

# Children and Young Peoples Strategic Partnership Executive

Minutes of a meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2007

## PRESENT

Dave Clegg	Head of Education, Children's Services (Chair)
Ruth Rogan	Head of Children's Social Care
Heidi Douglas	Streetwise Manager
Julia Bayes	Head Teacher St. John's Primary School
Aileen Fitzgerald	Head of C & F Commissioning, NHS North of Tyne
Alan Wallace	Partnership Manager, Learning & Skills Council
Tom Adams	Chief Executive, Children North East
Don Irving	Head of Play and Youth, Children's Services
Nick Springham	Public Health
Sara Morgan-Evans	Local Connexions Manager, Newcastle
Bob Ryan	Northumbria Police
Vida Morris	Head of Patient Care/ PCT Lead for Nursing & AHP
Carol Hambling	C&YPSP Coordinator

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## IN ATTENDANCE

Danielle Jeffries	Minute Taker
Sarah Jackson	Programme Manager, Children's Services.
Andy Roberts	CAMHS Social Care Coordinator

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## APOLOGIES

Gerard Murphy	Head Teacher, St Cuthbert's High School
Nick Cott	Lead Member Children's Services
Carole Shipley	Directorate Manager, Children's Services, NUTH
Catherine Fitt	Executive Director Children's Services
Shirley Chambers	Children's Fund Manager
Helen Cavanagh	Transformational Change Lead, Children Services
Maurya Cushlow	Executive Director of Community Services, PCT
Rod Stapley	Youth Offending Team manager
Jan Cole	Service Manager, NTW NHS Trust

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### 1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1 Apologies were received as listed above.

### 2. COORDINATORS REPORT

2.1 CH informed the Executive that the budget decisions protocol has now been circulated. The October Executive meeting agenda has been set to discuss and review up to date budget information. CH felt the document was useful for considering procedures for sharing budget information and asked the Executive for feedback on adopting the protocol. TA felt the document was useful as was an awareness of how budgets are allocated by different partners. AW informed the Executive of the practical issues as LSC budget runs as an academic year rather than financial year. BR asked if the process would be informal as Police

budget is not separated into Children and Young People or Adults budgets. CH informed the Executive that the protocol would sit alongside the pooled budget work. There will be further discussion around how to move the work forward and inform commissioning in October. CH has asked Dave Baharie, Helen Warriner, Andy Roberts and the 3 locality managers to attend.

2.2 CH informed the Executive that there is a clash with the October meeting and the NSPCC event. AF is to chair the October meeting and lunch will be provided.

2.3 Safe Sensible Social provides the next steps for the national alcohol strategy. Recent findings have suggested that fewer young people are drinking but those who do are drinking more volume and more frequently. There has also been an increase in the number of 11-13 year olds drinking. Newcastle is currently in the process of developing a local alcohol strategy however issues with capacity are causing delays in the progress of the work.

2.4 Newcastle City Councils Corporate Assessment has been graded as a 2 or 'Adequate' with 3 or 'Good' for ambition.

2.5 The Every Child Future Matters informs debate on how sustainable development can help achieve Every Child Matters outcomes. The three priorities for action included Road Traffic and Green Space which were identified as priorities by young people in Newcastle, as well as climate change.

2.6 The National Research of the success of Sure Start programmes around domestic abuse found that it was often support that was perceived to be unrelated to domestic abuse which enabled SSLPs to engage with families.

2.7 A study on Family and Parenting Support in Sure Start Local Programmes found that national evidence based parenting support programmes were often more effective than locally developed programmes and that the best support was work which was embedded into the work of Sure Start. More staff working with parents need training to deliver support effectively. JB informed the Executive that a lot of parents have issues with staff turn over as they lack consistency in support. Much of this problem is caused by short contracts for workers.

2.8 The Voluntary Sector Reference Group (VSRG) discussed extended services. Jacqui Sirs has been asked to attend the partnership in future. Jamie Spence has also been asked to attend the VSRG as a link to the locality partnerships. The VSRG highlighted issues for Voluntary Sector agencies with compliance around safeguarding and risk management policies.

### **3. FORWARD PLAN AND EVENTS CALENDAR**

3.1 CH to add update on Extended Services through schools to Forward Plan. AF suggested adding Tier 4 CAMHS review to October agenda. SM-E suggested update from Connexions around NEET for February. AF suggested LDP for PCT to be moved forward to October.

**ACTION: CH to action changes above.**

3.2 CH asked for any changes or updates for the events calendar.

**ACTION: All members to send any changes or additions to events calendar to DJ/CH.**

#### **4. TRANSFORMING OUTCOMES REVIEW**

4.1 SJ provided a brief overview of the transforming outcomes work. In the Trust and Partnership theme a consultation exercise regarding governance arrangements is currently ongoing but should be completed by end week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> September. Additional work will be required to embed new arrangements.

**ACTION: List of partnerships to return to C&YPSP Executive as part of governance agreement in November for approval.**

4.2 Information Theme: good progress is being made with eCAF and ContactPoint. The Information Management project is being reviewed to ensure it supports locality working. Additional capacity is required for some projects in this theme to proceed.

4.3 There have been issues with progressing theme 3- Planning, Commissioning and Performance as two theme leads have been lost causing capacity issues. The locality managers have now been linked in with this theme.

4.4 The Workforce Reform theme is progressing well. There have been some issues securing resources for training but some additional provision has been achieved. There are currently insufficient resources for the Integrated Working Programme of training and plans have been scaled down accordingly.

4.5 Working in Localities theme is currently progressing well and is being overseen by CISSG.

4.6 CH highlighted concerns that working in localities carries a huge agenda and that work needs to be manageable and achievable. Reshaping frontline services to deliver integrated working and delivering integrated processes would be difficult to achieve and careful planning would be needed to ensure it wasn't jeopardised by the additional responsibility to commission early intervention and prevention. The Executive also discussed the danger of parallel processes between different partnerships and that awareness needs to be raised to ensure that all services are aware that final decisions and endorsements should come through C&YPSP Executive.

4.7 TA raised the issue of concern within the voluntary sector around the capacity to relate to a number of locality partnerships, particularly for smaller organisations. There are also concerns of a loss of efficiency or effectiveness.

## 5. LOCAL ORGANISATIONAL MODELS FOR HEALTH

5.1 VM informed the Executive of the changes for North of Tyne NHS including the new Department of Health requirements to move towards arms length or semi-independent models for community services with a greater focus on commissioning rather than providing services and reviewing governance arrangements.

5.2 VM gave the Executive an overview of the models under consideration and informed them of the current preferred options for Newcastle, North Tyneside and Northumberland. Newcastle is currently considering becoming a Community Foundation Trust, North Tyneside is considering Horizontal Integration or Community Foundation Trust status and Northumberland is keen to retain its Care Trust Status with future considerations dependant on changes to the Local Authority.

5.3 VM explained to the Executive the difference between Community Foundation Trusts and current PCT provision was the amount of financial freedom allowed. The new governance arrangements will ensure the PCT is more accountable to the public. AF informed the Executive that the new plans were more business orientated and cost effective as services will tender for contacts rather than services going to a handful of providers. TA informed VM that the new proposals did not 'feel' safer and appeared to give less protection to staff.

5.4 AR queried why horizontal integration was not part of Newcastle's options as a small amount of horizontal integration carried out so far in Newcastle and has had a huge impact on families affected. VM informed the Executive that the choices for future commissioning are not mutually exclusive and whichever model is adapted could have elements of horizontal integration. The government have mandated that a model for provider services must be established by 2008. Final decisions will be made in the next 2-3 months.

**ACTION: CH to add development updates to be added to forward plan**

## 6. TRANSITION STRATEGY

6.1 AR gave a brief background to the project. The strategy identified 7 groups of young people to focus on;

- Young people with disabilities
- Young people with long term health conditions
- Young people who are 'looked after'
- Young offenders and those at risk of offending
- Young people with drug and alcohol problems
- Young people with mental health problems
- Young carers

6.2 The Executive raised the following points for consideration;

- Work to feed into Integrated Youth Strategy
- Consideration of young people who are NEET.
- Consideration of young people who are homeless
- Consideration of young people who are from BME communities
- Consideration of young people who are gay, lesbian or bisexual
- Ensure issues are not looked at as silos as many young people have issues in more than one area
- Awareness that young people develop at different ages and there are problems with assigning a chronological barrier between 'young person' and 'adult'
- HD recommended AR attend Voluntary Sector Reference Group.

6.3 HD informed the Executive that over a third of people accessing Streetwise' mental health services are over 18 and the issues of securing funding from Adult services. AF informed the Executive that these barriers are being challenged as Adult Services for health provide services from 'working age' and that specific services provide services to people as young as 14.

6.4 The Executive discussed a suitable lead for the overall action plan and whether the lead should be from Children's or Adults services. The Executive agreed to endorse the strategy with the additions reflected in the document, reference to the Integrated Youth Strategy and informed by feedback from Voluntary Sector Reference Group.

**ACTION: AR to arrange a meeting with; adult services, Ruth Rogan, IYS lead, Linda Mason to identify a lead for the action plan.**

**ACTION: AR to feedback to Executive in December**

## **7. PROGRESS ON TRANSITION OF CONNEXIONS**

7.1 SM-E gave a brief update on the progress of Connexions transition to Local Authorities. The 5 local teams will TUPE to the local authorities from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2008. There is still a considerable amount of work to be done to ensure record keeping systems, quality standards and Service Level Agreements are all transferred effectively.

7.2 There will still be a local hub to ensure effective cross boarder working with young people. City of Sunderland have agreed to be host authority for the hub services and the draft hub structure is currently out for consultation. Performance management, Training, information, advice and guidance and marketing of products will be dealt with at the local hub. ICT and software issues will be dealt with at the hub, hardware will be dealt with by Local Authority IT services. The location of the hub is to be confirmed.

7.3 Each local authority has a duty to make 'best endeavours' to redeploy staff. However there are issues with retaining staff as the continuation of jobs has not yet been confirmed and there is a danger to the viability of the hub if a large

number of staff leave due to uncertainty. SM-E is to meet with Ray Steele to discuss a transition steering group.

## **8. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT**

8.1 The Annual Performance Assessment (APA) is to take place in week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> October. 2 inspectors have led work around data submissions and will be conducting a series of on site interviews on 4<sup>th</sup> October. The interviewees are yet to be confirmed but will include the 5 outcome leads.

8.2 After APA 2007 has been completed Children's Services will begin to reassess their ambitions around the outcomes. A decision will be made around which outcomes deserve a higher grade by summer 2008 and work will begin to build up solid evidence to support this with a look to assess and review across the 5 outcomes for the Local Authority and its partners.

## **9. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

9.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record. CH received one amendment from SC which has all ready been actioned.

## **10. MATTERS ARISING**

10.1 CH gave a brief update on the Children's Fund on behalf of SC. There will be an automatic extension for 6 months for current projects whilst a commissioning process is established.

10.2 SC pointed out that Action 8 from August's meeting should have Una MacDermott as a lead rather than SC.

**ACTION: CH to make Una MacDermott aware of lead status on Action 8 from August 2007**

## **11. CORPORATE PARENTING ACTIVITIES**

11.1 KS provided a report to inform the Executive of the emerging coordination of the Corporate Parenting Role for the Local Authority, Health, the voluntary sector and other agencies around Looked After Children. KS gave the Executive an overview of the current position and what is being put in place to take the work forward. The MALAP (Multi-Agency Looked After Partnership) group provides a strategic direction for the work with Looked After Children (LAC).

11.2 KS drew the Executive's attention to Appendix 1 which was a diagrammatical overview of where LAC work sits within agencies. The Aspire team has recently been formed to develop multi-agency service delivery and is led by Barbara Roberts.

11.3 The key developments include; establishing a young people's participation steering group to give young peoples views around service delivery, a

participation event on 29<sup>th</sup> September to ask LAC to identify their key priorities. Feedback from this event will inform MALAP and the Corporate Parenting Strategy. There will also be a Corporate Parenting Turning the Curve event on 12<sup>th</sup> November to be held at Springfield centre.

11.4 AF asked for the wording to be changed as the partners are described as CAMHS and Health but health should be amended to PCT or Newcastle Hospitals. There was a brief discussion around issues for progression and cross cutting targets. Jen Turner will be working to assist older young people through these issues.

## 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 CH informed the Executive that she had received Nick Brereton's revised participation update.

**ACTION: CH to re-circulate Nick Brereton's updated participation update.**

12.2 The bid for the Big Lottery Play Fund has now been submitted, feedback on whether the bid has been successful will be received in December.

Item	Action	Lead	Due Date
1	Action changes to item 3.1 re: forward plan	Carol Hambling	
2	Send any changes or additions to events calendar	All Members	
3	List of partnerships to return to C&YPSP Executive in November for approval	Carol Hambling	
4	Development updates to be added to forward plan	Carol Hambling	
5	Arrange meeting with adult services, RR, IYS lead, Linda Mason	Andy Roberts	
6	Feedback to Executive in December	Andy Roberts	
7	Make Una MacDermott aware of lead status on Action 8 from August 2007	Carol Hambling	
8	Re-circulate Nick Brereton's updated participation strategy document	Carol Hambling	
Date of the next meeting: Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> October 2007. Meeting to be held Room 3, Springfield Centre 09:15-12:30			