

To: City Executive Board
Date: 13 February 2018
Report of: Head of Community Services
Title of Report: Pre-consultation draft of the Children & Young Persons Strategy (2018-2023)

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To ask the City's Executive Board to agree to the commencement of the consultation process for the draft Children & Young People's Strategy 2018-2023
Key decision:	Yes
Executive Board Member:	Councillor Marie Tidball
Corporate Priority:	Strong, Active Communities
Policy Framework:	Oxford City Council's Corporate Plan
Recommendation: That the City Executive Board resolves to:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Agree the pre consultation version of the Children & Young People's Strategy; and 2) Commence the consultation process on the draft Children & Young People's Strategy. 	

Appendices	
Appendix 1	The draft Children & Young People's Strategy
Appendix 2	Risk Register
Appendix 3	Equality Impact Assessment

Introduction and background

1. Our vision is that every child and young person can fulfil their potential and become happy, safe, successful, healthy and active citizens¹.
2. The draft strategy shows how we will use our resources and work with our partners to achieve this.
3. We have developed three principles that underpin our vision for the Children and Young People's Strategy which will guide our service development and delivery, these are:
 - a) Preventative-led provision;
 - b) Equality, inclusion and engagement of young people;
 - c) Facilitating effective partnership working.
4. To deliver these principles we will pilot a new way of working that builds on the strong partnerships that we have developed. We will implement a framework called Ready by 21 that enables the structured collaboration of all the groups that support a young person's journey into adulthood such as schools, community groups, health providers, local authorities, families and young people themselves.
5. Using the Ready by 21 Framework we will share and scrutinise data about young people and work with our partners to gain a collective insight into the root causes of the societal problems facing young people and agree how we can work better together to have the greatest long-term impact.
6. We will trial this approach alongside a zoning methodology where we will focus on certain areas of the city – this will help our learning and enable local differences to be understood.
7. Once finalised the strategy will influence the Council's policy framework to ensure all our services reflect the needs of young people.

Developing the draft strategy

8. The development of the draft strategy has been highly participative and has used up to date local and national data.
9. We have used the information from our annual review of the needs of the city's young people, which includes the views of young people which we obtain through our Youth Voice Programme.
10. Using this data, we drafted a short scoping document that showed the areas that the strategy would cover. This was then fleshed out in a series of meetings with senior council officers and councillors.
11. The scoping document was then sent to some of the city's secondary head teachers for their feedback; it was also discussed in a partnership meeting with the County Council and with a focus group of young people.

¹ This aligns with the strategic aims of the County Council's Children and Young People's Plan (2018; forthcoming)

12. The principles we developed were then tested and supported by a range of partners in the 2017 Working Together Event which has now enabled the strategy to be drafted ready for consultation.

The consultation process

13. We will launch the consultation in the local media, put the strategy on our website site and promote the consultation through social media.

14. We will hold focus groups with young people and ask them how we can best obtain the views of other young people who may be less likely to attend a focus group.

15. The draft will also be sent to all the city's secondary schools and to all other key partners.

16. The consultation process will run until the end of April 2018. We will then update the strategy and bring it back to the CEB for confirmation.

Level of Risk

17. The risk register is shown in appendix two.

Environmental

18. There are minimal environmental impacts.

Equalities Impact

19. The initial Equalities Impact Assessment is shown in appendix three.

Financial Implications

20. The strategy action plan shows the financial position for the strategy.

Legal Implications

21. There are minimal legal implications.

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Background Papers: none	

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