Proposed New 0-19 Healthy Child Service for York

1. Creating a new service

The government intends that local authorities will have responsibility for commissioning public health services for children aged 0 – 5 years from 1st October 2015. This includes health visiting and the Family Nurse Partnership Programme (FNP) and the Pregnancy to 5 Healthy Child Programme\(^1\).

The transfer of responsibilities will join up commissioning of public health services for children aged 5 - 19 including school nursing and the 5 to 19 Healthy Child Programme\(^2\).

This provides a unique opportunity for City of York Council, together with our partners, to think about how we want to transform and integrate health, education and social care services and improve quality health and wellbeing outcomes for our children and young people.

Some of the opportunities already identified include:

- Joining up commissioning for children’s public health services, early help and wider family services
- Streamlining universal access to the Healthy Child Programme with early intervention and targeted programmes for families needing more help

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\(^1\) For further information see Department of Health (2009) Healthy Child Programme from Pregnancy to 5 years [Healthy Child Programme: Pregnancy and the First 5 Years of Life - Publications - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

\(^2\) For further information see Department of Health (2009) Healthy Child Programme 5 to 19 [ARCHIVED CONTENT] Healthy Child Programme from 5 to 19 years old : Department of Health - Publications
• Better integration of services at the point of delivery with improved access and improved service user experience helping to lead to improved outcomes for children, young people and families and reduced health inequalities.

City of York Council (CYC) is intending to take advantage of the opportunity by commissioning a new Healthy Child Service that will bring together and integrate health visiting and school nursing services and the National Child Measurement Programme. This new service will offer an integrated child and family centred approach and deliver the nursing elements of the 0 – 19 Healthy Child Programme. We are in discussions with NHS England to ensure that there are effective linkages to the school-aged childhood immunisation programme which is commissioned separately.

The government has determined that some elements of the 0-5 service are mandated namely:

• Antenatal health promoting review
• New baby review
• 6 - 8 week health visitor assessment
• 1 year assessment
• 2 to 2.5 year review (*this is intended to be a joint review carried out by the health visiting service and the early years provider where a child is accessing early years provision*)

There are no national mandated elements for the 5-19 service. However, the key changes being proposed for the new school nursing service in York are:

• Refocusing the school nursing service to provide a service to all children and young people aged 5 to 19 who are resident in York whether they are in school or not and including vulnerable individuals and groups
• A clearer focus on delivering public health outcomes
• A stronger emphasis on interventions for young people with low level emotional health and wellbeing needs and building resilience
• A requirement to provide an all year round service that meets the needs of children and young people

• A requirement to have more qualified school nurses and an appropriate skill mix

**OUR VISION** for the new integrated Healthy Child Service is to give every child in York the best start in life and to help and support our young people to make healthier life choices.

Effective delivery of the new service should identify families in need of additional support and those children and young people who at risk of poor health and wellbeing outcomes and lead to improved outcomes in the following areas:

• Strong parent-child attachment and positive parenting, resulting in better social and emotional wellbeing among children and young people and improved resilience

• Care that helps to keep children healthy and safe

• Healthy eating and increased physical activity, contributing to a reduction in childhood obesity

• Prevention of some serious and communicable diseases through promoting uptake of immunisation programmes

• Increased rates and duration of breastfeeding

• Improved readiness for school and improved learning

• Early identification of – and action to address – developmental delay, abnormalities and ill-health and concerns about safety

• Identification of factors that influence health and wellbeing in families e.g. maternal depression, domestic abuse, child poverty

• Better short and long-term outcomes for children and young people who at risk of social exclusion

This document seeks to set out the proposed model for the new integrated service for discussion and is a key part of a public consultation which is to be launched on the 6th May 2015.

The consultation will be targeted at a wide range of stakeholders through council and partnership networks and will include young
people and parents. Different approaches will be used including local media, web-based surveys, newsletters, presentations and reports to a range of boards and committees. Healthwatch is supporting the consultation in seeking the views of children, young people and families. Further information will be published on the CYC and YorOK websites and circulated to stakeholders with details of how they can take part in the consultation.

CYC website link [www.york.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.york.gov.uk/consultations)

YorOK website link [www.yor-ok.org.uk](http://www.yor-ok.org.uk)

2. Attachments

There are two attachments:

**Annex 1 - Vision and Strategy: An Approach for Health Visiting and School Nursing.**

The Department of Health (DH) has developed this vision and strategy for health visiting and school nursing that sets out their contribution to improving health and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people and families. The strategy describes a health visitor and school nurse offer to people based on four tiers of intervention:

1. **Your Community** has a range of health services (including GP and community services) for children, young people and their families. Health visitors and school nurses develop and provide these and make sure you know about them.

2. **Universal Services** from your health visitor and school nursing teams provide the Healthy Child Programme to ensure a healthy start for every child e.g. health promoting advice, advice on parenting, immunisations and health checks. They support children and parents to ensure access to a range of community services.

3. **Universal Plus** delivers a swift response from your health visitor/school nurse when you need specific expert help e.g. with postnatal depression, sleepless baby and weaning, sexual health, mental health concerns, long-term health issues and additional health needs.

4. **Universal Partnership Plus** delivers ongoing support from your health visiting and school nurse team from a range of local services working together to deal with more complex issues over a period of
time e.g. with voluntary and community organisations and the local authority.

The strategy is intended to provide a quality framework for the development of health visiting and school nursing practice within the context of the broader national nursing strategy and it is intended to use this as the overarching framework for the new Healthy Child Service.

Annex 2 – Life Course Healthy Child Programme 0-19

This is a draft of the proposed delivery model for the new integrated York Healthy Child Service that will be used to inform the consultation on the new service.

3. Have your say

You are invited to consider the following questions:

Question 1.

Do you agree with the proposed vision for the new integrated Healthy Child Service - “To give every child in York the best start in life and to help and support our young people to make healthier life choices.”

Do you think there is anything missing from this statement?

How else might it be worded?

Question 2.

The DH has mandated the following elements of the 0-5 Healthy Child Programme:
- Antenatal health promoting review
- New baby review
- 6 - 8week health visitor assessment
- 1 year assessment
- 2 to 2.5 year review (this is intended to be a joint review carried out by the health visiting service and the early years provider where a child is accessing early years provision)

Are there any other elements you would like to see included in the 0-5 service locally?

Do you support the joint HV / Early Years 2 to 2.5 year review?
Do you envisage any challenges to implementing this in York?

**Question 3.**

Do you support the key changes proposed to the school nursing service?

**Question 4.**

Are there any other changes you would like to see in the school nursing service?

**Question 5.**

Are you comfortable with using the DH vision and strategy for health visiting and school nursing described in Annex 1 as the overarching framework for the new 0-19 Healthy Child Service in York?

**Question 6.**

Does the proposed service delivery model for a Life Course Healthy Child Programme 0-19 set out in Annex 2 make sense?

Is there anything you feel is missing?

**Question 7.**

Do you have any final comments that will help to inform the commissioning of the new service?

Please send your comments to healthy.childservice@york.gov.uk by 10 June 2015