

Children's Services Committee

Report title:	Children Injured in road traffic accidents and accidental poisonings
Date of meeting:	16 January 2018
Responsible Chief Officer:	Sara Tough Executive Director Children's Services
Strategic impact Norfolk County Council has a key role to work pro-actively both through its own departments and with key partners to reduce the number of accidents and injuries to children and young people. All agencies working directly with young people need to use available guidance (e.g. NICE PH29 and PH30) to focus on accident prevention.	

Executive summary

Norfolk has a higher rate of injury hospital admissions in children and young people. The main causes are falls, poisoning and road traffic collisions. A multi-agency response is required to improve accident prevention and identify young people in need of support.

Children's Services, together with public health can play a significant role in providing leadership, co-ordination and training. Existing partnership forums, such as the Health and Well Being Board, should be used as a platform to explore the implementation of guidance provided by national bodies such as NICE, the Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) and the Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA).

Recommendations: Members are asked to note the content of this report.

1. Proposal

- 1.1 Members have asked for a report in relation to children injured in road traffic accidents and accidental poisonings. Public Health Officers in Norfolk have produced a briefing document as part of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (attached as Annex A), which outlines the scale of the issue.
- 1.2 Each year around 2850 children and young people (0-24) are admitted to hospital because of an unintentional or deliberate injury in Norfolk. Norfolk has a higher rate for such admissions for young people aged 0-14. The rate for 15-25 year olds, although in line with national shows a rising trend over the last three years.
- 1.3 Children's Services, together with public health can play a significant role in providing leadership, co-ordination and training. Existing partnership forums, such as the Health and Well Being Board, should be used as a platform to explore the implementation of guidance provided by national bodies such as NICE, the Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) and the Royal Society for Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA).

2. Evidence

- 2.1 The evidence can be found in the attached briefing document.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no significant financial implications, as accident prevention is part of existing work, both within Children's Services and in our work with partners.

4. Issues, risks and innovation

- 4.1 Injuries are a leading cause of hospitalisation for children and young people, they can be a source of long term health issues (including mental health related to the experience).
- 4.2 In addition to monitoring through Public Health, road traffic collisions are also monitored within Community and Environmental Services.

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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