

## Team Around the Child & Family

Developing locally delivered integrated services for Children & their Families

### Summary

The local delivery of integrated services is one of the key vehicles for achieving the vision set out by Central Bedfordshire Children's Trust, in the Children and Young People's Plan. It is intended to fundamentally re-shape the way in which services are delivered and how they are experienced by children, young people and their families. It is also intended to ensure the most efficient and effective use of the resources available across the Trust partners to achieve improved outcomes for children and young people. It proposes the integration of many of the services currently provided separately to children, young people and their families, and much closer alignment of those services with clusters of schools, early years settings, GP practices and youth services. This case study details how this was addressed in Central Bedfordshire Council

<b>Authority/partner organisation(s):</b>	<b>CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL</b>
<b>Improvement East theme:</b>	<b>PERFORMANCE</b>
<b>Improvement East initiative (workstream):</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>MARTIN PRATT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES OPERATIONS</b>
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### Main messages

Central Bedfordshire Council defined success for this programme as being "when children, young people and their families are able to access locally delivered integrated services based on common processes, outstanding practice, strong partnerships and clearly identified pathways, leading to a demonstrable improvement in outcomes." To contribute to this:

- The efficiency and effectiveness of targeted support services can be significantly improved when co-delivered through multi-disciplinary teams
- Aligning and then integrating service delivery across the Children's economy, i.e. local authority, community health services, schools trusts and partnerships, third sector organisations and other Children's Trust partners, improves the experience of users, creates process efficiencies and provides opportunities for rationalising administrative support and infrastructure.
- There are additional opportunities arising out of a systemic view of service transformation programmes, in particular:
  - Transforming Community Health Care
  - Aiming High for Disabled Children
  - Think Family
  - Developing new models of school leadership and governance
  - Extended schools and Children's Centres
  - Common Assessment Framework
  - Whole system approach and partnership culture which embeds the targeted services within universal provision and with swift and easy access to specialist services

## Case study

The development of the team around the child and family programme has taken place since the Council was established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 and has been approved through the commissioning group of the Children's Trust. The programme is based on a model of progressive integration, that is the alignment of services creating virtual teams and moving towards co-location and consolidated structures as opportunities arise. The key strengths of this approach have been identified as the opportunity to pilot co-located, multi-disciplinary working in a number of different contexts, allowing early learning and immediate impact, whilst working purposefully towards addressing structural issues.

The Implementation Plan has eight work streams covering:

- Common Processes (CAF in particular)
- Programme management and Governance
- Workforce and Human Resources
- Communications and consultation
- Finance
- Infrastructure
- Planning, needs analysis and metrics
- Alignment with Community Health Services

The programme is being informed by five "pathfinder pilot projects" locating multi-disciplinary teams with School Trusts, a special school, an integrated youth service and a family resource centre for disabled children, supporting the Aiming High programme.

## Key outcomes

The key programme outcomes are:

- Improved outcomes for vulnerable children & young people
- Improved efficiency through rationalisation of processes, infrastructure and estate
- Improving Prevention through early identification and intervention
- A more integrated experience for Children and their families and the professionals working with them through the development of common processes, outstanding practice, strong partnerships and clearly identified pathways

## Learning

This work is at the early stage of implementation. Evaluation is built into the programme plan and learning will be made available at key points in the delivery plan.

## Contact details

Improvement East contact:	Lynsay Cook, Programme Manager <a href="mailto:Lynsay.cook@improvementeast.gov.uk">Lynsay.cook@improvementeast.gov.uk</a>
Authority contact:	Martin Pratt, Deputy Director of Children's Services and Assistant Director Children's Services Operations, <a href="mailto:martin.pratt@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk">martin.pratt@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk</a>
Other partner organisations:	