

Adverse Childhood Experiences

Action Plan

Appendix A

Context

The aim of this action plan is to develop an ACE Informed approach across Sandwell that provides inter-generational support for parents, families and children to reduce the potential negative impacts for children and young people in later life.

This plan focusses upon achieving the following priorities over the next 18 months: -

- Sandwell has a good understanding of the distribution of ACEs across the borough; professional curiosity is used in a systematic way to identify those at risk and their support needs. (Priority A)
- People can access support and advice from a range of trauma informed interventions and services. (Priority B)
- Professionals are ACE aware, and trauma informed, communities across Sandwell have a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and its impacts. (Priority C)

Governance				
G1	Reconvene ACEs Steering group	Review current membership	March 2019	Lesley Hagger Nick Laws
		Review current Terms of reference and Project initiation document (PID)	March 2019	Nick Laws
		Publish dates for future meetings	March 2019	Nick Laws
G2	Ensure strategic fit between ACEs action plan and other key borough wide strategies	Discussions to take place with Children's Trust, Child Exploitation Board and GEM to identify areas for collaboration	May 2019	Lesley Hagger
G3	Produce and agree an ACEs Action Plan for the borough	First draft produced	Feb 2019	Nick Laws
		Action Plan agreed by Steering Group	March 2019	Nick Laws
		Actions incorporated into Safer Sandwell Plan and	Sept 2019	Tessa Mitchell Nick Laws
		Progress updates presented to Health & Wellbeing Board	By request	Lesley Hagger
G4	Develop an evaluation framework to measure the overall effectiveness of a borough wide strategy. <i>We will develop an evaluation framework which enables us to ascertain the effectiveness of our strategy for tackling ACEs</i>	Produce a Logic model for the overarching ACEs Strategy	July 2019	Nick Laws Joht Chandan Steven Tedcastle
G5	Secure the additional support of ACE Coordinators <i>Work with the Violence Prevention Alliance & Barnardos to recruit two ACE coordinators to work across Sandwell and Dudley.</i>	ACEs coordinators appointed	Dec 2018	N Laws Emily Phelps Rachel DeKam
		Work plans agreed by the Violence Prevention Alliance	Feb 2019	Rachel DeKam

Priority A	Sandwell has a good understanding of the distribution of ACEs across the borough; professional curiosity is used in a systematic way to identify those at risk and their support needs.			
REF	Action	Tasks	Timescale	Leads
A1	Develop an evidence base that enables a better understanding of the potential prevalence and impact of ACES across Sandwell.	Use readily available statistical information from a range of data sources to produce an initial draft profile for Sandwell detailing:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence of the main ACEs • Outcomes resulting from ACES 	May 2019	Nick Laws Joht Chandan Amarjit Ballagan Rebecca Flowers Craig Rollinson Denis Lenihan
		Use feedback from the ACEs steering Group to improve the profile and publish amended version.	July 2019	
		Publish an annual briefing which uses the ACEs profiles to help improve understanding and quantify the impact of ACEs across Sandwell	March 2020	
A2	Develop an approach for identifying people in need of support using professional curiosity and a trauma informed approach	Create a Task & Finish group to undertake this action	March 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Louise Wright Steven Tedcastle Kate Griffiths Karmah Boothe Liz Stevenson Mel Barnet
		Explore and review the range of approaches that are used in other authorities to identify exposure to ACEs (e.g. REACH, Routine Enquiry in Adverse Childhood Experiences)	June 2019	
		Identify the range of approaches used by organisations and agencies across the borough to identifying exposure to ACES	July 2019	
		Produce & publish a guide / tool kit which assists organisations and services to identify ACEs in a safe and effective manner	Dec 2019	

Priority B	People can access support and advice from a range of trauma informed interventions and services.			
REF	Action	Tasks	timescale	Leads
B1	Ensure that key services and interventions that support people are Trauma Informed	Identify and understand strategic proposals and initiatives currently in place or that are being developed across the system that include becoming Trauma Informed	June 2019	Nick Laws Lesley Hagger ACE Coordinators
		Create a Task & Finish group to undertake this action (agree key tasks and milestone dates)	June 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Peter Forth Kate Griffiths Jon Grant Mark Davies Karmah Boothe
		Identify key services and programmes that may benefit from an ACE / Trauma Informed approach.	July 2019	
		Explore the range of Trauma Informed models that exist nationally and locally.	Aug 2019	
		Develop a toolkit which supports agencies and organisations to become 'Trauma Informed' identifying key competencies and capabilities	Dec 2019	
		Create a short development session that supports organisations to become Trauma Informed.	Nov 2019	
		Launch Trauma informed programme.	Dec 2019	

B2	Ensure that key services, initiatives, interventions and programmes have been evaluated	Produce Logic models for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A typical programme or package of support • A typical individual Intervention 	March 2019	Nick Laws Joht Chandan Peter Forth Mark Davies Jon Grant Steven Tedcastle Karmah Boothe
		Identify national examples of best practice for evaluating services and interventions	Aug 2019	
		Develop a range of evaluation frameworks and models and consult with service providers to determine usefulness and practicality	Dec 2019	
		Develop and launch a range of evaluation tool kits for use locally	Dec 2019	

		Support key services and interventions to complete evaluation	Jan 2020	
B3	Improve awareness of and access to services and interventions that support the people who have experienced ACEs	Identify and map primary secondary and tertiary Services that support the ACEs agenda	March 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Steering Group
		Identify potential gaps in current service provision and take actions to address where possible	Jan 2020	
B4	Ensure key policies & strategies support the prevention of ACEs and mitigation of negative impacts arising from ACEs	Identify key Policies & strategies that would benefit from review	May 2019	Nick Laws Lesley Hagger
		Review existing policies & consider whether/how they either minimise or mitigate ACEs.	Oct 2019	
		Produce report about outcomes of policy/strategy review for use by partner agencies to amend their own policies/strategies to mitigate the negative impact of ACEs	Nov 2019	

B5	Investigate the potential opportunities that commissioning of future services may offer	Investigate how Social Value and the commissioning of future services could be utilised to support the ACEs agenda.	Jan 2020	Nick Laws Peter Forth
B6	Develop a single point of access for ACE related resources and information. <i>There is currently no source of ACEs resources and information available for interested parties in Sandwell. The development of the web page will assist in coordinating activities and understanding.</i>	Develop and launch a web page specifically aimed at providing a focal point for all things ACE related.	Oct 2019	Nick Laws

Priority C	Professionals are ACE aware, and trauma informed, communities across Sandwell have a better understanding of Adverse Childhood Experiences and its impacts.			
REF	Action	Tasks	timescale	Leads
C1	Develop a community specific communications and marketing plan to improve the community's awareness of ACEs.	Form Communications & Marketing Task & finish Group to oversee this action	Oct 2019	Nick Laws Mark Davies Jon Grant Jon Hewit Kate Griffiths Denise Hooper
		Produce a draft Communications & Marketing Plan for the ACES steering Group to discuss and approve	Nov 2019	
		Ensure key milestones from the Communications & Marketing Plan are included within this plan	Dec 2019	
C2	Develop an ACEs Champions network	Investigate and develop the concept of an ACE Champions network and present proposals to the Steering Group for approval	Aug 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Alaine Shaw Carol Singleton
		Ensure agreed milestones are included within this plan	Oct 2019	
C3	Develop a ACE / trauma-informed workforce	Develop and launch a suite of awareness and training programmes for front line service providers to use (ACE Aware -Trauma informed)	Oct 2019	Nick Laws ACE Coordinators Holly Bramley Louise Judge Helen Tyson
		Develop a elected member awareness session on ACES	Nov 2019	Nick Laws
		Develop an ACE Awareness module and integrate into existing mandatory safeguarding training.	Nov 2019	Nick Laws Deb Ward Holly Bramley Children's Trust
		Investigate the need for a trauma Informed competency framework and report findings to the ACEs Steering Group	Dec 2019	ACE Coordinators