

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD



TO:	Blackburn with Darwen Health & Wellbeing Board
FROM:	Linda Clegg, Director of Children's Services & Chair of The Children's Partnership Board
DATE:	11 March 2015

SUBJECT: Disabled Children's Charter for Health & Wellbeing Boards

1. PURPOSE To outline the benefits of signing up to the Disabled Children's Charter for Health and Wellbeing Boards

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

It is recommended that the Health & Wellbeing Board:

- 1) notes the content of the Disabled Children's Charter for Health and Wellbeing Boards
- 2) signs up to the Disabled Children's Charter and associated seven key commitments
- 3) delegates the monitoring of the Charter commitments to the Children's Partnership Board

3. BACKGROUND

The Disabled Children's Charter for Health and Wellbeing Boards has been developed by the charities Every Disabled Child Matters and Tadworth Children's Trust. The Charter supports Health and Wellbeing Boards to meet their responsibilities towards disabled children, young people and their families, including children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and health conditions.

The Charter was launched in April 2013 and 43 Health and Wellbeing Boards across England have signed up so far.

4. RATIONALE

The benefits of signing up to the Charter are:

- Publicly share a vision for improving the quality of life and outcomes for disabled children, young people and their families
- Develop a greater understanding of how to meet the needs of disabled children, young people and their families
- Have greater confidence in targeting integrated commissioning on the needs of disabled children, young people and their families
- Build on local partnerships to deliver improvements to the quality of life and outcomes for disabled children, young people and their families
- Develop a shared focus on measuring outcomes experienced by disabled children, young people and their families

5. KEY ISSUES

The Blackburn with Darwen 0-25 Complex Pathway Group and The Children's Partnership Board are supportive that the Blackburn with Darwen Health and Wellbeing Board formally signs up to the Charter. By signing up, the Board agrees to the seven key commitments, evidence of which must be submitted to Every Disabled Child Matters within a year of sign up.

The commitments within the Charter are:

1. Have **detailed and accurate information** on the disabled children and young people living in our area, and provide public information on how we plan to meet their needs
2. **Engage directly with disabled children and young people** and their participation is embedded in the work of our Health and Wellbeing Board
3. **Engage directly with parent carers** of disabled children and young people and their participation is embedded in the work of our Health and Wellbeing Board
4. Set **clear strategic outcomes** for our partners to meet in relation to disabled children, young people and their families and monitor progress towards achieving them and hold each other to account
5. **Promote early intervention** and support for smooth transitions between children and adult services for disabled children and young people
6. Work with key partners to **strengthen integration** between health, social care and education services, and with services provided by wider partners
7. Provide **cohesive governance** and leadership across the disabled children and young people's agenda by linking effectively with key partners

The progress of the implementation of the Charter and the supporting evidence will be overseen by the 0-25 Complex Needs Pathway Group via The Children's Partnership Board.

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Charter supports the principles of Programme Area 1 of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to give the 'best start to children and young people' and upholds the approach of the Strategy to increase community engagement.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Co-ordination of the sign up to the Charter and associated monitoring of the seven commitments will have no additional financial implications for either the Health & Wellbeing Board, The Children's Partnership Board or the 0-25 Complex Needs Pathway Group and will be met within existing approved budgets.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications.

9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional resource implications to the Health and Wellbeing Board, The Children's Partnership Board or the 0-25 Complex Needs Pathway Group, other than existing officer time to

report on progress.

10. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Sign up to the Charter would improve the Board's understanding of the needs of disabled children, young people and their families, including children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) and health conditions through the direct engagement. This intelligence would be used to influence decision making and commissioning.

11. CONSULTATIONS

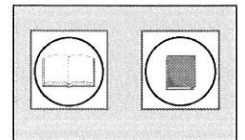
Consultation has been undertaken with the Children's Partnership Board and the multiagency 0-25 Complex Pathway group who are in agreement that Blackburn with Darwen would benefit from signing up to the Charter.

VERSION:	1.0
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CONTACT OFFICER:	Justine Westwell, Planning & Corporate Reporting Manager
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DATE:	30/01/2015
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BACKGROUND PAPER:	Disabled Children's Charter for Health & Wellbeing Boards
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Disabled Children's Charter for Health and Wellbeing Boards

The **Health and Wellbeing Board** is committed to improving the quality of life and outcomes experienced by disabled children, young people and their families, including children and young people with special educational needs and health conditions. We will work together in partnership with disabled children and young people, and their families to improve universal and specialised services, and ensure they receive the support they need, when they need it. Disabled children and young people will be supported to fulfil their potential and achieve their aspirations and the needs of the family will be met so that they can lead ordinary lives.

By [date within 1 year of signing the Charter] our Health and Wellbeing Board will provide evidence that:

1. We have **detailed and accurate information** on the disabled children and young people living in our area, and provide public information on how we plan to meet their needs
2. We **engage directly with disabled children and young people** and their participation is embedded in the work of our Health and Wellbeing Board
3. We **engage directly with parent carers** of disabled children and young people and their participation is embedded in the work of our Health and Wellbeing Board
4. We set **clear strategic outcomes** for our partners to meet in relation to disabled children, young people and their families, monitor progress towards achieving them and hold each other to account
5. We **promote early intervention** and support for smooth transitions between children and adult services for disabled children and young people
6. We work with key partners to **strengthen integration** between health, social care and education services, and with services provided by wider partners
7. We provide **cohesive governance** and leadership across the disabled children and young people's agenda by linking effectively with key partners

Signed by Date

Position: Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board.

For guidance on meeting these commitments, please read the accompanying document: [Why sign the Charter?](#)

**every disabled
child matters**

Every Disabled Child Matters (EDCM) is the campaign to get rights and justice for every disabled child. It has been set up by four leading organisations working with disabled children and their families – Contact a Family, the Council for Disabled Children, Mencap and the Special Educational Consortium. EDCM is hosted by the National Children's Bureau, Charity registration number: 258825.

The Children's Trust, Tadworth is a national charity providing specialist services to disabled children and young people across the UK. These services include rehabilitation and support for children with acquired brain injury, expert nursing care for children with complex health needs, and residential education for pupils with profound and multiple learning difficulties at The School for Profound Education. Charity registration number: 288018. Find out more about the work of The Children's Trust, Tadworth at www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk


**The Children's Trust
Tadworth**
For children with multiple disabilities