

CHILDREN'S TRUST EXECUTIVE 10 JUNE 2011

Present:

Moira Swann – Independent Chair

Gerald Meehan - Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services

John Stephens – Deputy Director of Children and Young People's Services

Lizzie Wiffen – Non-Executive Adviser, Cheshire/Wirral Partnership

Julie Webster – Director of Public Health NHS Western Cheshire

Moira Chapman – Engagement Lead Member Cheshire Police Authority

Audrey Williamson – Operational Director Prevention and Commissioning

Adults and Community Directorate

Jane Middleton – Head of Service Integrated Strategic Commissioning (CWaC)

Ann Moore – Head of Achievement and Well-being (CWaC)

Paul Boyce – Head of Safeguarding (CWaC)

Denise Tideswell – Executive Support Officer (CWaC)

Isabel Noonan – Policy Officer Children and Young People's Directorate

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Apologies:

Pauline Ruth – VCFS HUB Third Sector

1. Summary of Commissioning Framework and C&YP Plan

Jane Middleton explained that the purpose of the Commissioning Framework is to provide a set of terms of reference and a governance framework for the way we work together which will allow budgets and services to be pooled and aligned to meet the priorities set in the C&YP Plan.

The C&YP Plan includes a data section and needs of children, views of young people, information about service ability to meet need, priorities for the year and how the Plan will be monitored.

ACTION: Members of the Executive to send comments to Jane Middleton by 30 June paying particular attention to the questions raised in the presentation.

Timetable: Both documents amended by the Executive will be forwarded to the wider Partnership at the beginning of July before a final version is presented to the Children's Trust Board on 29 July 2011.

2. Priority setting for Outcome Change Group

Priority 1 Prevention, early help and family support (integrated locality working)

Paul Boyce introduced the priority explaining that it is not always clear how to identify children, young people and their families who would benefit from early support and sometimes timely interventions can be missed. To help understand the needs of children and identify the appropriate children Julie Webster pointed to the role of the health visitor linked to the need to develop

the nurse practitioner role. Primary Camhs and school visiting should also play a role. Prevention should cover any age, with any front door as access to services that are integrated and based on a locality approach.

Action: Look to identify a common tool across agencies for the early identification of children, possibly using a version of CAF (Paul Boyce)

Action: Produce a specification for the Children's Trust Board covering the means by which children will be identified through a common process used by all partners that is owned by every front door and co-ordinated on this basis (Paul Boyce).

The Executive discussed the setting of milestones that might help identify what progress has been made within a specified timeframe. Paul Boyce agreed to share the outcomes of the Atkins consultancy work that has already been carried out around prevention.

Action: Design a structure and sub-structure to outline a project plan with milestones to form part of the prevention, early help and family support priority within the Children and Young People Plan. (Paul Boyce)

Action: Circulate the outcomes of the Atkins work to the Executive (Paul Boyce)

Priority 2 SEN/children with disabilities (response to Green paper)

Ann Moore explained that the aim of this priority is to jointly bid with a group of neighbouring authorities to pilot a single pathway for children with SEN/disabilities. A consultation on the Green paper with partners is nearing completion and will culminate with a cross partner conference on 22 June 2011. A sub-group of the wider regional group is already looking at a single assessment pathway. The Executive agreed that the theme of integrated understanding of need should be threaded throughout the Plan as should the need to keep people at the heart of the Plan.

In addition a review of special schools is also being undertaken and by 2012 it is proposed that the current special schools in CWaC will provide outreach provision. At the heart of this proposal is the principle that children with SEN and disabilities should be educated locally and with their friends. The approach is not just about education but a wider holistic approach to the needs of children and their families to include such provision as out of school activities.

Action: Produce Project Plan with milestones to include how agencies will contribute to achieving the outcomes for the priority for inclusion in the Children and Young People Plan (Ann Moore)

Priority 3 Looked After Children and Care Leavers

Paul Boyce explained that at the heart of this priority is ensuring that the right children come into care and stay in care. Gerald Meehan asked that the priority explain who the children are in care, where they are and what their needs are and how best these can be met. The work should focus on meeting the needs of children in care and adding value around health, education socialisation and access to friends. Housing and accommodation is also a big issue particularly for care leavers.

Action: Produce Project Plan with milestones describing aims and outcomes to be achieved for the period until the end of the one year Plan on 31 March 2012.

3. Endorse Children and Young People Plan and Commissioning Framework

The Executive discussed some points of clarification with regard to the overall framework of the Children and Young People Plan.

Action: incorporate the Better Start, Better Health section within the Prevention priority.

Action: include at the beginning of the Plan a statement about realising the potential of every child (Lizzie Wiffen to e-mail wording to Jane Middleton)

Action: focus on the child being at the centre of the Plan

Action: ensure language is common to all and inclusive

Action: move to a joint understanding of continuum of need and emphasise the role of the JSNA

Action: include a big statement on the rights of children to feel safe and include a statement around every child achieves according to needs, rights and abilities (Jane Middleton)

The Executive discussed the inclusion of data and whether this should be specific to the three priorities included in the Plan or whether it should reflect the overall needs of children and families within the Borough.

Agreed: include all the data for the Borough but add links to further information relating to the data that is not covered by a priority.

Action: the project plans for the three priorities to include how they will support children's needs, rights, abilities and to feel safe.

Action: strengthen the inclusion of Ofsted safeguarding improvements within the Plan and Local Safeguarding Children's Board to be typed in full.

The Executive discussed the approach to the Commissioning Framework. It was generally agreed that a strategic framework was the way forward although some link to awarding and monitoring contracts was felt to be missing by some members.

Action: page 8 of the Framework, amend heading in table to 'schools, settings and colleges'

4. Setting the vision for the achievement of Partnership in the next 3 years

John Stephens explained that the vision for the Partnership should reflect the national language and aims but be crafted into something specific for Cheshire West and Chester. Themes for the vision would include children feeling safe, no wrong door, team around the child and locality integrated services.

Action: John Stephens, Jane Middleton and Denise Tideswell to craft a draft vision for the Partnership.

5. Setting the agenda for Partnership meeting on 29 July 2011

Gerald Meehan suggested that the agenda should focus on what we want to achieve for children, what it would look like and how value could be added by working together. Messages from children would be a good starting point for the Partnership agenda with some case studies around the three priorities.

Agreed: broad outline for the Partnership agenda should include messages from children and young people, three outcome priorities, Children and Young People Plan and Commissioning Framework

Action: to ensure Plan and partnership performance is monitored the Performance sub-group of the Executive should be established.

Action: for future Partnership agenda – parameters for sharing information including Area Partnership Boards, regular report from LSCB and vice versa and how the Partnership will link into the work of the Health and Well-being Board (Mora Swann/Jane Middleton)

Action: Item for next Executive agenda – Work Plan for the Board (Mora Swann/Jane Middleton)