



Halton Children's Trust
Minutes of Executive Group Meeting held on Tuesday 25th January 2011
2.00pm, Municipal Building Widnes

Present:

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director of Children's Services, HBC (Chair)
Diane Sproson	Area Manager, Connexions
Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Children's Organisation and Provision
Jane Lunt	Operational Director, Child & Family Health, Halton & St Helens PCT
Julia Rosser	Public Health Specialist Registrar, Halton & St Helens PCT
Jonathan Potter	Divisional Manager, Team Around the Family Widnes, HBC
Mark Grady	Children's Trust Principal Officer, HBC
Lydia Unsworth	CYP3SP Lead Engagement Officer
Emma Taylor	Divisional Manager, Team Around the Family Runcorn, HBC
Michelle Bradshaw	Assistant Director, Child & Family Services, Halton & St Helens PCT
Gareth Jones	Warrington & Halton Youth Offending Team
Hazel Coen	Divisional Manager, Performance, HBC
Lorraine Crane	Divisional Manager, IYSS, HBC
Karen Hickey	Assistant Policy Officer, HBC (minutes)

Apologies

Nigel Moorhouse	Operational Director, Children & Families Services, HBC
Paula St Aubyn	Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Quality and Review, HBC
Alison Upham	Principal Manager, Children with Disabilities, HBC

Item		Action
1.0	MATTERS ARISING	
1.1	Children's Trust Equality and Diversity Scheme to be circulated with minutes	KH
2.0	DECISION MAKING	
2.1	<p>Ofsted Inspection Framework – Actions for Children's Trust</p> <p>The inspection will take place from 7th to the 18th February. Invitations to the initial set up meeting have gone out to relevant managers. The Voluntary sector has been invited and LU is currently awaiting response as to representation. Executive members were asked to be prepared to be part of inspection focus groups upon the request of the inspectors</p> <p>Inspectors will be based in Runcorn Town Hall for the duration of the inspection period. MG co-ordinate transportation for inspectors to locations to be visited. GM to request deep clean of Grosvenor House building in preparation for inspection visits</p> <p>School visits will take place during first week, to account for holidays. PCT commissioners will meet beforehand to prepare for inspection. The PCT is currently undergoing internal audit which will assist in preparation for the inspection. Examples of good practice are to be shared across Trust so</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>MG</p> <p>GM</p> <p>ALL</p>

	<p>that partners are aware of each others work, with particular emphasis on highlighting outcomes.</p> <p>MG to query progress of self evaluation audit with Kate McPoland. Half day session to be arranged between Trust Partners to conduct an evaluation exercise, to identify collective strengths and weaknesses. Proposed for next Tuesday 1st February 1.00 – 5.00pm. MG to co-ordinate this.</p>	<p>MG</p> <p>MG</p>
2.2	<p>Children’s Trust Information Sharing Protocol</p> <p>The protocol has recently been developed for the Children’s Trust, based on an existing version. Members were asked agree the Protocol as the framework within which information sharing arrangements are agreed by agencies within the Children’s Trust, and to take back to their respective organisations for agreement and adoption of information sharing principles within the strategy. The protocol was endorsed by the Executive Group.</p>	
2.3	<p>Future Support for Halton Parent and Carers Forum</p> <p>The report presented a number of options for provision of future support for the group. The favoured option proposed was to transfer funding of the current supporting officer post to the wider Children & Young People’s Directorate funds, and to develop Service Level Agreement specification for service with Contracts & Commissioning Team for either a 2-day per week post (focusing on the Forum) or 4-day per week post (if Aiming High element of role is to continue). This service would then be put out to tender, with the intention for it to be provided by a Voluntary & Community Sector agency from 2011-12. This would be funded by HBC through the Early Intervention Grant. This option was agreed by the Executive Group, with the amendment that the contract would be for two years as oppose to three.</p>	
2.4	<p>Multi Agency Transition Strategy</p> <p>This Strategy supersedes the Halton Multi Agency Transition Strategy for Young People with Complex Needs (2007-2010), and focuses on how organisations can work together in order to assist young people through the transition process into Adult Services. A key issue will be who will take the lead role on Transition within the council structures from April onwards. The group endorsed the strategy.</p>	
2.5	<p>Halton Strategic Partnership Development Day</p> <p>The development day will take place on Monday 31st January and will focus on examining current structures and working relationships within the LSP. Nominations are required for attendance on behalf of the Children’s Trust. GM and DS to attend. They will raise issue of emphasis of children and young people within partnership</p>	<p>GM/DS</p>
2.6	<p>WNF Reallocation</p> <p>The five SSPs within Halton Strategic Partnership were previously asked to submit bids for surplus funding following the return of de-committed funds which were surplus to requirements for coverage of service decommissioning costs. Funding was in the main returned to individual SSPs who had originally returned funding. Remaining unallocated funding was divided between the 5 SSPs, which equated to 162k each.</p>	

	<p>A number of bids totalling 393k had been received by CYP projects, and therefore the Executive Group held a discussion to identify which projects would benefit the most from the funding available, with a view to sustainability of projects. Project identified to receive a percentage of available funding were as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making waves 30k • Missing from home 34k • Alcohol 24k • Teenage Pregnancy and NEET 83k <p>The Joint Commissioning Team will discuss allocations further before final confirmation to projects.</p>	
2.7	<p>Rollout of Workforce Development Strategy</p> <p>In order to implement the seven key strategic objectives within the workforce strategy there will be seven task and finish groups established. The Executive Group were asked to agree a designated lead for each of the groups. It was suggested that each of the groups could link into the new priority groups for the 2011 Children’s Trust priorities. The seven groups would be allocated to each priority closest matching to their aim. This would be a more sustainable method of support from the Trust due to resource implications. LC, JG and MG to meet to map the strategic priorities to the new priority groups.</p>	LC/MG/JG
2.8	<p>Integrated Working Support Team (IWST) Statement of Purpose</p> <p>This report was presented to refresh Partners awareness of Halton’s recently formed Integrated Working Support Teams and also brief the Children’s Trust on the IWST Statement of Purpose. It was requested that the Statement of Purpose was accepted and endorsed by the Trust and that the principles and systems noted in the Statement are agreed. The Statement was endorsed by the Executive Group, and is to be widely circulated across Children’s Services.</p>	
3.0	<p>PRIORITIES</p>	
3.1	<p>Children’s Trust Priorities Update</p> <p>The Executive Group were updated on developments following the Children’s Trust Away Day in December 2010. Three new priority groups have been agreed in principle, which will replace the existing Service Delivery Partnerships from April onwards. The new title for the Children’s Trust will be “Halton Children’s Trust, the partnership for Children”. The current strapline of “working together to make the difference” will be retained as this still reflects the new priorities, and will also avoid the need for additional spend on re-branding across the Trust.</p>	
4.0	<p>INFORMATION ITEMS</p>	
4.1	<p>Children & Young People’s plan Update</p> <p>A working group has now been established to consult on drafting of the Plan. Development however has been put on hold for the period of the Children’s Services Inspection. An outline structure has been agreed for the Plan and information is now feeding into this.</p>	
4.2	<p>Children’s Trust Commissioning Framework</p> <p>The revised framework highlights priority areas for commissioning within</p>	

	<p>children's services across the Children's Trust. Action plans have been produced for each of the commissioning priority areas, which are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupil Referral Provision/Behaviour • Breastfeeding • Alcohol • Supporting development of Team Around the Family • Children in Care <p>These will be brought back to the children's trust in order to measure progress. JL will be meeting with GPs in the next few months to look at how current commissioning within the PCT will progress.</p>	
4.3	<p>Auditing of practice within Children's Social Care This report was circulated to inform the Children's Trust of the findings and subsequent actions arising from the Auditing of Practice in Children's Services in November 2010, and to inform the Children's Trust of the progress of actions arising from previous Auditing of Practice events The report was noted by the Executive Group.</p>	
4.4	<p>Halton Communication Champion Report The report was circulated to the group for information. The Children's Trust were asked to support the campaign to promote speech, language and communication needs (SCLN) in the National Year 2011. There is currently a group within the Joint Commissioning Unit who are focussing on communication.</p>	
4.5	<p>HSCB Board and Executive Minutes The minutes were noted by the Executive Group. Main points highlighted were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current issues with CAVAs as all are referred to Children's Social Care. HSCB have agreed to commission a piece of research on this. • Current issues with performance targets not being met. The HSCB report card is currently being reviewed. JL to query with Charlie Whelan what action is being taken regarding red crosses • There have been some queries around how the Children's Trust involves and engages children and young people. This will be discussed as an agenda item at the next Trust Executive Group meeting. 	<p style="text-align: center;">JL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KH</p>
4.6	<p>Sentencing Green Paper This consultation document looks at punishment and rehabilitation of offenders, and how this impacts on children and families. Payment by results is an area for concern within the new proposals, and also the cost of custody could be moving over to the local authority which will have significant impact of about 600k per annum on local authority finances. To be tabled at the next Executive Group meeting for further discussion.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">KH</p>
5.0	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting: Tuesday 22nd February 2011, 2.00pm Conference Room 2, Municipal Building Widnes</p>	

Outstanding Actions to date:

Item	Action Required	Who by	When by
2.1	<p>Ofsted Inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members to be prepared to be part of inspection focus groups upon the request of the inspectors • MG co-ordinate transportation for inspectors to locations to be visited. • GM to request deep clean of Grosvenor House building in preparation for inspection visits • Examples of good practice are to be shared across Trust so that partners are aware of each others work, with particular emphasis on highlighting outcomes. • MG to query progress of self evaluation audit with Kate McPoland • MG to co-ordinate Self Assessment meeting between partners 	<p>ALL</p> <p>MG</p> <p>GM</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>MG</p> <p>MG</p>	<p>07.02.11</p> <p>07.02.11</p> <p>07.02.11</p> <p>07.02.11</p> <p>31.01.11</p> <p>01.02.11</p>
2.5	<p>LSP Development Day GM and DS to attend and raise issue of emphasis of children and young people within partnership</p>	GM/DS	31.01.11
2.7	<p>Rollout of Workforce Development Strategy LC, JG and MG to meet to discuss linkages of task and finish groups to Children's Trust priority groups</p>	LC/MG/JG	05.04.11
4.5	<p>HSCB Board and Executive Minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report Card - JL to query with Charlie Whelan what action is being taken regarding red crosses • Children's Trust involvement and engagement of young people to be discussed at next meeting 	<p>JL</p> <p>KH</p>	<p>07.02.11</p> <p>22.02.11</p>
4.6	<p>Sentencing Green Paper to be discussed in more detail at next Executive meeting</p>	KH	22.02.11