Surrey Children & Young People’s Partnership

Context

The majority of Surrey’s c.280,000 children and young people are safe, well educated and cared for; they experience good health, low crime rates, good leisure and employment opportunities and benefit from higher than average socio-economic circumstances.

Yet whilst Surrey has one of the lowest rates of child deprivation in the UK, there remain large numbers of children who persistently experience poorer outcomes than their peers.

- The inequality of outcome experienced by disadvantaged and vulnerable children and families in Surrey is greater than the inequality of outcome experienced by disadvantaged children nationally. This is compounded when children and young people experience multiple vulnerabilities. Education outcomes are a good indicator of overall outcomes:
  - Increasing demand, the high cost of statutory provision and reduction in government funding is placing financial strain on the system. We must address this together to ensure all public services are financially sustainable.
  - Children with SEND and their families do not have a good experience of the system in Surrey – it is not always joined up or easy to navigate.
  - Research tells us that to make the biggest difference we must approach and support the family as a whole, including supporting parents back to work.
  - Please see the Director of Public Health Annual report on inequalities of outcomes for more details.

Key challenges for Surrey

- There are some geographic areas where children and young people experience poorer outcomes, which can often be hidden within areas of affluence and better outcomes.
- Good emotional wellbeing and mental health is essential to having good outcomes – our children and young people tell us they need more support.
- The current Early Help offer is fragmented, not understood or easily accessible.
- Surrey has a wealth and breadth of resources and assets in the community that can be better optimised to drive and support improved outcomes.
- For some areas of support we need to better stimulate the market to be able to deliver improved outcomes for children and families in a financially sustainable way.

Total resource in the system 2015/16 (Estimated)

We have agreed to commission together, using the total resource in the system in the most effective way possible. This will support us to ensure maximum value together.

Principles

- We have agreed to commission together, working to these principles:
  - Outcomes based
  - Addressing root causes of poor outcomes
  - Quality provision targeted to local needs and inequalities
  - Timely and preventative approach
  - Integrated, strengths-based, restorative and family centred practice
  - Co-produced with children and families

Approach

We will:
- build on what we already do well in Surrey.
- take a preventative approach to manage rising demand across education, health, social care, and SEND from the earliest point in a child’s life
- continue to provide universal services with a focus on specific groups and geographic communities

What do we want to achieve?

- We will work together to ensure that our joint commissioning activity seeks to achieve these outcomes:
  - Families of children with SEND experience timely access to support, their experience improves and the needs of their children are identified early and met.
  - Children and young people are safe from harm and danger.
  - The gap in education, health and wellbeing outcomes between children experiencing social and economic deprivation and their peers is reduced.
  - Improve family resilience and promote healthy relationships.
  - Children with complex individual needs have the best life chances.
  - The proportion of children and families supported close to home is increased.

Our strategic shared priorities

1. Developing and delivering an integrated SEND offer with and for Surrey’s children and families
2. Developing and delivering an integrated early help offer for children and families in need
3. Extending our Safer Surrey strengths-based model of practice: to enable us to continue placing children, young people and families at the heart of our practice
4. Supporting our children, young people and families to lead healthy lifestyles and have good emotional wellbeing and mental health
5. Getting to good outcomes for our vulnerable children; particularly for our looked after children and care leavers
6. Continuing to strengthen and deliver our partnership strategy and priority actions for CSE and missing children
7. Building our multi-agency response to domestic abuse and neglect
8. Embedding our Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) arrangements