

# **Children's Trust Board**

## **Minutes of a Meeting Held on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

### **Present:**

John Collings (Chair)	Executive Director of Children's Services, NCC
Martin Surtees	Director of Children's Services, Performance and Commissioning, NCC
Neil Munslow	Housing Services Manager, NCC
Gerard Murphy	Head Teacher, St Cuthbert's RC High School
Aileen Fitzgerald	Head of C&F Commissioning, NHS North of Tyne
Susan Cassie	Childcare Partnership Manager, Job Centre Plus
Ruth Rogan	Head of Strategic Partnerships, NCC
Cllr Nick Cott	Lead Member, Children and Young People, NCC
Paul Brownlee	Youth Offending Team Manager, NCC
Jeff Hurst	Chief Executive, YMCA
Jane McFadyen	Head Teacher, Newburn Manor Primary School
Lisa McWiggan	NSCB Co-ordinator, NCC
Mick McCracken	Head of Safeguarding and Children's Social Care, NCC
Dawn Scott	Public Health Consultant, NHS North of Tyne
Martin Gollan	Policy Officer (Regeneration), NCVS
Edwina Harrison	Chair, Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board
Susan Nelson	Child Services, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals Foundation Trust
Phil Joyce	Director of Area Based Regeneration, NCC
George Duff	Northumbria Police (on behalf of Laura Young)

---

### **In Attendance:**

Tina Lisle	Director's Support Officer – Projects, NCC (Minutes)
Andy Roberts	Joint Health Commissioning Manager, NCC (agenda item 2 minute number 146 only)
Ian Lane	Head of School Improvement Services, NCC (agenda item 4 minute number 148 only)
Jayne Forsdike	Children's Safeguarding Standards Manager, NCC (agenda item 5, minute number 149 only)
Karen Simmons	Head of Assess and Decide, NCC (agenda item 5, minute number 149 only)

---

### **Apologies:**

Linda Moore	Group Director, Newcastle College Group
Laura Young	Superintendent, Northumbria Police
Dave Smith	Children's Services Advisor, GONE
Carole Shipley	Children's Services Directorate Manager, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Michael Johnston	Partnership Director North Tyneside, Learning Skills Council
Chris Piercy	Associate Director Patient Safety, Quality and Nursing, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health

---

145. **Welcome and Apologies**

J Collings welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies as listed overleaf.

146. **Children's Trust Board Governance**

A Roberts gave a presentation on the CTB Governance following the discussion at the last meeting. The following was noted/raised:

- There will be a Children's Trust Board Officer appointed
- E Harrison agreed to circulate the NSCB document that outlines the roles of both the CTB and the NSCB EH
- Scrutiny of the CTB should be within the partnership not solely by Newcastle City Council
- Need assurance from each partner organisation about their safeguarding protocols eg CRBs are in place as this is currently taken on trust. Each member would be responsible for guaranteeing this ALL
- Stay Safe – discussion to take place about the lead role being undertaken by the NSCB Co-ordinator and Head of Children's Safeguarding and Social Care and reported back to the next meeting LMc/  
MM
- Be Healthy – will continue to be led by Aileen Fitzgerald
- Enjoy and Achieve – J Collings commented that this may be an outcome where a new group needs to be set up. G Murphy endorsed this. It was noted that there would need to be a health rep as part of the new group as well as a CAHMS rep. J Collings agreed to take this forward with G Murphy and Ian Lane to be part of the discussion JC/GM
- Economic Wellbeing – J Collings agreed to take this forward with Phil Joyce supporting. It was suggested that the Integrated Youth Strategy Board may have a role in this JC/PJ
- Positive Contribution – the Participation Group needs to be part of this and also remember to report on positives as well as focussing on negatives; it is part of the Community Cohesion agenda. J Hurst added that if the VSC had support and funding they could lead on this
- Two things to consider before the next meeting: cross-cutting themes, vulnerable children and narrowing the gap; the branding of the CTB ALL
- A further discussion will take place at the next meeting AR/TL

147. **NSCB Business Plan and Laming Audit**

L McWiggan introduced the draft business plan which includes the key areas for action. E Harrison asked members for any suggestions about what may be missing from the business plan. The following was noted:

- E Harrison to write a paragraph to go in the front of the business plan stating that it only contains the key actions and not every action is individually listed EH
- M Surtees asked if E Harrison was confident that the actions can all be delivered and she responded that the CTB needs to be assured that the sub groups can deliver
- Additional comments on the business plan to be sent directly to L McWiggan by the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 ALL

## Laming Action Plan

- Views on the action plan to be sent to L McWiggan by the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 ALL
  - R Rogan commented that she was not happy with the action plan as there are many areas that need further development and some actions have not been reflected in this latest version. R Rogan will lead a small group to take this forward RR
- E Harrison confirmed that minutes of the NSCB will be brought to the CTB. EH/LM

### 148. **Enjoy and Achieve Progress Report**

I Lane was welcomed and introduce the report previously circulated. The following was noted:

- J Hurst queries the zero exclusions figure and asked where the young people had gone. J Collings commented that they are on the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) roll receiving an education package. J Hurst again challenged this saying that the PRU are 100% over its capacity and feels that the zero exclusions figure is masking a problem that is a real safeguarding issue because of the current permanent exclusions policy
- D Scott asked if the number of temporary exclusions or the number of informal exclusions where the whereabouts of the children are unknown has risen as these are the children that need to be aware of. Each school should hold this information so the Board can scrutinise the zero exclusions policy
- E Harrison suggested that the Board need to be asking how multi agency partnerships are helping prevent exclusions
- It would be helpful to have the statistic about how many children are receiving the minimum 25 hours of education per week I Lane
- Appendix 4 PSA Support – this has been raised in a number of forums and questions asked about what the future of the funding for this may be. J Collings commented that a significant amount of School Improvement Service (SIS) funding has been on the back of government initiatives and funding stops at the end of March 2011 and some of the money from SIS is being devolved into schools. NCC are looking at an exit strategy to move away from the funding and will be proposing offering family support separate from social work support and will be inviting schools to purchase this service should they wish to do so
- Any other issues or questions on the report to be sent directly to John Collings or Ian Lane ALL

### 149. **Signs of Safety**

K Simmons and J Forsdike were welcomed to the meeting for this item and introduced the report previously circulated. The following was noted:

- J Forsdike agreed to send members a copy of the tool JF
- The Signs of Safety fit with Assess and Decide was discussed
- J Forsdike recommended that the project is closed and will sit within

### Assess and Decide

- Will be looking at who needs to undertake training and at what level, how it is embedded in all areas of assessment
- K Simmons will be leading a steering group that will draw on key professionals across integrated services and look at how Signs of Safety is working but will also need to draw on key partners to look at the development of this and how they feed into this process
- The challenge is how staff are equipped to deal with Signs of Safety and this will link to the workforce reform agenda
- J Collings reiterated that this is a tool to assist and help with decision making
- M Surtees commented that links between the Assess and Decide Board and Workforce Reform Board needs to be made

MS

### 150. Wellbeing and Health Partnership

R Rogan introduced the paper previously circulated. It was noted that J Collings sits on this partnership. The following was agreed/discussed:

- Bullet 5.2 should be changed to include children and young people rather than it just being adult focussed. J Collings agreed to do this
- 3.4 – the role of the Joint Board should be extended to include Children’s Social Care and Child Health issues
- J Collings and N Cott will bring any issues raised at the Partnership back to the CTB where appropriate
- M Surtees – in terms of resource priorities the CTB may identify groups or pressures, this new group may be identifying areas where direction of travel need further resources
- CTB’s relationship with this group is not different to the relationship with the NSCB

JC

### 151. Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters Arising

The following changes to the minutes were made:

- Andy Roberts should be shown as “in attendance” not present
- Item 141 should read “David Jones GP gave an update of progress ...”
- Item 141 bullet one should read “GPs are interested in what is going on for children and young people – over 70% of practices in North of Tyne have identified a GP Child Health lead
- Item 145 bullet two – should read NI70 not N170

TL

TL

TL

TL

### 152. Forward Plan

The following additions/changes were made to the Forward Plan:

- June meeting – Governance Arrangements to be added as a standard item
- July meeting – Report on Participation and Update on Youth Offer to be added
- A joint CTB and NSCB development event to be held in Autumn
- NSCB Business Plan needs to come back for approval. M McCracken to advise T Lisle when this may be

TL

TL

TL

MM/TL

153. **Any Other Business**

153.1 **Turning the Curve Event** – M Surtees asked members if they were happy to have the event in place of the July CTB. All members requested that an alternative date be found (suggested dates either the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> July) as the July CTB needs to deal with a number of business issues.

153.2 **Participation Champion** – J Collings again asked the CTB for a volunteer to become the Participation Champion. T Lisle to approach M Gollan and J Hurst (who had left this meeting early) to take on this role.

TL

154. **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2010 at 9.15 am to 12.00 pm at Springfield Conference Centre.