

# Report to Health & Wellbeing Board: Update on Developing Well

## Background

The Calderdale Wellbeing Strategy 2022-27 sets out an aspiration that was chosen by our young people - that children aged between the ages of 6 and 25 should have **hope and aspiration**. The voice of children is important to us in Calderdale and we want this work to be informed by them.

The wellbeing of children and young people is vital if they are to be active participants in society, their communities, and their families. Hope and aspiration helps children and young people to have a good childhood, and positive life chances, with less involvement in risky behaviours. Increasing hope and aspiration means addressing challenges that our children and young people encounter, depending on their own, family and community circumstances.

In January 2022 the Developing Well strategic board was established to drive and coordinate work to achieve this ambition.

## Health and Wellbeing Board asks of the Developing Well Alliance

The Health and Wellbeing Board had the following asks for the the Developing Well Board to consider:

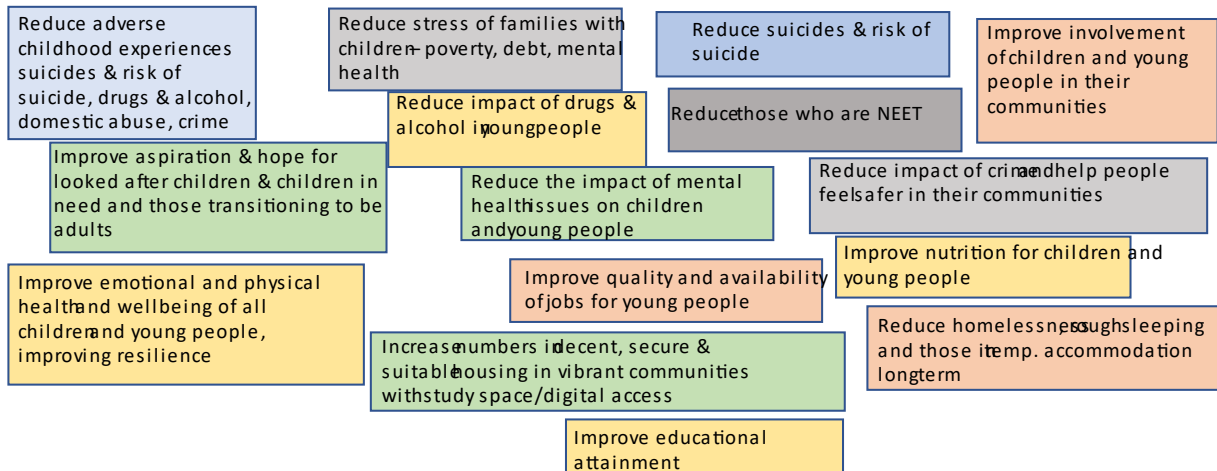
The Developing Well Alliance be accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board for the Developing Well Outcome of “Every 15 year old in Calderdale has hope and aspiration”.

- To consider how it can inspire others to lead, supporting each to do so and holding partners to account for the delivery of aspects that contribute to the Developing Well outcome.
- The Developing Well Board to consider how best to work with communities and those aged 6-25 to inspire and enable those aged 6-25 and their communities to make positive changes to achieve the outcome.
- To consider how achieving the outcome can be real for communities and something that they can point out and celebrate progress towards in the communities and networks they operate in
- To provide the ability for effective collaboration with all parties involved, based on trust and respect, and with a clear single purpose and approach to delivery.
- To recognise the strengths and potential of the people, communities and the workforce and inspire innovative approaches to use these strengths to help achieve the outcome.
- To explore how partners can shift focus and resources towards preventing negative impacts on achievement of the outcome and addressing its root causes
- To consider which existing initiatives should start, stop and merge to maximise impact on the outcome and streamline and clarify accountability for delivery.
- To identify innovation projects, starting small, give it time, allow for things to go wrong, take adaptive action and keep going.

## Current outcome measures from the Electronic Health Needs Assessment

- Increased percentage of year 10 pupils in Calderdale who feel happy with what may happen to them in the future 61% in 2022..
- A smaller percentage of Year 10 pupils in Calderdale with low life satisfaction 23% in 2021.

# Every 15 year old in Calderdale has hope and aspiration for the future - what contributes to this?



## Progress to date

In early discussions, the Developing Well Board was clear that it would not be a place where adults talked and took reports from other partnerships already in place: eg: Open Minds, Cost of living board, youth justice board, inclusive economy, etc. To make a real difference it is essential to understand what having hope and aspiration actually means to children. It was agreed to establish a way of measuring this over time, not to have a one off exercise.

So the Board have commissioned support from an organisation who have extensive experience in using collaborative and community-based approaches to inform the strategy.

Ideas Alliance are currently working in Calderdale on the Starting Well and Ageing Well agendas, and will support Developing Well by:

- Identifying existing connections between children & young people and professionals, focussing in particular on ensuring participation from a representative cross-section of children & young people;
- Maximising engagement by equipping “trusted adults” with the skills and knowledge to be able to conduct appreciative enquiry with the children & young people they work with;
- Facilitating wider engagement through an established online feedback and polling tool, Polis;
- Bringing engagement findings back to the Developing Well Board for discussion.

## The planned work from Ideas Alliance

### Stakeholder engagement – taking place the week of 27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023

We will engage local stakeholders, the trusted adults and use existing connections to have conversations with young people. We will seek out stakeholders who would like to collaborate in delivering the appreciative inquiry sessions and those who can support us in engaging young people in the ‘Polis’ polling tool.

We will facilitate an initial engagement session to bring together local stakeholders to share how we implement the project and explore how we can use local connections to maximise engagement and amplify the voices of young people in the borough.

### **Appreciative Inquiry – taking place March 2023**

The dream phase of appreciative inquiry has the focus on ‘what could be’ and particularly lends itself to drawing out aspirations. A dreaming session is a powerful tool for building aspiration in its own right, so this process could also become a catalyst to inspire minds.

We will work with local stakeholders to identify opportunities to deliver AI sessions with young people, targeting the approach to reflect the diversity of the borough.

We have identified a number of days available for the delivery of Appreciative inquiry sessions with young people. The number of sessions we are able to deliver within that will depend on the extent to which we can work alongside local colleagues. We also recognise that there are likely to be local colleagues with existing skills and knowledge in AI techniques, who may be able to deliver sessions independently. This is something we can explore during the stakeholder event and would be an opportunity to maximise engagement with young people. We will prepare session plans and discussion guides to support consistent delivery of the AI sessions.

### **Polis**

Polis is an online tool used to gather open ended feedback from large groups of people and produces meaning from open ended responses. Participants can express their thoughts and feelings as well as agree or disagree with others in real time. As soon as someone writes then others can vote. Polis runs statistical analysis on these voting patterns, producing opinion groups and identifying the comments that brought each group together, also in real time.

We will use Polis as an opportunity to get the views of a wider group of young people and engage them in sharing views about hopes and aspirations in Calderdale.

### **Sense making and change – Spring 2023**

We will facilitate a workshop at the end of the research phase to bring together key stakeholders in a conversation of sense making and change. We propose for this to take place on-line to keep available resources for direct engagement with young people.

## **On completion of the Ideas Alliance work - next steps**

Understanding what hope and aspiration mean to children and young people will inform the development of the forthcoming Developing Well strategy, whilst the workforce skills gained will support us to engage meaningfully with children & young people on an ongoing basis.

**Julie Jenkins, Director of Children & Young People’s Services – Chair of Developing Well Board**  
**Naomi Marquis, Public Health Manager (Children & Young People)**  
**February 2023**