

Briefing Note

CITY OF
WOLVERHAMPTON
COUNCIL

Title: HeadStart Sustainability Consultation Report

Date: 30 May 2019

Prepared by: Mai Gibbons

Job Title: HeadStart Contracts Manager

**Intended
Audience:**

Internal ☐

Partner organisation ☐

Public ☒

Confidential ☐

Purpose or recommendation

The purpose of this paper is to:

- provide a summary of the HeadStart Sustainability Consultation report and
- provide the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel with the five Key Sustainability Priorities for HeadStart

Overview

HeadStart Wolverhampton is a five-year Big Lottery funded programme which will end in July 2021. The HeadStart Partnership Board have commissioned an external consultant, Lisa Williams, to undertake a consultation exercise on what key stakeholders and partners would hope to sustain once the programme time expires in 2021.

The full HeadStart Sustainability Consultation report will be made available to partners in due course.

Background and context

£9.5 million from The Big Lottery has enabled Wolverhampton to test and learn from a range of approaches to preventing emotional and mental health problems and building resilience in 10-16 year olds through the HeadStart programme.

Learning from the programme around the impact on outcomes for young people will be informed through the HeadStart evaluations – local and national. Whilst there has been some initial evaluation data produced, the full findings will take some time to emerge and in order to augment this data, and in keeping with the co-productive approach, the HeadStart Partnership was committed to engaging with and hearing from a wide range of stakeholders about the elements of the programme they value and why; the impact it has had; and what they would like to see sustained.

The Big Lottery agreed to fund some additional support for the planning and delivery of a co-produced consultation to explore what of the HeadStart programme might be sustainable and what the challenges might be. Support was commissioned from Lisa

Williams, an independent consultant who has previously worked with the HeadStart Partnerships across the country as part of a support programme in Phase 2, and more recently on sustainability planning.

A range of consultation activity was being undertaken between Nov 18 and Jan 19 including:

- Telephone interviews conducted with key strategic, service and commissioning leads
- Two workshops with residents, professionals and parents from HeadStart areas;
- 10 questionnaires and focus groups with the following;
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 - o Mini Ambassadors - Area A and D
 - o Parent Champions Area B and D
 - o Area A Parents of YP using HeadStart activities from WV10
 - o Area B Parents of YP using HeadStart activities from YMCA
 - o Area B Young People using YMCA
 - o Area C YP, and Parents of YP, using Gazebo
 - o Area D YMCA Young People Focus Group
- Discussion with community providers – WV10, Gazebo and YMCA

Full details of the feedback from the consultation exercises can be read in the full report.

Sustainability Planning Stakeholder Consultation Summary and Recommendations.

A copy of the Sustainability Planning Stakeholder Consultation Summary is attached as appendix one.

The final recommendations made were:

- Engage system leads and stakeholders in a Sustainability Plan which more closely aligns HeadStart activity with broader strategic priorities for the children's system
- Gain a clearer understanding of the impact of HeadStart on the broader system
- Re-frame community provision in relation to higher levels of need and system integration
- Sustain the contribution of the voluntary and community sector within an integrated children's system
- Strengthen and embed participation
- Explore the potential of the HeadStart Brand
- Schools – prepare to sustain momentum
- Package learning from HeadStart to inform broader children's system planning and practice.

The HeadStart Partnership Board requested that 5 Key Priorities were identified for taking forward as the sustainability plan for HeadStart. The 5 Key Priorities agreed are:

- i. Data collection to analyse impact across broader children's system
- ii. Consortium development
- iii. Coproduction and participation
- iv. Sustain and embed schools offer
- v. Workforce development

The table below gives a brief update on progress to date against each of these key Priorities.

Key Priority	Progress to date
Data collection to analyse impact across broader children's system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wolverhampton CYP Emotional Mental Health and Wellbeing Services Partnership Board have received a briefing paper entitled "Emotional and Mental Health problems children and young people in Wolverhampton experience" which is a step towards this priority. Data collection across all partners to be improved and analysed to deliver against this priority.
Consortium Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 new consortiums are being developed in 3 of the HeadStart areas and they are being peer supported by the successful WV10 consortium in Low Hill. 1 of the 3 being developed have signed their consortium agreement
Coproduction and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is an intention to use the HeadStart Coproduction Toolkit across Children's Services starting with the SEND agenda The Corporate Parenting Officer has joined the HeadStart Leadership Team to join up the coproduction and participation work with children and young people.
Sustain and embed the schools offer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HeadStart is talking to education and public health about what elements of the HeadStart schools offer can be offered to the schools post HeadStart.
Workforce Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One of the key strands of the HeadStart programme is workforce development. To develop and implement a workforce development plan, a working group has been established. The scope of the plan, and therefore of the group, will include: schools, health professionals, children's services, and voluntary sector professionals.

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