

# RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 17 MAY 2016  
title: HYNDBURN, RIBBLE VALLEY, AND ROSSENDALE CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD  
submitted by: JOHN HEAP, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
principal author: MARK BEVERIDGE, HEAD OF CULTURAL AND LEISURE SERVICES

## 1 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform Members of the work of the Partnership Board, of which Ribble Valley is a partner.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities:

- Community Objectives – To sustain a strong and prosperous Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities - To help make people's lives safer and healthier

## 2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Formerly, Lancashire County Council (LCC) supported, across the county, District Boards, which consisted of local representatives from schools, Borough Councils, and other bodies, as well as County Council staff. These were disbanded at the beginning of 2015, and Ribble Valley became part of a larger geographical area.

2.2 The new Partnership Board now consists of Rossendale, and Hyndburn, as well as Ribble Valley. Membership includes elected members, officers from the Districts and the County, as well as the police and representatives from other relevant groups and individuals.

2.3 The Board receives £15k from LCC to support its work, and that is provided to Rossendale to help host the cost of the officer employed part-time who provides support to the Board, and is the only official directly funded resource available.

2.4 The stated purpose of the Board is to improve outcomes for children, young people, and families. There is no intention that the Board assumes the legal responsibility of LCC, nor the Lancashire Children and Young People's (CYP) Trust.

2.5 Each District Council is required to provide a named officer, who will be the lead for that District, and help to ensure implementation of the Board's work, which itself seeks to support the aims and aspirations of the Lancashire CYP Trust, and the Lancashire Safeguarding Children Board, and specifically:

1. the delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan;
2. the delivery of Prevention and Early Help; and
3. ensuring effective practice that safeguards children.

2.6 In addition, each officer is expected to ensure robust and effective systems and processes are in place to evidence CYP needs, inform priorities, and manage performance across the Children's Partnership Board (CPB).

- Promote the involvement of partner agencies.
- Support the Chair of the CPB to provide strategic leadership and direction to the work of the partnership.

- Ensure the alignment of District Council services for children and young people with priorities outlined in the Children and Young People's Plan.

### 3 ISSUES

- 3.1 There is no question that the legal responsibility lays beyond the District for many of the issues that the CPB considers. However, as part of a network, the Districts do have a part to play in ensuring that residents covered by the remit of the CPB are safe.
- 3.2 An example of the achievements of the Board is provided in Appendix A. A very real aspect of that is the promotion of the Summer Activities programme across the Ribble Valley by providers, each year. This, for the first time last year, included targeted intervention to help some young people attend, by removing the financial barrier for them and their families.
- 3.3 There is an annual action plan for the Board in which all members are involved in producing and agreeing, and this, together with the others from around the county, feeds into the countywide Board, which oversees the work of all groups in Lancashire.
- 3.4 The new Prevent agenda, which seeks to address the issues around radicalisation of young people, is now being incorporated into the action plan for this year. It is now a legal requirement for schools and councils to have procedures in place to help mitigate such activity.

### 4 RISK ASSESSMENT

The approval of this report may have the following implications:

- Resources – Officer time to help co-ordinate work with other partners.
- Technical, Environmental and Legal – The District has a responsibility to every person, especially the young and vulnerable, to help them make the most of their life chances.
- Reputation – Ribble Valley is rightly proud of being an attractive place to live. However, that does not exclude our residents from feeling the impact of daily life in all of its forms. RVBC is in a position to help in some instances, or at least co-ordinate with partners, to ensure our residents know where to seek that help required.

### 5 CONCLUSION

The Council will work with partners to improve the lives of children and young people, and to try to secure improved opportunities for them.

MARK BEVERIDGE  
HEAD OF CULTURAL AND LEISURE SERVICES

JOHN HEAP  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

BACKGROUND PAPERS - None

For further information, please contact Mark Beveridge 01200 414479

Community Services 17.5.16/Mark Beveridge/IW

What did we achieve in 2015/16?

**Safeguarding**

**Free Preventing Violent Extremism Event** for Primary Schools and Early Years Providers

**What difference did this make?**

Increased understanding about extremism and ensure the workforce know where to go if they encounter issues.

**Promoted 'Together We Can Tackle Child Abuse Campaign'** with partner agencies

**What difference did this make?**

Encouraged people to report any suspicions they have about a child that may be neglected or abused in order for them to get help more quickly

**Strengthened membership of Board** to improve safeguarding expertise.

**What difference did this make?**

More effective partnership arrangements to ensure Children and Young People are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted

**Prevention and Early Help**

Increased capacity on the **Domestic Abuse Early Support contract**

**What difference did this make?**

Additional four places created for victims of domestic abuse to access support.

We collated, produced and promoted **Summer Fun brochure** for Hyndburn, Ribble Valley and Rossendale

**What difference did this make?**

Comprehensive package of activities and learning for children, young people and their families over the summer holidays.

Strengthen understanding of **Early Support Commissions**

**What difference did this make?**

Workforce aware of commissioned services that they can access to support their current work within the family.

**Child Sexual Exploitation**

Implemented a **monitoring feedback report on CSE activity**

**What difference did this make?**

Allows the Board to map activity and identify gaps in service

Established a **joint CSE sub group** across all 3 districts

**What difference did this make?**

Greater awareness of CSE and strengthen collaborative working.

Supported the wider **CSE campaign**.

**What difference did this make?**

Improved understanding around CSE amongst professionals and the community, its signs and impact on children and young people.

## Domestic Abuse

Established links with **Domestic Abuse providers**

### **What difference did this make?**

Allows the Board to identify and evidence gaps in provisions to help inform future commissions, evidence need and enhance partnership working.

Promoted the **White Ribbon Campaign** and **Educational Award**

### **What difference did this make?**

Enhanced awareness of the White Ribbon Campaign.

## Emotional Health & Well Being

Promoted **Youth Wellbeing Directory** to partners

### **What difference did this make?**

Encourage partners to utilise the resource so young people and their families have access to appropriate information.

## Children & Young People's Participation

A **Youth Shadow Board** to sit alongside the Children's Partnership Board.

### **What difference did this make?**

Gives young people an opportunity to raise their thoughts and experiences in relation to agenda items.

**Workshop** to identify priorities and issues affecting young people in our communities.

### **What difference did this make?**

Board members listen to the feedback from the workshop and use it to shape the 2016/17 action plan