

# **Children's Trust Board**

## **Minutes of a Meeting Held on Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010**

### **Present:**

John Collings (Chair)	Executive Director of Children's Services (Acting) 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
Linda Moore	Group Director, Newcastle College Group
Ruth Rogan	Head of Strategic Partnerships, NCC
Cllr Nick Cott	Lead Member, Children and Young People, NCC
Laura Young	Superintendent, Northumbria Police
Paul Brownlee	Youth Offending Team Manager, NCC
Jeff Hurst	Chief Executive, YMCA
Dave Smith	Children's Services Advisor, GONE
Jane McFadyen	Head Teacher, Newburn Manor Primary School
Sue Kirkley	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

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### **In Attendance:**

Tina Lisle	Director's Support Officer – Projects, NCC (Minutes)
Becky Dunn	Head of Workforce Development, NCC (agenda item 4/minute number 136 only)
Michelle Crawford	Manager, RESPONSE Anti-Bullying Team, NCC (agenda item 5/minute number 137 only)
Mick Dunn	Lead Specialist Practitioner, Behaviour and Attendance, NCC (agenda item 5/minute number 137 only)

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### **Apologies:**

Neil Munslow	Housing Services Manager, NCC
Phil Joyce	Director of Area Based Regeneration, NCC
Carole Shipley	Children's Services Directorate Manager, Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Michael Johnston	Partnership Director North Tyneside, Learning Skills Council
Martin Surtees	Director of Children's Services, Performance and Commissioning, NCC
Chris Piercy	Associate Director Patient Safety, Quality and Nursing, NHS Newcastle and North Tyneside Community Health

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133. **Welcome and Apologies and Minutes of the Last Meeting/Matters Arising**

J Collings welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially E Harrison as this is her first meeting, and apologies were noted as listed.

Minute 128 – L Moore voiced again concerns that FE was lacking and asked how this had been taken forward. J Collings will be meeting with Jonathan Caswell to ensure the comments raised at the last meeting have been incorporated into the SEND Strategy and will then sign this off on behalf of the Board.

Minute 130.2 – M McCracken reported that the Sharing Successful Safeguarding Practice event had gone ahead and was successful. M McCracken will be producing a report on both the content of the workshops as well as the process to be used as a model for future events. This will be presented to the NSCB.

MMc

134. **Children and Young People Plan (CYPP)**

J Collings thanked members for their responses to his letter regarding the suggested delay in the publication of the CYPP and reiterated the reasons why this had been recommended. The consultation process is now about the emerging priorities, vision and principles. The following comments were made:

- E Harrison commented that the NSCB welcomed the decision to delay the Plan
- M Gollan reported that, at a meeting with voluntary sector representatives, the draft CYPP was well received, however, there had been frustration noted about Newcastle City Council producing the Plan only and asked if there was any way the voluntary sector could input into the production of it. JC commented that this is the challenge as the Children's Trust is the owner of the Plan not NCC. This is the opportunity to have a different kind of approach to producing the Plan. M Gollan asked if an annex could be put on the back of the 2011-2014 Plan stating how the next Plan will be producing, timings etc. J Collings informed the meeting that there is a project plan being developed
- S Kirkley requested that the annual review of the Plan be linked to the NSCB development plans

SK

135.1 **Stay Safe Progress Report**

J Collings asked members if the reporting model was acceptable as all five ECM reports have now been brought to the CTB. M McCracken introduced the report and the following was noted:

- M McCracken asked members to also note the "green" issues as some of these have been hard won as well as scrutinising the "red" and "amber" issues
- Improvement in initial assessment and LAC regarding health,

- wellbeing, education and accommodation
- Would like more information regarding NI 60 Core Assessments Carried Out Within 35 Working Days – how far off were the assessments from the 35 working day target
- Would like a sense from the Stay Safe lead about how confident they are on moving “red” and “amber” to “green”
- D Smith – would like the direction of travel and anticipated direction of travel to be clearer
- Some of the indicators are quite confusing and would like these to be unpicked
- Would like to have more information about the distance between child protection plans and repeat protection plans. M McCracken reported that the distance was approximately four weeks and was mostly associated with domestic violence issues
- Systems are being put in place to hit timescales for assessment as well as ensuring consistently good assessments are made
- NI 70 (hospital admissions) A Fitzgerald would like to link work with North Tyneside and Northumberland. S Kirkley reported that there is a group currently established called the Child Accident and Prevention Group which brings in hospital admissions data but there is no lead officer for this group. A Fitzgerald and D Scott to discuss how to take this forward (agreed subsequently that this would be Judith Stonebridge)
- Useful to have more detail about the key actions with names of key officers
- The Domestic Violence Partnership is developing a JSNA regarding domestic violence which will come to the next meeting
- Could links be put in the report to other strategies and plans that are relevant
- Highlights the importance of the CTB and NSCB having a joint plan where there is read across. The NSCB Business Plan needs to reflect this. M McCracken and E Harrison to meet to pull together recommendations about how these joint reports can be produced
- D Smith – it is not just about read across but also reshaping the way this is done
- Should be one data set where all information is available
- The five outcome leads and performance officers will be brought together to reflect all the comments received and to look at what kind of reports are needed for different audiences

AF/DS

SK

MMc/  
EH

### 135.2 **NCSB Progress Report/Feedback from Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board**

S Kirkley presented the report and notified the meeting that Lisa McWiggan would be attending future CTB meetings for the next year whilst she is on secondment. The following was noted:

- Minutes of the NSCB can be provided is required. Members felt this would be useful
- E Harrison asked the Board to give consideration as to what other information would be useful as part of the NSCB progress report. A description of the role of members was requested
- J Collings – a piece of work about the new statutory guidance and the emerging relationships needed to be developed as well as a piece of

SK

EH/SK

- work on the roles and responsibilities, membership etc. Andy Roberts is taking this forward and a report will be given at the April meeting TL
- Need to give thought to holding a joint annual CTB and NSCB conference and when this should take place. It was agreed that this would take place in Autumn 2010 JC

### 136. **Workforce Strategy 2010-2013**

B Dunn was welcomed to the meeting to present the draft strategy. A number of small changes/suggestions were made for B Dunn to incorporate and the Board signed off the draft with implementation to begin through the Workforce Reform Board.

### 137. **Anti Bullying Strategy**

M Crawford and M Dunn were welcomed to the meeting and went through the report previously circulated to the CTB. The following was noted:

- The RESPONSE Anti Bullying team is currently funded through Area Based Grants and beyond 2011 this funding will no longer be guaranteed
- Victims of bullying are less likely to hit the 5 ECMs and this needs to be remembered
- Feedback from schools regarding the work of the Anti Bullying team is positive
- The work that RESPONSE do is graded as 1 (outstanding) by DCSF
- Have also worked within other settings eg youth service and residential establishments and providers within the community, particularly around disability issues
- The possibility of peer mentoring was discussed, however, M Dunn reported that research shows concerns about quality assuring peer mentoring in this area although this is offered at Excelsior and Wallbottle are looking at possibly using the scheme
- A training manual and information about the award scheme are available to everyone for information. Information is also available on the National Health website (D Scott) and this is a crucial part of meeting the Healthy Schools agenda
- The accreditation scheme mirrors the Be Healthy model
- Safe from bullying and discrimination is a theme within the Stay Safe ECM so need to think about how governance and accountability for the development and monitoring of the anti bullying activity is done and where this is reported to
- The review of the strategy in May needs to reflect work outside of schools as well as describing the relationship with the Safer Schools agenda
- G Murphy – can foresee considerable pressure from the LA to say schools will have to fund this but this will be a real genuine pressure

The report was noted as well as the ending of the funding for the team in March 2011 and J Collings, M Dunn and other LA officers to discuss how this development is viewed in the future. JC

### 138. **Economic Wellbeing Progress Report**

J Collings presented this report and highlighted the key points. The following was discussed/noted:

- Second bullet re: NEETs need to take out the word “however” so this reads better
- Need to remember those resident in Newcastle and not just those educated in Newcastle. The Board should be seeing this data also and it was agreed that this information would be provided with a covering report. J Spence to prepare this and attend a future meeting

TL

### **Any Other Business**

- J Collings thanked S Kirkley for her contributions and wished her well on her secondment commencing in April
- CTB members noted the invitation to attend an informal lunch at the Mansion House on the 25<sup>th</sup> March at 12.00 pm to meet candidates who have been shortlisted for the post of Executive Director of Children’s Services

ALL

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April at 9.15 am to 12.00 pm at Springfield Conference Centre.