

**MINUTES OF THE
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD MEETING
HELD ON 26th AUGUST 2010, MEZZ 3, COUNTY HALL, AYLESBURY**

Present:

Chris William (BCC) - Chair, Sue Imbriano (BCC), Carol Mason (Voluntary Sector), Chris Munday (BCC), Cllr. Penni Thorne (AVDC), Cllr. Hilary Evans (SBDC), Ed Mallam (BCC), Andy Toynton (Young People's Learning Agency), David Lunn (NHS Buckinghamshire), Karen Mitchell (Aylesbury College), Sally Loring (Bucks Hospitals NHS Trust), Bianca Kerley (Jobcentre Plus), Peter Holding (Sir William Borlase Grammar School), Coral McGookin (LSCB), Superintendent George Wrigley (TVP), Cllr. Jane Branwell (CDC), Bob Harrison (Connexions), Ed Macalister-Smith (NHS Buckinghamshire), Vivien Sailsbury (Voluntary Sector), Melanie Turner (BCC) – notes.

Apologies:

Alan Goodrum (CDC), Cllr. Jeanette Mann (WDC), Joules Howarth (Holmer Green Junior School), Chief Superintendent Paul Emmings (TVP), Malcolm Peckham (School Governor Representative), Donald McPhail (LSCB), Gill Clipson (Amersham & Wycombe College), Katharine Horler (Connexions), Stephen Czajewski (Thames Valley Probation), Pauline Odulinski (Aylesbury College).

Guests: DCI Yvette Hitch (TVP), Simi Patti (TVP), Louise Goll (BCC).

1. Welcome and Apologies

CW welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record with the following amendment:

Page 6, Item 12, Organisational Updates – CMason noted there's no mention of Action4Youth merging with Youth Focus. The name of the new organisation will be Action4Youth. MT to update.

Action: MT

Matters Arising:

Page 3, Item 2, Minutes and Matters Arising – organisations which were approached regarding funding for the CYP's Trust Participation Plan have responded.

Page 6, Item 11, Trust Champion Role – EM has received a few responses (Penni Thorne – Disability, Sue Collins – SEN, Pauline Odulinski – Workforce and NEET provision) but is still awaiting interest from colleagues. These should be sent to EM.

Action: All

3. Declarations of Interest

CMason noted her declaration of interest regarding the Action4Youth/Youth Focus merger.

4. Safeguarding Vulnerable Individuals (Yvette Hitch)

YH presented a number of papers on 'Supporting Vulnerable Individuals in Buckinghamshire'.

The following key points were noted:

- Formally known as the Channel Process.
- The SVI Process Panel – Trevor Boyd and Alan Dinning chair these.
- Making a referral – The process is about protecting/helping young people, not criminalising them.
- Implementing SVI – YT and SP have been to the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and will shortly be attending Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Board (SVAB).
- The CYP's Trust Board has a wide spectrum of organisational representatives therefore; it would be an ideal strategic lead for SVI.
- Some work needs to be done on the development of information-sharing protocols, terms of reference (SVI would want agencies to sign up to this if the Board agreed to be the strategic lead); developing plans and raising awareness amongst frontline staff.
- SVI are struggling to get involvement with mental health and Hospitals Trust. SL noted her concern and informed YT she would be happy to meet up to discuss this. SI reported there isn't an OBMH representative on the Trust Board therefore, another way in is needed. EMS also noted he would be happy to help.

YT asked colleagues if they had any potential interventions to please contact her.

Action: All

The floor was opened for questions and the following was noted:

- There are close links to Safeguarding however; sign at up strategic level is required.
- The LSCB can support monitoring and evaluation but not have any operational involvements.
- Action4Youth are very supportive but not all voluntary sectors may be. They will not be able to sign up on their behalf.
- There is no commissioning element.
- The initiative links back into:
 - Contest
 - Wycombe and Aylesbury pathfinder sights
 - Prevent (AVDC have their own prevent sub group).
 -

YH noted the Information Sharing Protocol is more for agencies however; voluntary organisations can sign a confidentiality statement.

EMS reported health services have clear arrangements regarding confidentiality and questioned whether the IS Protocol goes beyond this? *Response* – SVI is not asking anyone to breach confidentiality.

PH noted schools feel unsure about:

1. Criminalisation. However, has since been reassured this is not a problem.
2. Indicators being too generalised. All normal instincts are to share information of vulnerable children. How does one distinguish when to share this or not? There needs to be a specific trigger which identifies the difference in terms of violent extremism.

The Board agreed to be the Strategic Lead with a yearly report which details the number and nature of cases, increases/decreases and shifts in pattern.

CW asked what more can we do? *Response* - more referrals. YT asked representatives to alert staff.

Action: All

SI reported she was conscious social care would want to have a conversation with SVI before a referral is made. Simi Patti can provide this link and go through the process if necessary.

5. Feedback from Joint Commissioning Group and Annual Report (Chris Munday)

CMunday presented and discussed the 'CYP Joint Commissioning Strategy Action Plan Tracking Sheet'. The following updates were noted:

- Page 1, Children and Young People with complex needs:
 - Milestone 3 – Speech and language therapy is progressing.
- Page 3, Schools Capital Fund:
 - Milestone 1 – Managed to protect all of the Primary Capital Programme.
 - Milestone 2 – This is no longer a Government strategy. The James Review is taking place which will analyse schools capital. The Joint Commissioning Group will be putting forward their views but this is currently on hold.
 - Milestone 3 – Cressex school will open in September.
 - Milestone 4 – Funding will be received but its unclear how much.
- Page 7, Developing Local provision:
 - Milestone 1 – There are concerns over the Wendover and Prestwood sites as the DfE may revoke some of the money. However, work is still continuing as notice has not been given.
- Page 9, Youth & Leisure Activities:
 - Milestone 1 – There has been a significant removal of funding therefore, the programme has been put on hold at the present time.

The floor was opened for questions.

CMason – with the adjusted timescale in re-commissioning the Youth Service, how do we ensure it is Compact compliant? *Response* – this is challenging as central Government haven't made any announcements but we will ensure work with providers is done in the best way possible.

CW noted the following:

- So far there's been no flexibility on where cuts have been made as this has come from central Government.
- The spending review is announced on the 20th October.
- BCC has to model further substantial savings.
- Every service will have to reform. The scale of change:
 - £52 million out of the base budget.
 - Emergency Budget, £9.2 million.
 - Modelling, £40 million or £31m.

CMunday noted since the document was drawn up some milestones have been added e.g. child poverty. CMunday also reported the commissioning responsibility for Post 16 education and training will stay with the local authority and will be supported by the Young People's Learning Academy (YPLA). AT and SI also noted this was unexpected.

6. CYP Plan/LAA Q1 Performance Report (Ed Mallam)

EM presented the paper 'Performance Monitoring of the Local Area Agreement and the Children and Young People's Plan Targets'. EM noted a lot of work has been done with target owners to review measurability. Even though there may be a few poor performers, overall the report shows a really good improvement. EM also noted a column has been added to let people know if 'Bigger is Better' or 'Smaller is Better'.

Under each key priority for Buckinghamshire, the following key points were noted:

Closing the Gap

- Page 3, Permanently excluded pupils
 - Tying to establish three Behavioural emotional and social difficulty schools. The Federation starts 1st September.
 - Recycling money back into the county to expand provision.
 - The target includes a small number of people with high level special needs.
- Page 4, NI117:
 - The cohort is shrinking.
 - The indicator is seasonal.
 - From July – Sept, NEET will increase significantly.
 - There's lots of investment with colleagues.

SI noted the categorisation of NEET will change. SI has spoken to an advisor at Connexions, Aylesbury and is concerned about the little feedback young people are getting regarding recruitment. It would be useful to have something on the website informing young people if they haven't heard back within a certain number of days their application hasn't been successful. SI also noted informing employers of this.

BH and BK agreed to look into this.

Action: BH

LG reported NEET's are highly pressurised due to more highly qualified groups of candidates out there.

- Page 4, BME groups:
 - Bucks New Uni Report, need to circulate summary and action plan.
 - Work on analysing BME and CAF taking place.

In relation to the overall summary CMunday noted Early Years target has been achieved. LG also noted there have been improved GCSE results in challenging schools.

Early Intervention and Prevention

- Page 6, NI059 –Monthly performance has improved significantly
- Page 6, NI060 – Triage work, police referrals (500). GW will take back.

Action: GW (TVP)

- Page 6, NI065 – Alan Dinning is taking forward with Paul Emmings.

The floor was opened for questions and the following was noted:

- The need to flag up/promote apprenticeship within organisations. KM noted there opportunities for all students to be involved. Aylesbury College have not reached capacity. CW offered to write to the Chief Executives of partner agencies to encourage them to provide apprentices/ internships – the Board agreed.

Action: CW/EM

7. Reform of Children's Trusts (Sue Imbriano)

SI presented and gave an overview of the paper 'Reform of Children's Trusts'. The following key points were noted:

- The one-size-fits-all approach will not work; the preferred approach is to fit in with local need.
- There is a strong emphasis on local partnerships.
- The duty to cooperate on schools has been removed.
- It's even more important to have a local arm and address local issues; this is what our new structure should be able to deliver.
- There will still be a CYP Plan but it will be more about signposting rather than looking at a great number of targets.
- There will be fewer national indicators.
- There's been no mention of:
 - Revision of the roles and responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services.
 - JSNA – this still needs to be produced.
 - Tackling childhood poverty.

The floor was opened for questions.

CMason asked how many national indicators may go? *Response* - there is a possibility all may go apart from the statutory educational ones.

JB reported Districts should continue to partner with BCC as we could go into the mindset that children equal social care.

EMS noted its fundamental to have a partnership and it will be extremely helpful to reduce bureaucracy – the Board agreed.

CW noted a partnership arrangement is necessary but asked whether schools would like to continue? PH reported the Board would have between 6-12 months to persuade other schools. They will have to be convinced of the benefits.

EM noted we need to think about what the CYP Trust is called and develop a communication strand. EM also noted we see the current logo around a lot. A great deal of hard work has gone into the branding; if the name is changed it would be a shame to see this hard work gone.

CW noted The Board would continue to be called 'The Children and Young People's Trust Board'.

It was noted SI and CW would have a discussion around the Reform and put forward proposals which would be brought back to the next meeting.

Action CW & SI

The Board agreed the recommendations within the paper, namely to continue to have a CYP Trust as it is currently structured.

8. Budgetary Positions (All)

Each partner representative gave an update on their budgetary positions.

GW (TVP) – They are waiting for the announcement on the 20th October but the main impact on cuts has effected:

- Staff replenishment.
- Overtime planning.
- There will no longer be a Basic Command Unit (BCU) for Buckinghamshire.

GW noted they have produced a local policing model.

PT (AVDC) – Not aware of any cuts made but an officer may be doing a job share across authorities.

AT (YPLA) – No recruitment position apart from the academies. Much depends on the spending review therefore, one cannot make any guesses.

KM (Aylesbury College) – have increased target for recruitment, adult learner numbers have been cut and they too are waiting for the spending review.

JB (CDC) – CDC is managing. Assessing impact of grants which may impact on community cohesion.

BH (Connexions) – the main impacts have been on:

- Salary – six professionally qualified posts and six client facing roles, plus two other have been lost.
- Psychological impact.
- Closing the Gap – not yet known
- NEET – some impact, but not yet known.
- Prevention agenda.
- All redundancies have happened.

CMason (Voluntary Sector) – there is a diminishing pot of money. There will be fewer opportunities for the voluntary sector to fill the gaps.

PH (School Rep) – it will affect extended services. Headteacher colleagues are doing contingency plans.

HE (SBDC) – there have been reductions in:

- Community safety.
- Leisure department.
- Community sports – discussions are happening with Nexus to pick up the shortfall.
- What's on guide is going to stop – local and community magazines will pick this up.
- Withdrawal of free swimming for under 16's.

BK (Job Centre Plus) – reductions in:

- Running costs.
- Staff – cuts won't happen till next year. 30% are on temporary contracts.
- There will be a restructure.
- Employer subsidy has been stopped.
- Future job funds – no more bids.
- Don't know what will be in place after March.

EMS (NHS Buckinghamshire) noted the following:

- Have taken the strategic approach with a reduction of 150 million in 4 years.
- Agenda around productivity not cuts.
- NHS has been planning this for several years therefore, currently they are in a strong position.
- The impact has been similar across the county.
- May affect hospitals.
- PCT's will be abolished in 2 years' time.
- No changes in structure will affect responsibilities of NHS. The drive for productivity will mean some services change shape.

VS (Voluntary Sector) – more clarification on the 'Big Society' needed.

CMcGookin (LSCB) – raised the following:

- DM wrote to all Board members in July to make adjustments to plans and to ensure all agencies are aware of their responsibilities.
- Capacity issues on safeguarding children.
- Financial impact on own budget – no longer receive communications grant and cuts in the early based grant in child death overview.

SL (Bucks Hospitals NHS Trust) noted they are feeling the squeeze. They are improving efficiency and productivity.

SI (BCC) – reported the following:

- Difficult times.
- Carry forward of £1 million.
- There is an increase in child protection work (50%), looked after children (30%), child protection plans (30% plus).
- Transformation to deliver £750,000 this year.
- 1.9 million in year, ABG– cut in Commissioning and education.
- Proposal to reduce budget by 5.4 million.
- Planning for next year – priorities around safeguarding and Closing the Gap.
- Mechanism in place to share information up stream – need to consider in discussion.

EMS – very important a clear risk assessment is undertaken.

EM noted Malcolm Peckham's response which was received in advance of the meeting and had been circulated.

9. Government Policy announcements (Sue Imbriano)

SI noted there have been Government policy announcements on the following:

- Children's Trust review.
- Child Poverty.
- SEN.
- Role of the local authority in education.
- ContactPoint and GOSI has gone.
- List of QUANGOS and bodies to be scrapped.
- Consulting on what the Dedicated Schools Grant (DGS) will look like.

DL – establish some sort of exchange mechanism.

A policy page is being developed from the Trust website.

Action: EM

EMS noted the following:

- White paper cut to abolish PCT's and health authorities.
- There are new arrangements for commissioning.
- Legal enterprise is in a strong position; it has direct input in secretary of state.
- Transfer of public health function – white paper to come in the autumn.
- Oversee commissioning responsibility of GP's.
- Arms Length Bodies (ARB's).
- How the NHS will be measured.
- Regulatory framework.
- Major changes in the next 2-3 years.

EM noted a number of workforce development grants have decreased/ended.

10. Organisational Updates

Noted in Agenda Item 8.

11. Any Other Business

CW reported the Bucks Debate is being launched at the County Show. This is a major consultation exercise which is taking place throughout September. There is a direct link on the BCC website. CW to send information to EM to forward onto Board members.

Action: CW/ EM

CW also noted we will be asked to do a budget simulation exercise – he encouraged people to come along, alternatively BCC could visit an organisation.

CW noted this was LG's last meeting as she has taken up the role of Director of Children's Services in Somerset. CW thanked LG on behalf of the Children's Trust regarding everything she has done.

12. Date of the Next Meeting

Thursday 28th October 2010, 9.30am to 12 noon, Mezz 3, County Hall, Aylesbury.