

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES TRUST BOARD

Friday, 6th August, 2010

Present:- Councillor Lakin (in the Chair); Andy Buck, Shona McFarlane, Inspector Parker, Joyce Thacker, Caroline Webb, Julie Westwood and Janet Wheatley.

Apologies for absence were received from Dr Russell Byrnes, Alan Hazell and Richard Tweed.

D1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 21ST JUNE, 2010

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Children's Board held on 21st June 2010, were approved as a correct record.

D2. ISSUES AND CONCERNSVoluntary Sector

Janet Wheatley reported that the Voluntary Groups including Homestart were at risk. It was agreed that she would report to the next meeting on the impact of Government proposals on the future of Voluntary and Community Groups, including such as Homestart.

NHS Rotherham

Items for next meeting

- NHS White Paper – Effect on Commissioning Children's Services
- Future of Children's Trust and Statutory Requirements.

Agreed:- That the implications of the NHS White Papers referred to above be reviewed at the next Board meeting.

D3. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES TRUST BOARD PARTNERSHIP PROTOCOL

Julie Westwood, Director of Resources, Planning and Performance presented the submitted report regarding the development of a Partnership Protocol in respect of membership, terms of reference and governance arrangements for the Children and Young People's Trust Board.

The draft protocol had been circulated to all members of the Children and Young People's Trust Board for consultation and feedback.

Feedback had only been received from small number of members and

this had not proved conclusive. In the light of this, the draft protocol had only had minor amendments at this stage and details of the feedback that had been received was given at section 7 of the report.

A discussion ensued and the following issues were raised:-

- It was felt that the protocol was too large to be effective and it was suggested that an informal, easily understood document be produced.
- A query was raised as to whether there should be a separate legal trust
- Reference was made to the budget and whether this would lead to pooled budget arrangements. It was agreed that this needed to be debated in more depth in the future.

Agreed:- That the protocol be deferred pending clarification of the future role of the Board and the commissioning and future funding arrangements for Children's Services.

D4. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES PLAN COMMUNICATION PROGRAMME

Julie Westwood, Director of Resources, Planning and Performance presented the submitted report in respect of the Children and Young People's Plan Communication Programme.

It was noted that the Children and Young People's Plan 2010-2013 was now approved and published.

A great deal of consultation and engagement had been included in the review of the previous plan and the development of the Plan and all project plan milestones were met.

In order for the implementation stage to be successful a roll out programme had been devised to communicate to key stakeholders and this was summarised at Appendix A of the report.

The communications programme would involve Directors and key managers across the CYPS partnership in leading discussions with key stakeholders. This would ensure that contributors were able to receive feedback in relation to how their contribution had influenced the shaping of the plan and its priorities. Furthermore, it would be a key tool to engage with stakeholders who were vital to the successful delivery of the priorities and areas of focus. The Director of Community Services was taking the strategic lead on the implementation of the programme.

Agreed:- (1) That the Communications Programme be approved and fully supported.

(2) That an all Members Seminar be arranged during September.

D5. VALUE FOR MONEY REVIEW (VFM) - EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION SCOPING PAPER

The Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report in respect of the VFM Review for Early Intervention and Prevention Scoping Paper.

It was proposed that the VFM review would specifically focus on the following two areas:

- Alcohol services/interventions
- Children with complex needs

Examining these areas offers the potential to identify how better outcomes can be achieved for clients and cost savings and efficiencies. It also provides an opportunity to explore collaborative approaches to delivering the vision for Rotherham emerging in the Corporate Plan and Public Health Strategy.

The proposed key outcomes were:

- To understand what the spend across Rotherham was and how it compared with statistical neighbours
- To identify service partnership models which deliver VFM improvements through collaboration and co-ordination
- To develop a VFM improvement plan, which makes explicit what should be done to deliver the improved outcomes for clients and potential efficiency gains.

The proposed approach was to engage with all partner agencies and stakeholder groups to gather information/evidence in order to:

- Map relevant early intervention and prevention resources and services commissioned by the council and its partner agencies
- Establish current services/intervention pathways and performance of all services across all agencies
- Understand customer satisfaction with the relevant services
- Benchmark cost, performance and customer satisfaction with statistical neighbours
- Undertake detailed case-studies and obtain the views of focus groups
- Produce a report on the finding to VFM panel
- Develop a forward action plan.

The proposed Project Team were:

Project Sponsor
Project Manager

Joyce Thacker/Dr John Radford
Joanna Saunders

Project Management Support	Davinder Kaur El-Harti
Project Team Members	Peter Hudson
	Joanne Robertson
	Julie Slatter
	Tim Littlewood
	Andrew Lee

Input would also be required from CYPS, NHS Rotherham, NAS, South Yorkshire Police/SRP/EDS and VAR and the Voluntary Sector.

The timescales were as follows:

VFM Project Team Activity	Timescale
Proposed scope signed off by SLT	2nd August 2010
Preparation – desk research	30 th September 2010
Initial baseline report to VFM Panel	Early October (tbc)
First draft – VFM report/recommendations	31 st October 2010
Final VFM report and Implementation report - approved/signed off	30 th November 2010

Agreed:- (1) That the proposed scope of the Review be approved.

(2) That the proposed Project Team, timescales and partnership working be approved.

(3) That further discussions on the arrangements take place between Council and NHS Rotherham staff.

D6. COMMON ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK TEAM FUNDING

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report which laid out the current financial arrangements to develop, implement, monitor and administer the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Strategy in Rotherham, particularly in relation to the use of Common Assessment Framework (CAF).

Prevention/Early Intervention and integration was one of the work streams agreed with the DCSF as an area for improvement following the unannounced Ofsted inspection in August 2009 and the resulting notice to improve for Rotherham's Children and Young People's Service (C&YPS)

The work is lead by the Director of Community Services in C&YPS and strategically supported by the Deputy Director of Strategic Planning at NHSR. Significant progress had been made and favourably commented

on and most importantly case examples were emerging which evidence the success of early intervention.

More than 600 frontline staff had benefited from multi agency training, including around 100 Managers, and feedback from participants had been positive.

Work had taken place with, and on various IT systems and there was now a comprehensive performance system for the recording and monitoring of CAF.

The PEI Strategy was launched in April, and a comprehensive Implementation Plan was now in progress, regularly reviewed by a Multi-Agency Working Group and reported through to the Improvement Panel. At the start of the year a target of 600 CAF's were agreed by the Improvement Panel for the year and ratified by the CYP Board. By the start of July the total completed was 350.

A previous report to the Board in March 2010 highlighted the challenges faced across the country to the successful embedding of the CAF. It was noted that the answer to some issues was around resources, particularly administrative support. CYPS had managed to secure temporary funding for a post that would start to collate and co-ordinate all of Rotherham's CAF forms and RIEP funding was sought to establish 3 CAF co-ordinator posts.

We were successful in the application to RIEP and awarded £120k for 2010/2011. As agreed the money had been used to establish 3 CAF co-ordinator posts and confirm the CAF Administrative post; part of the role of the Co-ordinators was training.

The REIP funding was for one year only and consideration needed to be given to how these posts were to be retained. The Council had identified £29,050 toward the team, and it was proposed that the constituent members of the Trust Board contribute as a partnership to the funding of the remainder of these posts, initially for two years, by which point it was intended to undertake a comprehensive review of the PEI Strategy.

The real test of whether we can embed the use of CAF and genuinely make the shift to prevention and early intervention lay in the cultural change needed amongst all front line disciplines, agencies and organisations working directly with children and families. Structures were now in place to provide a seamless process of risk identification and support and intervention from high quality universal services through to the most specialist and targeted support. This work however poses complex and challenging planning and implementation, and therefore it would need the right experienced people to ensue success. Funding had been agreed by the Council for a Senior Manager post to drive forward the strategic element of the task and the CAF Working Group determined that the PEI Team should be enhanced by two Operational Management

posts to devise, champion, “troubleshoot” and model the practical implementation. The latter posts were opened up to Partner agencies for a secondment opportunity, but no responses were received. Therefore, in order to maintain momentum, the Council had identified two individuals with the necessary drive to undertake the task. Funding for one of the posts had been committed by the Council, but the funding for the other was only confirmed for one year. The Trust Board were therefore requested to consider contributing to maintaining this post at a minimum for the period 2011-2013. The costs of the PEI Team were:

Strategic Lead, Prevention and Early Intervention - £66,020
2 x Prevention and Early Intervention Operations Manager - £106,322

The Council contribution was £119,181, leaving a shortfall of £53,161.

Agreed:- (1) That a further report be submitted to the Board on the funding options for 2011/12 before arrangements could be agreed.

D7. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS - CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLES SERVICES PERFORMANCE INDICATORS REPORT - 2009/ 10 OUTTURN

Julie Westwood, Director Resources, Planning and Performance presented the report prepared by Stephen Booth, Performance Manager in respect of the performance at the end of 2009/10 against targets, with direction of travel against previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbours and national data.

Attention was drawn to Appendix A – Performance Assessment by Every Child Matters Outcome, which provided details of performance by each Every Child Matters Theme including:

- Performance against targets
- Direction of travel analysis
- Year to Date Performance
- Performance against Statistical Neighbours average
- Performance against National Average
- Areas of Success
- Areas of under performance
- An update on previous performance clinics
- Recommendations for future performance clinics

Full details of performance and commentary at indicator level were provided at Appendix B which was referenced throughout the Performance Assessment.

Agreed:- (1) That the Performance Report be received and the performance noted.

(2) That the recommendations regarding performance clinics (within Appendix A) be approved.

D8. CORPORATE PARENTING STRATEGIC REVIEW

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services presented the submitted report in respect of the Corporate Parenting Strategic Review.

A review of Corporate Parenting Structures was undertaken between November 2009 and March 2010 by the Looked After Children's Scrutiny Sub Panel.

The Review had been considered by the Council's Strategic Leadership Team, who recommended agreement to the Scrutiny recommendations. An Action Plan was attached for consideration.

Joyce reported on the Action Plan in place and progress being made.

Agreed:- (1) That the proposals be fully supported and the action plan endorsed.

(2) That the training for Councillors as Corporate Partners be welcomed

(3) That the Annual Report be submitted to Partner Organisations together with a relevant update report.

D9. RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report concerning identifying and managing risk on the delivery of the "Four Big Things".

At the previous meeting the Board discussed the development of a risk register which would identify risks to the delivery of the priorities in the new Children and Young People's Plan and sought ways of mitigating those risks. It was agreed that this action would be best undertaken as a workshop activity.

It was also agreed that prior to the workshop taking place, members of the Board should consider what would be the purpose and what types of risks would be included.

The Children and Learners Strategic Adviser had offered to facilitate the workshop, and the proposed format for discussion was for the Board partners to assess how well placed they felt that the children's trust partnership and each of the constituent partners were in delivering the "Four Big Things".

It was suggested that the first part of the workshop activity could consist of using elements of the "Getting Ahead" tool – a self assessment tool which

had been piloted with a number of Children's Trusts to assist with early identification of risks to delivery.

Once the key risks had been identified, the Board both collectively and as individual partners could then put forward proposals on how these risks would be managed and mitigated. This work can then be integrated into the corporate and respective partners risk registers.

Agreed:- (1) That the issues set out in the report be noted.

(2) That a facilitated Workshop take place to undertake a Risk Assessment.

(3) That the Workshop lead to the development of a Risk Register.

D10. FEEDBACK FROM FOSTERING AND SAFEGUARDING/ LAC INSPECTIONS

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director gave initial feedback from the Inspection.

Agreed:- (1) That the overall position be noted.

(2) That everyone be thanked for their hard work and commitment.

(3) That a further report be submitted to the next Board meeting, to include the reports.

D11. MINUTES OF THE ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDRENS BOARD HELD ON 11 TH JUNE, 2010

Agreed:- That the minutes of the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Board held on 11th June, 2010 be noted.

D12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Family Intervention Project

A request was made for an update to be brought to the Board on how this Project would develop.

Agreed:- That a report on the Family Intervention Project arrangements be submitted to a future Board meeting.

Serious Case Reviews

Joyce Thacker, Strategic Director gave an update in respect of the Serious Case Reviews.