

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

28 February 2019

Report of the Director of Public Health

EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING SURVEY OF YOUNG PEOPLE

1. Purpose of Report:

To seek permission to re-procure an emotional health and wellbeing survey of young people (year 8 to year 11) across Derbyshire for a period of 3 years with an option to extend for 2 additional 12 month periods commencing from the academic year 2019/2020.

2. Information and analysis:

Background

The current young people's emotional health and wellbeing survey, '*My Life My View*', commissioned by Public Health, commenced in 2016. The survey is provided by The Training Effect, a research organisation specialising in work with young people on risky behaviours and social norms. This online and anonymous survey assesses the emotional health and wellbeing of young people along with associative risk taking behaviours. The survey includes questions related to all aspects of young people's lives, including; their experiences, engagement in risk-taking behaviours, relationships, and how happy young people are.

Information

Children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing is a significant public health priority nationally. Mental health issues for young people can be long lasting and have wide ranging impacts, including impacts on physical health, education, relationships and life chances (*Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer 2012, Our Children Deserve Better: Prevention Pays*).

In order to protect the overall health and wellbeing of young people in Derbyshire we need to understand more about the issues young people are facing locally, and what helps young people feel well and able to cope.

The current survey is already providing increasingly useful intelligence on both the risk factors and protective factors which influence young people's emotional health and wellbeing, and their vulnerability to engaging in risk taking behaviors. This intelligence can support individual schools in Derbyshire to understand issues and needs and to focus on specific areas of concern for their young people.

The survey results support The Council to inform the planning of emotional health and wellbeing and risky behavior services for young people according to identified need, and, to inform the work of the Locality Childrens Partnerships in improving emotional health and wellbeing in their communities. At a local level the survey results will contribute to the whole school approach priority (Strategic Priority 2) as part of the long term Futures in Mind plan.

Current Service

The current survey commenced in the 2015/2016 academic year and has been repeated in subsequent academic years, providing tracking data from year 8 for participating schools. This allows a greater understanding of behaviours and of what interventions may have greater impact. Results of the survey are analysed and annual reports are shared with participating schools and locality partnerships to show key trends and support the identification of areas requiring intervention. In the 2017/2018 academic year, 20 secondary schools in Derbyshire participated, with 3,714 young people completing the survey.

Key impacts of the survey to date:

- Raised the profile of young people's emotional health and wellbeing within Derbyshire schools and across wider strategic partnerships and programmes
- Identified key protective factors of emotional health and wellbeing for young people in Derbyshire
- Informed local priorities and action plans via the Locality Health Partnerships and Locality Childrens Partnerships
- Increased engagement with secondary schools, with 39 schools having taken part in the survey to date, all receiving free PSHE resources

Proposed New Service

The proposed new survey will build on the strengths of the current survey and aims to expand participation and how the survey results are utilised to inform prevention work across the system. Supporting a locally informed evidence based approach to improving young people's emotional health and wellbeing across Derbyshire.

3. Financial Considerations:

The cost of the newly procured service will be met by underspend from the Public Health Ring-Fenced Grant and shall not exceed £0.015m per annum for a term of 3+1+1 years.

4. Legal Considerations:

This procurement and subsequent award will be processed in accordance with the Councils Financial Regulations.

5. Other Considerations:

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered; equality, human resources, environment, health, property and transport have all been considered in preparing this paper.

6. Social Value Considerations:

The provision of this survey will contribute to the achievement of the following outcomes:

- A Healthier Derbyshire: healthier communities with reduced health inequalities - by supporting schools and services to promote and tackle emotional health issues, and by informing prevention and earlier intervention based on identified local need.
- A Derbyshire that cares: thriving children and to understand young people - by supporting schools and services to understand more about the issues young people are facing locally and what helps young people feel well and able to cope.

7. Background Papers:

(The Training Effect) My Life, My View: Derbyshire Youth Well-Being Survey 2018

(Public Health England) Improving young people's health and wellbeing: A framework for public health

8. Key Decision:

No

9. Call-in:

No

10. Officer's Recommendations:

To grant permission to re-procure the emotional health and wellbeing survey of young people in Derbyshire, with a value not exceeding £0.075m for a term of 3+1+1 years.

Dean Wallace
Director of Public Health