

# Tendring Children & Young People Strategy 2017 - 2020

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# Tendring Children & Young People Strategy 2017 – 2020

## Vision

***“actively listening and engaging children and young people. Through our support and influence, helping them to have the tools and opportunities to make positive life choices and to reach their full potential.”***

## Forward

*“Welcome to the Tendring Children and Young People Strategy 2017 – 2020.*

*We want to help and support all our children and young people to have the tools and opportunities to make positive life choices and to reach their full potential.*

*This Children and Young People (C&YP) Strategy sets out our ambitions in working together to provide support to the children, young people and families in our district to enable them to have a positive future. Fundamental to this, is to continue our commitment to working in partnership with statutory, voluntary and independent sectors to ensure the best possible opportunities, experiences and outcomes for all. We must also ensure that children and young people are involved, listened to and given a voice in respect of shaping services and ensuring these are built around their needs.*

*The Tendring C&YP Strategy sets the direction and priorities for children, young people and their families for the next three years. The Partnership Delivery Plan 2017-2018 supports the strategy and sets out our actions and work streams over the next year. To achieve this, our role is to influence and bring partners together, and in doing so, contribute to improving outcomes for our children, as well as recognising the need to support the most vulnerable and excluded.*

*In developing this Strategy and delivery plan, consideration has been given to local & county data as well as other relevant local research. We have also actively engaged with professionals and partners including the Essex Youth Service, Community Safety Partnership, Officers from North East Essex Children’s Partnership Board and Essex County Council, Tendring Public Health and Housing teams as well as considering feedback from young people living in the district.*

*Thank you for your continued commitment and support for improving the outcomes for children, young people and their families. We look forward to continuing to work with partners in delivering the Strategy and Plan and most importantly our children experiencing a positive future.”*

Cllr Lynda McWilliams, Portfolio Holder for Education, Health & Wellbeing & Community Safety

## 1.0) Introduction

Tendring District Council's (TDC) Children and Young People's Strategy 2017 – 2020, sets out our aims in respect of children, young people and their families within the district.

Children and young people are defined as 0-19 year olds inclusive or up to 25 where a young person has a physical or learning disability.

This Strategy builds on the work undertaken through our Children and Young People Strategy agreed in 2011. We have reviewed our strategic priorities to align and be informed by the following:-

- Essex Children and Young People's Strategic Plan 2016
- Feedback from young people and their views on needs/priorities including, the Essex Youth Service - Young People Consultation 2016 and the Essex Healthwatch reports – Essex Yeah!2 - 2015/16, and Sweet!2 - July 2017
- Tendring Health Profile 2017 – Public Health England
- Essex Child Poverty Strategy 2015-2020, including the Tendring update November 2016
- Forthcoming Tendring Health and Wellbeing Strategy and **liveWell** Tendring – consultation with Public Health Officer
- North East Essex Children's Partnership & Tendring Youth Strategy Group members – research & consultation

In undertaking this review, it will ensure we are in the best possible position to support both national and local developments and priorities.

In Essex the overall responsibility and accountability for meeting the needs of children and young people in the area rests with Essex County Council as the lead authority. However as a democratically accountable body with wide reaching influence, TDC plays an important role to:

Identify local needs of the community

Agree local priorities

Lead, support and influence partners in respect of these priorities and to ensure that resources are targeted effectively

Fundamental to this Strategy is our commitment to working in partnership, recognising that much more can be delivered through working together with all the agencies concerned from the statutory, voluntary and independent sectors, and of course involving our children, young people and families.

Healthwatch Essex, in the recently published Sweet! 2 report – July 2017, conducted a focused study with a group of young people in Tendring. Key findings in this report emphasised the importance of engaging with young people, and working with a range of services to achieve the best possible outcomes.

## **2.0) Key Facts & Figures**

Tendring district has a population size of 142,600, 26,000 of which are children and young people aged between 0-19. (Data source: A Profile of People Living in Tendring 2017 – Organisational Intelligence, ECC)

Below provides recent data provided by Essex County Council (ECC) on the Tendring district related to the key indicators within the Child Poverty Strategy - update May 2017 (see Appendix A – ECC/Current Data progress by District for further information).

95.7% of children are in good or outstanding schools (most improved in Essex)

19.0% of children are in non-working households (highest number in Essex)

26.2% of children are in low income families (highest number in Essex)

8.0% of households are in fuel poverty (lower than national average which is 10.6%)

67.0% of children have a good level of development

49.0% of children have an expected level of education standard or above at Key Stage 2

48.7% of young people have 5 A\* - C at GCSE (incl maths and English) – lowest in Essex

25.5 (per 1000) teenage pregnancy rate (2<sup>nd</sup> highest rate in Essex, although rates rates dropped by 7% between 2012 - 2015)

0.94% current mental health prevalence (by Clinical Commissioning Group area) – highest prevalence of mental health conditions in Essex

## **3.0) Corporate Priorities**

Tendring Children and Young People Strategy aligns and supports the Tendring Corporate Plan priorities as follows:-

- Our Community Leadership role – it is recognised that effective partnership working will enable us to achieve the best possible outcomes and opportunities for the children and young people of Tendring.
- Promoting healthier lifestyles and wellbeing and supporting improved community health
- Enabling better job prospects
- Facilitate improved qualification and skills attainment

## **4.0) Tendring Children & Young People Priorities**

To achieve our vision we will focus on four priority areas, working in partnership to influence and support the delivery of tangible outcomes for the children and young people of Tendring.

All four priorities are underpinned by a focus on improving outcomes for all, reducing inequalities and narrowing the gap between those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged and their peers.

We want all our children and young people living in the District to have a positive future.

<b>PRIORITIES</b>	
1.	<b>Start Well</b> – to continue to support schools in improving and maintaining attainment levels, promoting school readiness, and a positive experience and opportunities through school to allow each child to achieve their full potential
2.	<b>Stay Safe</b> – children and young people feeling safe in their community
3.	<b>Mental Health &amp; Emotional Wellbeing</b> – enjoying good mental health and wellbeing
4.	<b>Positive Futures</b> - working together with partners to enable families to lift themselves out of poverty, enhance aspirations and provide opportunities for life long wellbeing

#### **4.1) Start Well**

**Tendring District Council is committed to working in partnership in order to raise aspirations in families and improve and maintain educational attainment across the district. Improving the opportunities for children and young people to achieve their true potential is pivotal to addressing many of the wider issues facing our community.**

Tendring District Council has a well established approach to working with partners, including Essex County Council and primary and secondary schools through the Tendring Education Improvement Group (TEIG). Every child deserves the best possible start in life and the support that enables them to fulfil their potential.

**With this and our overall vision in mind, we would like to see:**

1. Every child in Tendring is ready for school;
2. Every child in Tendring is able to attend a school that is good or outstanding;
3. Each child in Tendring has a positive experience during their school years;
4. Children in Tendring have high aspirations and opportunities to achieve their potential.

## **4.2) Safeguarding**

**Tendring District Council is committed to promoting the welfare and protection of our children and young people, and responding appropriately in relation to our safeguarding duties.**

“Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children.” – Keeping children safe in Education (DfE, 2015)

In Essex, Essex County Council (ECC) and the Essex Safeguarding Children Board aim to keep children and young people in the county safe from harm. Tendring District Council has a duty to co-operate with ECC in discharging its duties as a Children’s services authority and to promote the welfare and protection of children and young people. In carrying out these duties Tendring District Council will:-

Maintain a clear line of accountability for safeguarding (Children Act 2004). The Corporate Director for Operational Services has overall responsibility for safeguarding within the Council.

Operate fit for purpose safeguarding policy and procedures

Ensure that staff are adequately trained to the appropriate level in safeguarding using a variety of delivery methods

Effectively report safeguarding concerns in line with Southend, Essex and Thurrock Children and Young People and Adult Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

Information is shared utilising established principles of good practice – safeguarding concerns, incidents or allegations are recorded and reported appropriately, accurately and timely

Ensure that safe recruitment procedures are in place with children and young people

Ensure all Members, employees and volunteers adhere to all appropriate safe working practices when working

Review the Council safeguarding policies and procedures every year

This Strategy is supported by the Southend, Essex and Thurrock Children and Young People and Adult Safeguarding Policies and Procedures. As well as, the Essex Safeguarding Children’s Board (ESCB) guidance, “Effective Support for Children & Families.”

### **4.3) Stay Safe**

**Tendring District Council is committed to our children and young people living in safe communities.**

The Tendring Community Safety Partnership (CSP) identifies and reviews Strategic Priorities for the District on an annual basis. For 2017/2018 these priorities are as follows:-

Tackling Anti Social Behaviour  
Protecting Vulnerable People from Hidden Harms\*  
Reducing Reoffending

\*Current risks for our children and young people are the emerging issues of gangs and youth violence, child sexual exploitation, preventing violent extremism, modern slavery, human trafficking and substance misuse. These are often termed hidden harms.

The CSP aims to increase the understanding and awareness of the hidden harms our communities face.

Reoffending affects families and communities and by reducing it can help increase community cohesion, improve quality of life, and help build safer communities.

Working with multi agency groups, including North East Essex Stay Safe and MACE - Missing & Child Exploitation, these priorities are reviewed each year to reflect changing priorities, new key issues and emerging crime trends within the District.

### **4.4) Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing**

**Tendring District Council is committed to improving both the physical and mental health of our children and young people in the District. Improving physical and mental health can significantly improve the young person's prospects, both in terms of their educational attainment levels and their future.** (Heathwatch Essex, Sweet! 2 report – July 2017).

A recent survey in Tendring in 2016 by the Essex Youth Service evidenced that one of the most important issues for our children and young people was emotional wellbeing, concerns were expressed over self esteem, confidence, having positive relationships with friends and parents and mental health issues.

Tendring District Council are committed to working with our partners to take a proactive and early intervention approach to tackling the health and emotional wellbeing of our children and young people in the District.

### **4.5) Positive Futures**

Tendring District Council is committed to taking a “whole community” approach to reducing child poverty – i.e. working together with partners across a range of services, engaging with



young people and their families, and equipping them with the tools and skills to make positive choices.

Child Poverty is an extremely complex, multifaceted issue with both drivers and consequences including physical and emotional health, housing, debt, education and skills, aspirations and isolation; compounding financial shortcomings often make it difficult for families to move forward.

Each priority within this Strategy and Delivery Plan supports working towards our vision, with the overall aim of providing opportunities for young people to have a positive future.

### **5.0) Delivering in Partnership**

The partnership approach is essential in delivering the wide-reaching outcomes set out in this strategy. Working collaboratively in partnership ensures creative, multi-faceted, longer-lasting solutions. This is crucial to ensure that the needs of children and young people in the district are met in a planned, and sustainable way. This is particularly relevant given increasingly limited resources across public sector services. The key therefore is to work with all partners, in particular utilising the skills rupo of the voluntary and community sector, to develop and facilitate innovative solutions which deliver outcomes in the most cost-effective manner.

In practice this is achieved through:

- Formal Partnerships (including North East Essex Children’s Partnership Board, Stay Safe, Youth Strategy Groups, the Tendring Health and Wellbeing Board and Tendring Education Improvement Group);
- Mutually agreed strategies;
- Operational arrangements for joint working;
- Pooling of resources.

### **5.0) Governance**

Overarching accountability for delivery against the Children and Young People Strategy priorities and Delivery Plan rests with the Portfolio Holder for Education, Health and Wellbeing & Community Safety. The review of delivery against our priorities will be scrutinised by the Community Leadership & Partnerships Committee.

Support for this process will be provided by the Executive Projects Officer, People, Performance and Projects.

### **Appendix A – ECC Data/progress by District – Child Poverty**

### **Appendix B**

Overview of the Strategic vision for the Children & Young People Strategy 2017 – 2020.