

CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER

CHILDREN'S TRUST SHADOW BOARD

Meeting held on 23 April 2009

DRAFT MINUTES

Present:

John Stephens (Vice Chair), Director of Children's Services, CWAC
Cllr Arthur Harada, Executive Member for Education and Children, CWAC
Moira Chapman, Police Authority
Jon Betts, Cheshire Constabulary
Wendy Meredith, Director of Public Health
Lizzie Wiffen, NHS Western Cheshire, Non-Exec Director
Alison Navarro, Third Sector
Sarah Lee, Schools Forum
Steve Hoy, Interim Outcome Lead for Make a Positive Contribution
John Barber, Interim Outcome Lead for Economic Well-Being
Steve Edwards, Interim Outcome Lead for Enjoy and Achieve
Neil Massingham, Principal Manager Strategy, Children's Services, CWAC

Apologies:

Steve Robinson (Chair), Chief Executive, CWAC

1. MINUTES AND ACTIONS OF LAST MEETING

Discussions were ongoing in relation to engagement processes with young people and families. This matter was likely to be discussed at the workshop on 23 June. **(Action: NM)**

NM was holding 1:1 meetings regarding the Audit Commission self-assessment exercise. A short key issues and options note will be prepared for the 23 June workshop on governance. It was felt that there should be a 'Vision Statement' included in this report as this would be useful to share with outside organisations. **(Action: NM)**

Outcome Updates were provided:

- A one page note (attached) was circulated to Board Members outlining the work being undertaken by the 'Enjoy and Achieve Sub Group' that was focused on developing a Virtual School for Looked After Children. **(Action: SE and AM to brief on progress at next mtg)**

- The Be Healthy outcome was tasked to focus on Under 18 Conceptions. Advice was needed on the composition of the sub-group and further input was expected from the National Support Team (NST) on 12 May. **(Action: WM and JW to update July mtg on membership of the sub-group and the outcome of the 12 May NST visit))**
- A visit had also been offered by the NST for obesity to undertake a visit in early June. Although this may put capacity pressures on people involved with the Be Healthy work already being undertaken, it was felt that this visit should be encouraged as obesity was an LAA indicator. However, the Board's focus would remain on Under 18 Conceptions for the present to September.
- The Head of Service who would lead on Stay Safe was not yet in post. While the post was being covered operationally by 3 temporary appointments, John Stephens would speak for this outcome at the Board on an interim basis. He briefed that a decision had been made to re-focus people on the priorities and the core business. CAF is not being resourced properly but needs to be strong and capable of operation. There are issues emerging around residential care.
- MPC outcome group membership being reviewed. A number of actions were in hand including a conference on Hear by Rights and development of more volunteering opportunities. **(Action: SH to update the Board in July on sub-group membership and delivery plans)**
- Intensive work is being carried out on interviewing young NEET people as part of the Economic Well Being outcome work. There appeared to be a real hard core of 100 who do not seem to be responding. Job Centre+ not needed on the Board but do need to communicate with it and be involved in this outcome area. **(Action: JB to update the Board in July on membership, delivery plans and how this linked with other worklessness workstreams of the LSP)**

It was suggested that the Board sets a written brief for outcome leads in order to ensure clarity about what was expected and by what date. **(Action NM)**

The SHA would be a corresponding member of the Board but will not attend Board meetings other than by exception.

2. The Children's Trust and the LSCB

Discussions took place around the LSP report. Questions were asked as to how the Trust Board works with the Area Partnership Boards, though these working arrangements were still being devised.

DECISION: Report approved for LSP with minor changes. (Action: NM)

3. Governance Arrangements

There needs to be a 'Vision' included in the governance papers. Clarification needs to be sought on communication with outside organisations regarding decisions which have been made by the Board and where the resources are to come from. The relationship between Members and Stakeholders needs to be drawn out. A calendar is also needed of LSP and Trust Board meetings.

The Governance documents would continue to be developed ready for approval in July. **(Action: NM)**

4. Comprehensive Area Assessment

A short summary of the Ofsted CAA guidance was circulated. There is an understanding that OFSTED are taking a more holistic view of the area where people live and how services interact.

Equality issues need to be logged and discussed at a later date.

5. Information Sharing Protocol (ISP)

The Government's model ISP had been circulated. The point was raised that information is not being shared with individuals in some circumstances (ie teenage pregnancy). Some health officials at certain levels do not seem to feel that they can share information with partners and this needs to be resolved in some way. It was agreed that information sharing arrangements needed development. John Stephens said that he would look into this matter. **(Action: JS)**

6. Future Meetings

- **23 June, 2.00pm – Blacon Police Station – Briefing Room**
- **9 July, 2.00pm – Committee Room 1, Civic Offices, Ellesmere Port**

Agendas and papers for meetings are to be sent out electronically but paper copies will also be available at meetings with double sided printing.