directed where they are needed most, focusing on reducing inequalities and supporting vulnerable children.</p>
Legal / Regulatory	When producing the integrated care strategy, the Integrated Care Partnership should consider how the needs and health and wellbeing outcomes of babies, children, young people, and families can be met and improved. The Children's Plan builds on the ICP strategy ambition to radically improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people by setting out key outcomes, principles and priorities.
Data Protection / IG	<p>This report has no adverse implications. The Children's Plan outlines enablers to strengthen our system approach, focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital transformation • Business Intelligence and Population health management • Innovation and Research • Policy Development • Communication and Engagement • Workforce Development <p>Better data sharing will enhance effectiveness.</p>
Health inequality / equality	The Children's Plan supports health inequalities by creating a comprehensive and effective support system that prioritises prevention, early help, and safeguarding, strengthens partnerships, and promotes healthier lifestyles for all children.
Conflict of Interest	There are no conflicts of interest associated with this report.
Sustainability	There is no adverse impact as a result of this report. The Children's plan seeks to better coordinate resources across the system to deliver more sustainable services.

ASSESSED RISK:

Several risks need to be managed in the implementation of the Children's Plan, including maintaining quality and consistency, ensuring effective communication and coordination, managing financial resources, and identifying and mitigating potential risks. Addressing these proactively through clear guidelines, robust policies, and regular monitoring via the Start Well Board will help ensure the plan's success and sustainability.

MONITORING AND ASSURANCE:

The Start Well Board will ensure a shared system oversight, mobilising resources, raising awareness, and fostering collaboration to drive transformative change for children and young people. The Plan will be supported by an outcomes framework and be aligned to the Shining a Light methodology.

ENGAGEMENT:

The Children's Plan has evolved following a series of discussions with system stakeholders. This included discussions with the Start Well Board, Director of Children's Services, Directors of Public Health and two workshops held in December workshop and February.

The workshops explored the principles required to foster a transformative culture that drives radical changes for children and young people. Participants discussed the importance of a more outcome-focused approach, and the enablers needed to strengthen the system approach to accelerate the focus on prevention and early identification. They also highlighted the need for continuous system learning and adaptability to stay updated with the latest healthcare trends, technologies, and best practices.

The revised plan is currently undergoing system-wide engagement. Initial feedback has been favourable, with organisations identifying synergies with their existing or emerging plans, particularly regarding the emphasis on prevention and early intervention. Consequently, the plan has been updated to incorporate investment from preconception or pregnancy and changes to the outcome measures.

REPORT EXEMPT FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

No



Yes

