

Report to:	STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD
Date:	25 March 2020
Executive Member:	Councillor Fairfoull – Deputy Executive Leader
Reporting Officer:	Tim Bowman, Assistant Director, Education
Subject:	CO-PRODUCTION PLEDGE
Report Summary:	In order to ensure effective commissioning of services for children and young people, Tameside has developed a co-production framework. The framework enables commissioners and providers to ensure we are listening to the voice of our children and families throughout the commissioning cycle.
Recommendations:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve Tameside's LISTENing co-production framework for use in the commissioning of services for children & young people. 2. To note that the Director of Childrens Services will be responsible for ensuring that an annual review is carried out of the LISTENing framework.
Corporate Plan:	The report closely aligns with and delivers the priorities contained within Starting Well and Living Well aspects of the Corporate Plan.
Policy Implications:	The co-production framework aligns with the aspirations of Tameside Council to be a co-operative Council, including the stamp 'nothing about me, without me'.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the statutory Section 151 Officer & Chief Finance Officer)	<p>There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.</p> <p>Any commissioning of services would be subject to the existing Council Procurement Standing Orders. It is also essential value for money is demonstrated.</p>
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	This framework sets out an inclusive approach to service design and delivery and provides an enhanced approach, however it is in addition and doesn't replace any statutory consultation, which may be required in relation to the provision of services.
Risk Management:	There is a risk to ensuring effective commissioning of services and positive outcomes for children & young people if Tameside do not adopt the LISTENing framework.
Access to Information:	Background to the development of the framework can be obtained from Louise Rule, Head of Commissioning.
Background Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Louise Rule, Interim Head of Childrens Commissioning
	 Telephone: 0161 342 2371
	 e-mail: louise.rule@tameside.gov.uk

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The way Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission creates, develops and improves services is changing and is moving towards a model of co-operation with local residents. This includes the services commissioned for children and young people, either on an individual or population level.
- 1.2 As part of Tameside's Co-operative Council ethos one of the co-operative principles the Strategic Commission has adopted, is nothing about me, without me, this principle aligns within the LISTENing framework and supports the importance of co-production when developing services.
- 1.3 Co-production is a way of working whereby decision makers, people who use services, family carers and service providers, work together to create a decision or service which works for all. The approach is value driven and built on the principle that those who use a service are best placed to design it.
- 1.4 There is also a noteworthy difference between co-production and participation. Participation means being consulted while co-production means being equal and co-creators.
- 1.5 The LISTENing document is a framework for commissioning and should not restrict nor hinder any necessary statutory consultations, for example HR consultations linked to service redesign, that may be required. It is hoped that any informal consultation would align to the principles of the LISTENing framework where appropriate.
- 1.6 Co-production moves to a values based approach to service commissioning, delivery and evaluation. It improves effectiveness of service delivery; increases collaboration and partnerships across agencies, sectors and communities; increases citizen engagement and revitalises communities and empowers individuals.
- 1.7 The principles of equality, diversity, accessibility and reciprocity are critical values in the implementation of co-production and align with the co-operative council values.

2. DEVELOPMENT OF A CO-PRODUCTION FRAMEWORK

- 2.1 In order to ensure Tameside is able to take an effective and values based approach to commissioning going forward, a co-production framework has been developed, titled 'LISTENing in Tameside'. The framework has been led and developed by the Children in Care Council and Youth Council with support from Children's Services Commissioning and Population Health.
- 2.2 The framework has been developed to ensure the Strategic Commission considers what is important to children, young people and families when co-commissioning and co-designing services.
- 2.3 The framework complements the Tameside Voice of the Child Strategy.
- 2.4 A copy of LISTENing in Tameside is attached at **Appendix 1**. The framework tells commissioners and providers what children and young people in Tameside asked when services are being developed. It also outlines what we will and won't do when going through the commissioning cycle.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

- 3.1 The co-production framework will ensure commissioners and providers engage and involve children and young people with changes to services and policies from the very start; and therefore require implementation.
- 3.2 The implementation of the LISTENing framework will include an agreed set of considerations, with children and young people, that will be used, when commissioners and providers think about commissioning intentions and activity. For example, children and young people asked to prioritise the environment and consider the sustainability of the work we do.
- 3.3 Moreover the implementation of the framework will require the establishment of a Co-production Advisory Group. This will be a forum where professionals and children and young people can work together on specific projects when developing services for children and young people. It will also provide children and young people with opportunities to be involved in evaluating bids, and to comment on the performance and the quality of local services.
- 3.4 Through this there will also be opportunities for children and young people to be involved, in local events, groups, workshops, feedback, surveys and volunteering.

4. IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

- 4.1 It is proposed that the LISTENing framework is adopted for use across the commissioning of services for children and young people initially and consideration will be given to how this could be adopted across other areas of Strategic Commissioning.
- 4.2 This would involve further development in the way children, young people and their families can engage and become actively involved in the framework moving forward.
- 4.3 In order to ensure effective adoption and implementation of the LISTENing framework it is proposed that the Director of Children's Services will establish a process for carrying out an annual review of the implementation of the framework.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The adoption of a co-production framework for children and young people in Tameside will ensure that recognition and mutual respect is fostered in commissioning services and that a transformation culture in commissioning can be developed. New relationships between staff and people who use services are created and children and young people who use services are recognised as experts in their own right. There is respect for the assets that everyone brings to the process and an emphasis on all the outcomes that people value, rather than just those that the organisation values.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 As set out on the front of the report.