

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD
Wednesday, 19th January, 2011

Present:- Councillor Paul Lakin (in the Chair); Andy Buck, Brian James, Dr. David Polkinghorn, Alan Hazell, Ann Jackson, Gill Alton, Joyce Thacker, Richard Tweed and Janet Wheatley.

In attendance:- Dorothy Smith, Clare Burton, Shona McFarlane, Pippa Wise, John Lambert, Paul Grimwood and Dean Fenton.

Apologies for absence were received from Martin Kimber.

D52. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2010

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15th December, 2010 were approved as a correct record.

D53. MATTERS ARISING

The following issues were noted:-

(1) Minute No. D43 – the final draft of the Partnership Agreement for the Children and Young People's Trust Board had been issued to all members for agreement and signature.

(2) Minute No. D44 – the draft proposal for the development of Prevention and Early Intervention Services would be submitted to a future meeting of this Board.

(3) Minute No. D48 – the Board noted that the number of Looked After Children registered with the Council had reduced.

D54. COMMISSIONING FOR OUTCOMES AND EFFICIENCIES PRESENTATION

The Board received a presentation from Clare Burton, Business Development and Partnerships Manager, about commissioning for outcomes and efficiencies within Children and Young People's Services. Board members also participated in workshop exercises to:-

- : enable outcomes to be identified in a consistent way across Children and Young People's Services;
- : meet year on year efficiency savings;
- : deliver sustainable improvements; and
- : accelerate commissioning activity where appropriate to achieve efficiencies at a faster rate.

After the workshop exercises had ended, the Board discussed the following salient issues:-

- maximising the use of limited resources available;

- children's and young people's safety, both preventing them from committing crimes and from becoming the victims of crime;
- ensuring early intervention and good quality communication about health and social issues (for example, to minimise the rate of teenage pregnancy);
- ensuring the good attendance of children and young people in the correct setting – ie: at school, college, training and employment, etc.
- ensuring that children and young people have adequate means of access to the service they require, with appropriate people to be their advocates where necessary;
- the most common causes of harm to children and young people (nb: to receive the NHS Rotherham paper about the incidence and causes of childhood deaths);
- to assess accurately the outcomes which children and young people require and ensuring that services are equipped, via the commissioning process, to be able to respond effectively to the needs of children and young people (ie: taking preventative action at an early stage, instead of having to react to issues later).

At the conclusion of the presentation and exercise, the Board agreed that:-

- (1) in terms of safeguarding children, the most common causes of harm to children ought to be identified and formally recorded;
- (2) the budget for commissioning in respect of the 4 Big Things should be identified;
- (3) in view of the limited resources available, to identify the most important issues to receive priority in the commissioning process;
- (4) to place these issues on the agenda of a future meeting of this Board, to enable the Board to determine which are the most important issues to receive priority in the commissioning process.

D55. YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICES

Consideration was given to a report presented by Paul Grimwood, Youth Offending Service Manager, detailing the outcomes of the recent Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) Core Case Inspection of Rotherham's Youth Offending Services (YOS). The report and Action Plan have been considered and approved by the Youth Offending Service Management Board. A copy of the Action Plan was appended to the report submitted.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the positive outcome of the HMIP Core Case Inspection be welcomed.

(3) That the progress of the various items within Action Plan be reported to a future meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board.

D56. CO-ORDINATED FAMILY SERVICES

Consideration was given to a report presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services concerning the need for strategic partners to develop co-ordinated family services. The report stated that the strategic priorities for these services are:-

- to develop coherent, responsive outcome based services that effectively meet the needs of children, young people and their families who have high levels of vulnerability;
- to develop collaborative partnerships with other agencies and
- to develop and improve service delivery ensuring a consistently high professional service.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That a further report about the proposals for co-ordinated family services be submitted to a future meeting, enabling the Children and Young People's Trust Board to consider this issue in detail.

D57. VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS) ISSUES

Consideration was given to a report presented by Janet Wheatley, Chief Executive of Voluntary Action Rotherham, providing a background and analysis of issues currently facing Rotherham's voluntary and community sector (VCS), especially in relation to Children and Young People Services. The report explored both the opportunities available and challenges faced by the VCS to meet changing market demands. The report also discussed the role and capacity of the local VCS to increase delivery in priority public service areas, against revised priorities within the Community Strategy, the 4 Big Things in the Children's Plan and the concepts underpinning a 'Big Society' and increased localism.

The Board expressed the view that further information was required about the specific organisations within Rotherham's voluntary and community sector (VCS) which were dealing with the current challenges.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That this report be referred to a meeting of the Children and Young People's Executive for further detailed consideration.

D58. ROTHERHAM CHARTER FOR PARENT VOICE

Consideration was given to a report presented by Pippa Wise, Parent Partnership Service Manager, stating that an Innovative Practice Project, (one of seven projects funded by the Department for Education) is being carried out in Rotherham following the publication of the 'Lamb Inquiry: Special Educational Needs and Parental Confidence'. A working group comprising members of the Rotherham Parents and Carers Forum, Children and Young People's Services' representatives, school staff and school governors have collaborated to develop a Charter for Parent Voice based upon research using the narratives of Rotherham parents who have children with special educational needs.

The Charter is a commitment to care, include, communicate and work in partnership with parents and their children. It has four key principles, each underpinned by criteria against which schools and services may evaluate their partnership with parents. The Charter will be supported by a practical toolkit and a training module for use by schools and services. A Charter Management Group, made up of parents, school and service personnel, will be established to assess and monitor the achievement of the Charter, including at gold standard. Initially designed for parents of children with additional needs, the Charter has the potential to apply to school and service involvement with all parents.

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the constituent members and organisations of the Children and Young People's Trust Board endorse the Charter for Parent Voice as the contract between the Council, its partner organisations and parents.

(3) That the Children and Young People's Trust Board actively encourages all schools and services to use the supporting materials to achieve the Charter.

(4) That it be noted that the official launch of the Charter will take place on Wednesday, 23rd March, 2011.

D59. RISK REGISTER REPORT

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Risk and Regulation Manager, concerning the Children and Young People's Services' risk register (a copy of the register was appended to the submitted report). The report is submitted further to the Risk Management workshop held on 8th September 2010 and the development of content using the Council's Risk Management monitoring system JCAD Risk. The risk register outlines:-

a description of the risk
who has overall responsibility for managing the risk
pre mitigation risk rating

mitigating actions
Persons responsible for mitigating actions
Percentage progress
Completion / review date
Post mitigation risk assessment

Agreed:- (1) That the report be received and its contents noted.

(2) That the current position with regard to risk management monitoring be noted.

D60. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2010/2011 QUARTER 2

Consideration was given to a report, presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services outlining the performance of Children and Young People's Services at the end of 2010/11 Quarter two against targets, with direction of travel against previous year's performance and comparisons with statistical neighbour and national data.

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

(2) That the recommendations regarding performance clinics, as detailed in the appendix to the report, be approved.

D61. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following matters were discussed:-

(1) Membership of the Children and Young People's Trust Board – the place for a school head teacher on the Board still remained vacant;

(2) Children and Young People's Trust Board Logo – the Board had awarded a £50 voucher to the pupil who had designed the logo;

(3) the need to arrange an early meeting between representatives of this Board and of the Safeguarding Children Board, to consider the annual report of the Safeguarding Children Board;

(4) Ann Jackson stated that she was leaving the area and would no longer be attending meetings of this Board; everyone thanked Ann for her contribution to the Board's role and work;

(5) The Board was informed that the Council had received a letter from Tim Loughton MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families, which has lifted the Notice to Improve from the Children and Young People's Service. The Service was now considered to be performing satisfactorily.

D62. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Agreed:- That the next meeting of the Children and Young People's Trust Board take place at the Town Hall, Rotherham on Wednesday, 9th March, 2011, commencing at 4.00 p.m.