



Halton Children's Trust
Minutes of Executive Group Meeting held on Tuesday 18th October 2011
2.00pm, Marketing Suite, Municipal Building Widnes

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director of Children's Services, HBC (Chair)
Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Children's Organisation and Provision
Julia Rosser	Public Health Specialist Registrar, Halton & St Helens PCT
Mark Grady	Children's Trust Principal Officer, HBC
Simon Clough	Divisional Manager, 14 – 19 Services
Lorraine Crane	Divisional Manager, IYSS, HBC
Nigel Moorhouse	Operational Director, Children & Families Services, HBC
Steve Nyakatawa	Operational Director, Learning and Achievement, HBC
Jane Lunt	Operational Director, Child & Family Health, Halton & St Helens PCT
Emma Taylor	Divisional Manager, Team Around the Family Runcorn, HBC
Paula St Aubyn	Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Quality and Review, HBC
Diane Spruson	Area Manager, Connexions
Gareth Jones	Warrington & Halton Youth Offending Team
Karen Hickey	Assistant Policy Officer, HBC (minutes)

Apologies

Katharine Evans	Lead Engagement Officer, CYP Voluntary Sector Partnership
Jonathan Potter	Divisional Manager, Team Around the Family Widnes, HBC
Michelle Bradshaw	Assistant Director, Child & Family Services, Halton & St Helens PCT

In Attendance

Christine Taylor	Divisional Manager, Children in Care, HBC
Dwayne Johnson	Strategic Director, Communities, HBC
Andrew Leadbetter	Policy Officer, Corporate and Organisational, HBC
Hazel Coen	Divisional Manager, Performance and Improvement

Item		Action
1.0	MATTERS ARISING from 06.09.11	
1.1	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record. All outstanding actions have been completed.	
1.2	Levels of Need: a draft report has been produced and will be presented to next Children's Trust Executive meeting	NM
1.3	Early Intervention: a working group has been set up and will report to the next commissioning partnership meeting.	
2.0	ITEMS FROM GUEST SPEAKERS	
2.1	Children in Care Partnership Board and Strategy The multi-agency Children in Care Strategy has recently been reviewed and re-drafted, and this was presented to the Executive Group for endorsement. A Children in Care Partnership Board has been established and is responsible for promoting the responsibility of the	

<p>2.2</p>	<p>council and its partners as corporate parents. In addition the Children in Care Council, made up of young people in care and care leavers, feeds into the development of services for Children in Care. An action plan has been developed in conjunction with the strategy. The Executive group endorsed the Strategy and action plan.</p> <p>Public Health Structures Consultation</p> <p>Dwayne Johnson outlined the changes which will be brought about by the proposed transfer of Public Health to local authority control from 2013. A Director of Public Health will be appointed within the council, and will be directly accountable to the Strategic Director of Communities. Transfer of public health teams will be complex as the current teams also cover Halton and St Helens, but this is currently being addressed. The group discussed the need to explore different ways of working in order to achieve the targets set out in the JNSA and the Children and Young People's Plan.</p> <p>The Executive group agreed for the following actions to be taken to the Board for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trust need to consider the public health agenda and how to reflect the role of public health into the full range of services • The Trust need to consider if we would we need specialist staff within public health to represent children and young people <p>Both issues to be discussed at the next Executive Group meeting on the 29th November.</p> <p>A briefing will also be provided on the Marmot review at the next Children's Trust Executive meeting</p>	<p>JL/JR</p> <p>JL/JR</p>
<p>2.3</p>	<p>Child and Family Poverty Strategy</p> <p>The strategy has now been finalised and has been approved by the Council's Executive Board. The Child and Family Poverty steering group have been tasked with identifying indicators for child poverty. The steering group will provide 6 monthly updates to the Executive Group. ET to provide amendments with reference to Team around the Family. The Executive Group endorsed the Strategy and action plan with these amendments incorporated.</p>	<p>ET</p>
<p>3.0</p>	<p>PRIORITIES</p>	
<p>3.1</p>	<p>Improve outcomes for children and young people through effective joint commissioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An issue has been identified regarding funding bids from external organisations for provision of services for children and young people, as currently services are being provided which the Trust is unaware of and this may impact on future funding bids for the borough. AMc requested for a letter to be sent out on behalf of the Trust to partner agencies to address this issue. The Executive Group agreed this, letter to be drafted on behalf of Cllr Swain. • A lead on workforce needs to be identified for the commissioning partnership as Jonathan Potter will soon be leaving the authority. 	<p>AMc</p>

- A celebration event has been proposed to highlight best practice across the Trust and achievements to date.
- An operational group has been established to address teenage pregnancy.
- Opportunities for C-card services expansion is currently being explored
- Provision of youth services is currently out to tender
- Focus is being maintained on priorities in light of the current changes within the NHS
- An Infant Feeding Co-ordinator is currently being recruited via Bridgewater Trust, to ensure pathways are maintained and further developed for infant feeding support services.

NM requested that greater focus is given to the 19 programmes recommended from the Allen report, in order to identify services needed.


3.2 **Improve outcomes for children and young people through embedding integrated processes to deliver early help and support**

- The E-safety and Anti-bullying groups both now report into the EHAS group.
- Funding is being requested from schools for contribution to supporting IWST services
- A co-location model which has been established at Warrington Road children's centre is currently being reviewed, with positive feedback so far
- An Early Help and Support event is planned for December
- CAF training has been recently re-designed and will now be delivered in-house
- The Levels of Need Framework draft report has been received and is currently being circulated for consultation. Early indications are that the levels 3a and 3b will be redesigned.
- A Team Around the Family early help panel is currently being modelled, this is expected to be established by January.

3.3 **Improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people by targeting services effectively**

- The deadline for the action for educational needs of children in care has been amended
- An Early Years integration team is currently being established
- An analysis has been conducted of the widening gap between children receiving free school meals and those who are not
- Data for attainment of vulnerable groups is currently awaiting validation, early indications show that the gap is widening by a small percentage, however it is still narrower than comparable areas and significant achievements are still being made
- A minimum bursary of £15 per week will be available to all young people who were on free school meals at school who wish to go into post 16 education

<p>4.0</p> <p>4.1</p> <p>4.2</p> <p>4.3</p> <p>4.4</p> <p>4.5</p> <p>4.6</p> <p>4.7</p> <p>4.8</p>	<p>INFORMATION ITEMS</p> <p>NEET Discussion Information released during summer showed that the NEET figures had increased by 33%, however on more detailed investigation this is due to 3 reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The age of the cohort has been extended to cover aged 19 • The residency measured has been changed • The status of 'not known' children is now measured from July/August, which means that young people who have not enrolled on courses at that point are now included in the count. <p>Therefore in summary the information does not provide comparable data with previous years, and this is expected to change with subsequent data released.</p> <p>HSCB/Children's Trust Joint Event 2012 Suggestions for topics for the joint event were highlighted within the report. The date of the event is anticipated to be in early March. GM proposed that the event focuses on the Children's Trust priorities, and promoting these to staff. Date to be agreed for submission to Board meeting on the 3rd November.</p> <p>Children and Families Services Audit The audit was conducted with additional research on this occasion and included conversations with individuals. GM proposed that future audits include the journey of the child.</p> <p>CAF Audit Feedback The audit showed clear commitment from the Think Family forum. Children and families views were recorded, but not consistently. GM highlighted that the audits are very helpful.</p> <p>NHS Reforms Update Over the next few months some NHS staff will be taking voluntary redundancy/retirement. The remaining staff will be clustered into new arrangements.</p> <p>Orthoptic Screening Catch up Programme A gap in provision has meant that a significant number of children have not had their screening. This will now be done via schools.</p> <p>Performance Framework, Sustainable Community Strategy 2011- 16 The performance indicators were agreed at the previous Executive Group meeting, however some amendments have since been made to the targets. The group noted the new targets.</p> <p>Minutes from HSCB Board and Executive Meetings The minutes were circulated to the group for information.</p>	<p>MG</p>
<p>5.0</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>Date and Time of Next Meeting</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29th November, Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall • Meeting dates for 2012 are attached below  <p>2012 Childrens Trust Exec Group meeting c</p>	
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Outstanding Actions to date:

Item	Action Required	Who by	When by
1.2	Levels of Need: a draft report has been produced and will be presented to next Children's Trust Executive meeting	NM	22 nd Nov
2.2	<p>Public Health Structures Consultation The Executive group agreed for the following actions to be taken to the Board for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trust need to consider the public health agenda and how to reflect the role of public health into the full range of services • The Trust need to consider if we would we need specialist staff within public health to represent children and young people <p>Both issues to be discussed at the next Executive Group meeting on the 29th November.</p> <p>A briefing will also be provided on the Marmot review at the next Children's Trust Executive meeting</p>	<p>JL/JR</p> <p>JL/JR</p>	
2.3	<p>Child and Family Poverty Strategy ET to provide amendments with reference to Team around the Family</p>	ET	
3.1	<p>Commissioning Priorities AMc to draft letter on behalf of John Swain regarding current funding bid issues with partners</p>	AMc	
4.2	Date to be agreed for HSCB joint event for submission to Board on 3 rd November	MG	