

To: Full Council
Date: 25 November 2024
Report of: Head of Corporate Strategy
Title of Report: 2024 Partnership report on the Oxfordshire Children’s Trust Board, and the Council’s work for Children and Young People living in the city.

Summary and recommendations	
Purpose of report:	To provide Members with an update on the Arrangements and Board for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oxfordshire Children’s Trust And; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council’s work for Children and Young People in the city
Key decision:	No
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Chewe Munkonge, Cabinet Member for a Healthy Oxford
Corporate Priority:	Thriving Communities
Policy Framework:	The Council Strategy 2024 to 2028

Recommendation(s): That Council resolves to:
1 To note the report and the documents appended to it

Appendices	
Appendix One	2024 update report on the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Arrangements and Board for the Oxfordshire Children’s Trust; and b. The Council’s work for Children and Young People in the city
Appendix Two	Health and Wellbeing Board – 26 September 2024: Update of the Children’s Trust Arrangements and Board
Appendix Three	Oxfordshire Children’s Trust Arrangements and Board – Terms of Reference (2024 to 2026)
Appendix Four	Oxfordshire’s Children and Young People’s Strategic Plan (2024 to 2028)

Appendix Five	The Oxfordshire SEND transformation programme roadmap (May 2024)
Appendix Six	Oxford Community Impact Funded Organisations, 2023 to 2024
Appendix Seven	Oxford Strategic Partnership – The University of Oxford’s Local Engagement work

Purpose

1. The update paper attached to this report (Appendix One) and six supporting appendices provide an annual update on the arrangements and activities of the Oxfordshire Children’s Trust Board and outlines the Council’s initiatives for children and young people in Oxford.

The Oxfordshire Children’s Trust Board (CTB)

2. The Oxfordshire Children’s Trust Board (CTB) is a strategic partnership focused on improving health and wellbeing outcomes for children and young people in Oxfordshire.
3. Following the inspection of SEND services in Oxfordshire by OFSTED and the Care Quality Commission in July 2023 a decision was taken by Oxfordshire County Council to overhaul the Children’s Trust Board. The update paper (Appendix One) details the re-formed CTB arrangements, strategic priorities, and the Council’s contributions to these efforts.
4. Oxfordshire County Council has produced a new Children and Young People’s Plan 2024-28 (Appendix Four), which places a welcome increased focus on supporting the learning and educational attainment of children from disadvantaged households.

Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) inspection 2023

5. The update paper (Appendix One) summarises progress following the OFSTED SEND inspection, which found significant failings.
6. In response, local authorities and health services have created an improvement plan and a roadmap to enhance SEND services, focusing on better Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and timely support for children.
7. The plan includes gathering feedback, improving communication, and ensuring high-quality services, with progress monitored regularly.

The Council’s work for Children and Young People in the city

8. The update paper (Appendix One) describes various initiatives by the Council and its partners to support children and young people in the city. Key efforts include:
 - a. Educational Attainment – Oxfordshire Inclusive Economy Partnership
 - b. Youth Investment Funding – Construction of a state-of-the-art youth hub based in Leys Pools Leisure Centre in Blackbird Leys
 - c. Targeted Youth Support Scheme services

- d. Youth Ambition work with Young People aged 11-19 years
- e. School engagement
- f. Locality Working
- g. Oxford's work in the Community Impact Zone
- h. YouMove – Helping Families Stay Active Together
- i. Leisure Offers
- j. Parks and accessible play
- k. Oxford Cultural Education Partnership
- l. Museum of Oxford
- m. Oxford Community Impact Fund
- n. The Council's safeguarding responsibilities
- o. Community centres
- p. Growing partnership working
- q. The Oxfordshire Strategic Schools Partnership
- r. Youth Employment, Education and Training
- s. Engaging migrant families
- t. Oxford Strategic Partnership – The University of Oxford's Local Engagement work.

Financial implications

- 9. There are no financial implications for Oxford City Council arising from this report.

Legal issues

- 10. There are no legal implications for the Council arising directly from this report.

Level of risk

- 11. There are no risk implications for the Council arising from this report.

Equalities impact

- 12. Under its public sector equality duty the council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
 - a. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- 13. The Council discharges its public sector equality duty in relation to its safeguarding responsibilities through policies and key strategies related to Children and Young People - such as the Thriving Communities Strategy 2023 to 2027, the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Housing, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy.

14. Furthermore, the work by both the CTB and the Council is a positive contribution to the protected characteristic of children and young people.

15. The Council will continue to monitor equalities impact as programmes grow and develop.

Carbon and Environmental Considerations

16. There are no carbon and environmental implications for the Council arising from this report.

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Background Papers: None