

**PERTH AND KINROSS COUNCIL****Lifelong Learning Committee - 29 May 2013****EVIDENCE2SUCCESS PROGRESS REPORT****Executive Director (Education and Children's Services)****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

At the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 16 August 2012 a proposal was approved to take forward a collaborative project, Evidence2Success, which will support the commitment of Perth and Kinross Council and its Community Planning Partners to deliver better outcomes for children and young people.

This report provides a summary of the progress achieved in the development and delivery of Evidence2Success. The report also outlines proposals for incorporating this information in the development of an approach to inform future service planning that will deliver significant benefits to the wellbeing of children.

**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Evidence2Success project was approved by Perth and Kinross Council's Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 16 August 2013. The project is being delivered by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) in collaboration with the Social Research Unit (SRU).
- 1.2 Through development and implementation of Evidence2Success the CPP will significantly improve outcomes for all children and young people in Perth and Kinross. This will support delivery of the vision of the CPP Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership: *"To enable the children and young people of Perth & Kinross to be the best they can be."*
- 1.3 This will be delivered by improving the planning and delivery of services across CPP organisations to enhance the safe and healthy development of all children and young people accessing universal services across Perth and Kinross, whilst also further developing the effectiveness of targeted services for those children who need this.
- 1.4 The project is providing an understanding of how well children in Perth and Kinross are progressing in respect of wellbeing characteristics in relation to five critical areas: behaviour, education, well-being, positive relationships, and physical health. This information will contribute to understanding how best to target future activity, including the use of evidence-based programmes and practices, to enhance service provision that can prevent or reduce the development of issues that have a negative impact on a child.
- 1.5 The Evidence2Success model has been developed by the SRU in collaborating with two other research organisations, the Annie E. Casey

Foundation and the Social Development Research Group, based on their collective experience of existing tried and tested models. The SRU is an independent charity founded at King's College Cambridge in 1963. Over the years the SRU has built up a positive reputation and has been a key contributor to research to improve outcomes for children, including the recent report on early intervention and preventative spend by Graham Allen MP ([Early Intervention: The Next Steps, An Independent Report to Her Majesty's Government](#), HM Government, 2011). Among other projects the SRU is currently supporting is Renfrewshire's Children's Services Partnership (RCSP) to develop a strategy to improve the well-being of all children in the area; the Big Lottery Fund's 'Realising Ambition' programme, a UK-wide initiative that will invest £25m in outstanding projects; and special schools in Birmingham to find a reliable way to discover levels of well-being among children with special educational needs.

- 1.6 Development and implementation of Evidence2Success in Perth and Kinross is consistent with a range of research relating to best practice in improving outcomes for children and young people. This includes findings by Sir Harry Burns, Chief Medical Officer for Scotland, on the importance of children experiencing positive wellbeing in their early years and the necessity of early intervention where this is not experienced.
- 1.7 Through development and delivery of Evidence2Success, the Council and its CPP partners, are delivering on a range of national policies and legislation that aim to improve outcomes for children and young people. For instance, by listening to the views of children, young people and families gathered through the Evidence2Success Wellbeing Surveys and putting in place intervention that can address identified needs earlier demonstrates delivery of key elements of the GIRFEC (Getting It Right For Every Child) approach. This national approach has a strong emphasis on working across organisational boundaries to put children, young people and their families at the heart of decision making and reducing the need for crisis intervention by increasing prevention and early intervention approaches. It will also provide service planning information to strengthen the ongoing delivery of the 'Early Years Framework' (2008) in Perth and Kinross which aims to improve the life chances of Scotland's children and tackle inequalities
- 1.8 The development of Evidence2Success demonstrates the commitment of the Council and its CPP partners to taking forward the national prevention agenda and delivery of the Statement of Ambition for Community Planning. It also further consolidates collaborative working across local public services.
- 1.9 Although the Children and Young People Bill was introduced to Parliament after Evidence2Success was initiated, it is clear that the information, planning and focus that the project is providing relate directly to the ethos of this legislation. The Scottish Government have clearly articulated they intend this Bill to put children and young people at the heart of planning for services and if agreed, will place duties on public bodies to coordinate the planning, design and delivery of services for children and young people with a focus on

improving wellbeing outcomes, such as those focused on in Evidence2Success.

1.10 Evidence2Success involves a structured approach including:

- gathering and analysing comprehensive data that provides increased understanding of the needs of children and young people in Perth and Kinross;
- identifying and implementing evidenced based interventions that have been proven to improve children's outcomes within the whole and targeted population;
- mapping how existing public service funds are spent on children and developing options for the targeting of increased future investment in early intervention and prevention activity; and
- facilitating the development of effective community engagement structures that effectively support children, young people and their families within their community.

## **2. PROGRESS TO DATE**

2.1 The project is structured in five phases:

2.2 Phase 1 and 2 have been completed. This involved engaging with the CPP through the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership to establish collective support to improving outcomes for children and young people through development and implementation of the project. It also included the initial planning of the project and building capacity across the CPP for engagement in the project as it developed.

2.3 Also during Phases 1 and 2 it was agreed to test the development of a community participation approach to improving outcomes for children and young people. It was agreed that this test would be focused on the Perth City North ward.

2.4 Phase 3 has also been completed. This phase is focused on the following:

- Supporting development of a common understanding of how children and young people are progressing by producing a profile of child well-being, and identifying the root causes that promote or impede health and development, alongside consideration of existing intelligence and professional knowledge;
- Identify priorities that will support delivery of the CPP shared vision that all children will grow up healthy and successful, and sharing this with the community;
- Identifying opportunities for public services to work closely with communities to improve outcomes for children and young people, informed by the needs identified by children and families and an understanding of policy and funding expectations.

- 2.5 To develop a profile of how children and young people are progressing two surveys were developed to provide data that identifies how well children are progressing in relation to ten key developmental outcomes. These developmental outcomes are:
- Healthy gestation and birth
  - Early behavioural development
  - Engagement with school & learning
  - Substance misuse
  - Risky sexual behaviour
  - School readiness
  - Emotional regulation
  - Mental health
  - Antisocial behavior
  - Physical health
- 2.6 The first of these surveys was administered through a household community survey broadly representative of the local area. It captured the views of parents with children between the ages of 0 and 8 years inclusively and of parents expecting a baby. This resulted in over 800 interviews being completed across Perth and Kinross.
- 2.7 The second survey was administered online through all Perth and Kinross Council Primary and Secondary schools. It captured the views of children aged from 9 to 15 years inclusively. This resulted in 8611 children and young people submitting survey responses; 89.1% of the total number of children and young people eligible to participate in the survey.
- 2.8 Expenditure on services for children and young people living in Perth and Kinross has been mapped across key services of Perth & Kinross Council, NHS Tayside and Police Scotland. The work undertaken so far has identified that expenditure is in the region of £170/180 million, however further analysis is required to consolidate and refine the data gathered.
- 2.9 This expenditure supports a wide range of service provision from universal services such as maternity services and education through to targeted, specialist services such as residential schools or support for children with Additional Support Needs.
- 2.10 The activity within this phase included two Strategy Days held on 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April. Invitations to attend these days were extended to representatives of strategic partners involved in the delivery of children's services, including some elected members from the Lifelong Learning Committee. In addition a briefing session was provided at the end of each day to which all elected members and other key stakeholders with an interest in the project were invited.
- 2.11 These Strategy Days provided participants with the opportunity to have sight of the high level analysis of the information gathered, including the surveys and financial mapping to date. However, further analysis is required to explore this analysis more fully. Additional strategy days have been timetabled to allow this to take place.
- 2.12 The Strategy Days also provided an opportunity to consider some of the key principles that will inform future strategic planning to deliver improvements for

children and young people in relation to the priority developmental outcome areas. This includes a commitment to deliver, with a high level of fidelity, a range of evidence based programmes that have a proven track record of being effective. It also includes a focus on delivery of improvement for the whole population as well as taking a targeted approach.

- 2.13 Phase 4 of the project has recently begun. Activity in this phase is outlined in detail at section 3 of this report.
- 2.14 Phase 5 relates to implementation of agreed actions. There is no activity in this area at the present time.

### **3. PROPOSALS - NEXT STEPS**

- 3.1 The next step of the project is to develop Phase 4. This includes further consideration and analysis of information to identify priorities to inform future strategic and service planning that will support delivery of the CPP shared vision for children and young people. In particular, the output of this will inform the review of the Integrated Children's Services Plan and development of future priorities for children and young people. This will include consideration of increasing the use of evidence based programmes and practices and the investment in preventative and early intervention services for children and young people.
- 3.2 Key stakeholders will be engaged in consultation on the review of the Integrated Children's Services Plan. Arrangements to consult with representative groups of children, young people, parents and the community will also be established.
- 3.3 Given the importance of delivery of and financial commitment to improved outcomes for children and young people it is necessary to ensure robust governance and strategic planning arrangements are in place. Therefore an Executive Sub-group of the CPP/Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, along with a planning and implementation group and a finance group, will be formed to ensure development, resourcing and delivery of the remaining phases of Evidence2Success and the review of Integrated Children's Services Plan.
- 3.4 In addition a Perth City North Community Partnership is being formed to support the piloting of additional work in the Letham, Hillyland, Tulloch and Fairfield areas of the City. This partnership group, which will include membership of Ward Councillors, will have a specific focus on testing approaches to increasing community engagement in decision making that will improve outcomes for children and young people living in these areas.

### **4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 Significant progress has been made in the development and delivery of the Evidence2Success project. This has included gathering and analysing data provided by children, young people and parents on their needs, analysis of

current service delivery models and consideration of information collated to date at two strategic planning days. Work is still ongoing to further analyse the the rich body of information now available and to develop this to inform the Integrated Children's Services Plan to deliver improvement in outcomes for all children, young people and their families in Perth and Kinross.

4.2 It is recommended that the Lifelong Learning Committee:

- i) Notes the progress to date in development and delivery of the Evidence2Success project; and
- ii) Endorses the next steps as outlined in the report.

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#### Approved

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<b>Date: 14 May 2012</b>		

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## 1. IMPLICATIONS, ASSESSMENTS, CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

<b>Strategic Implications</b>	<b>Yes / None</b>
Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement	<b>Yes</b>
Corporate Plan	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Resource Implications</b>	
Financial	<b>No</b>
Workforce	<b>No</b>
Asset Management (land, property, IST)	<b>No</b>
<b>Assessments</b>	
Equality Impact Assessment	<b>Yes</b>
Strategic Environmental Assessment	<b>No</b>
Sustainability (community, economic, environmental)	<b>No</b>
Legal and Governance	<b>Yes</b>
Risk	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Consultation</b>	
Internal	<b>Yes</b>
External	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Communication</b>	
Communications Plan	<b>Yes</b>

### 1. Strategic Implications

#### Community Plan / Single Outcome Agreement

- 1.1 The Evidence2Success project will assist in the delivery of both the Perth and Kinross Community Plan and the Single Outcome Agreement in respect of the following local outcomes;
- 6. Our young people will attain, achieve and reach their potential
  - 7. Our children are nurtured and supported and have the best start in life
  - 8. Our communities and people experiencing inequalities will have improved quality of life, life chances and health
  - 9. Our communities will be safer
  - 11. Our communities will be vibrant and active

#### Corporate Plan

- 1.2 The Council's Corporate Plan 2013-2018 lays out five strategic objectives which provide clear strategic direction, inform decisions at a corporate and service level and shape resources allocation. The relevant strategic objectives in respect of this report are as follows:-
- Giving every child the best start in life;
  - Developing educated, responsible and informed citizens;
  - Promoting a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable economy;
  - Supporting people to lead independent, healthy and active lives; and
  - Creating a safe and sustainable place for future generations.

## **2. Resource Implications**

- 2.1 There are no additional resource implications contained in this report outwith the agreed budget for the Evidence2Success project. The resourcing of activities to address the priorities that will be developed following further analysis of the Evidence2Success data and the review of the ICSP, including possible introduction of a range of the evidence-based programmes, has still to be explored. This will be taken forward by a group involving financial management representatives of the key CPP organisations. Detail of the conclusions of this group will be included in options appraisals, the development of service budgets and reports as appropriate in the future.

## **3. Assessments**

### Equality Impact Assessment

- 3.1 Under the Equality Act 2010, the Council is required to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between equality groups. Carrying out Equality Impact Assessments for plans and policies allows the Council to demonstrate that it is meeting these duties.
- 3.2 The Evidence2Success project has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment process (EqIA), and it has been concluded that the five year strategy that will shape the agenda for children's services for the next five years should be subject to an EqIA to inform its development.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 3.3 The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 places a duty on the Council to identify and assess the environmental consequences of its proposals.

The proposals have been considered under the Act and pre-screening has identified that the PPS will have no or minimal environmental effects.

### Legal and Governance

- 3.5 Perth and Kinross Legal Services have been consulted on several areas relating to the delivery of the project to date. In particular the Service has been consulted and provided assurance on the legality of the contract with the Social Research Unit and on aspects of the survey processes, such as data protection requirements.
- 3.6 The Head of Democratic Services and Head of Legal Services were consulted on the content of this report.

### Risk

3.7 Delivery of Evidence2Success will support effective controls of the following Corporate Risks:

- Protect vulnerable children and families
- Plan for demographic change (including planning for housing growth)
- Effectively manage changing financial circumstances

#### **4. Consultation**

##### Internal

4.1 The development of the proposals in this report has been informed by discussion undertaken at the Evidence2Success Strategy Days attended by the Convener, Vice-Convener and Conservative spokesperson on the Lifelong Learning Committee.

##### External

4.2 Partners from NHS Tayside and Police Scotland significantly contributed to the discussions in the Evidence2Success Strategy Days. Children, young people and parents provided their views through the Well-being surveys. Further opportunities to consult with parents on what the survey is telling us and options to improve outcomes for children and young people are scheduled from September 2013.

#### **5. Communication**

5.1 A range of communication approaches are required to take forward the Evidence2Success project. This will involve briefings and presentations for staff groups and decision makers involved in planning and/or delivering services for children and young people; children, young people and parents will be provided with information through newsletters and communication through schools; engagement with Parent Councils; and an evening conference event for parents and community members as part of the Better Outcomes conference for 2013.

#### **2. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following report has been relied on in preparing this report:

Early Years, Early Intervention - The Best Start in Life for Children in Perth and Kinross (Report No. 12/341)

#### **3. APPENDICES**

There are no appendices to the report.

