

**MINUTES OF THE
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD MEETING
HELD ON 17th APRIL 2008, MEZZ ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL.**

Present:

Chris Munday (BCC) - Chairman, Cllr. Lin Hazell (BCC), Alan Goodrum (CDC), Ed Mallam (BCC), Cllr. David Polhill (BCC), Cllr. Penni Thorne (AVDC), Alfred Hanson (OBMH), Cllr. Hilary Evans (SBDC), Carol Mason (Voluntary Sector), Jane Taptiklis (Bucks PCT), Sally Wallis (Bucks Hospital Trust), Louise Goll (BCC), Lee Gilmour (BCC) – minutes.

Apologies:

Chris Williams (BCC), Ed MacAlister-Smith (Bucks PCT), Yvonne Taylor (OBMH), Cllr. Marion Clayton (BCC), Sue Imbriano (BCC), Pauline Odulinkski (Aylesbury College), Cllr. Helen Wilkinson (WDC).

1. Welcome and Apologies

CM welcomed everyone to the meeting and the apologies were noted.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed with the following amendment:-

Under Organisation Updates from LH, 'Burnham School' should have read 'Burnham Upper School'.

UN Convention of the Rights of the Child

CM again reminded everyone about this. Some members have passed on the information but haven't received responses from their organisation, others organisations have already adopted it. EM will send a follow-up letter.

Action: EM

Trust Website

It has been agreed that an independent Trust website can go ahead.

Children and Young People's Plan Refresh

The CYPP has now been finalised and published on the web site:
www.buckscc.gov.uk/childrenstrust

Working Group Members for the Review of the Trust Board

This is still going ahead although funding has not been identified; EM has been discussing with Sarah Ashmead and possible options are:

1. Improvement Partner – The first round of bidding has already passed, but SA is keeping this on a list of potential projects if a further round of bidding is agreed. Any projects funded through this route have to have clear benefits across the group of authorities, so there would be an expectation that the project be expanded to be able to include say Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes Trusts to.
2. Progress through Partnership programme – the more likely option. There may be some funding for Bucks from the South East programme next year. This has been set up to a capacity build LSPs and we received an allocation at both county and district levels this year. The outcome will not be confirmed for a couple of months but this review could be a legitimate call on this money.

Those that have volunteered to be part of the working group have been contacted regarding dates for the pitch from those organisations who have expressed an interest in undertaking the review to take place.

It was agreed that the new chair should be appointed after the review. SI and CW will continue to chair until a replacement has been found.

Action: EM

There is no update on Puzzle Corner.

4. Tackling Under Achievement Presentation (Louise Goll)

CM welcomed Louise Goll to the meeting. LG made a presentation to the Board, with supporting paper 'Experiences of poverty and education disadvantage'. This document has just been published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

The floor was opened for questions.

It was asked if the information was only measured on education outcomes and if we will do the same with other measures i.e. social, crime/offenders etc. Response – it is not just the schools that need to be addressed but other areas as well for example the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) includes health related data.

It was suggested that the role of education is wider than schools and expands to family learning; offering opportunities for families to learn what their children are trying to learn, involving whole families, for example Father and Son – ICT and Maths Training.

Reference page 6 of the above paper, Activities outside school, third paragraph – there are very limited resources to enable this work. What is in place to support this? Response – the development of Extended Services will address this area to an extent. Schools are coming together with community partners, although more work is needed it is progressing.

It was suggested that we need to think about what 'relative deprivation' means. It may need more information than just Acorn Group data, other factors could include housing, employment and health. Response – we haven't got the full analysis of the JSNA yet, however it was agreed this would be good to investigate.

The JSNA data will come to the Board at the next meeting, which suggests that, the Acorn 5 group in Bucks do worse than the same group in other counties.

Other points also noted:

- Children do have an early perception of their social and economic status.
- Children do see security and safety at good schools with good teachers.
- The Young Offenders Unit profile and link in to how well they did at school.
- Impact of preconceived attitudes of parents about schools.

5. Tackling Under Achievement Workshop (Chris Munday)

CM facilitated a discussion asking what were the key responses to move forward to address the issues raised in the presentation.

The following was noted:

- What aren't we doing in Bucks that other authorities are, to establish the differences? Some other 'shire' authorities are doing better but not great.
- What process do we have in place for moving forward i.e. pilot areas and unpicking the details in the variables? This is a huge task to take on including, provision mapping – what and to who is already being provided.
- How much do we think the transition between schools impacts? Provision mapping around areas that are in Acorn 5. There is a gap in the age group 8-13.
- Children's Centres who is using them and how does this relate this to Acorn 5 group?
- Teenage age range, putting on things for this group, where is funding coming from?
- Youth Centres and Groups how are they staffed and used?
- Do we need the workforce to know and understand these issues? Do they know how much impact or difference they could make.
- It needs to be determined what resources we have and what needs to be done. Targeting resources to that area.
- Narrowing the gap – not only, what is education going to do in schools but also what is the community going to do?
- Should schools be more involved? Some are, but others are not so engaged.
- Schools are not invited to sit on the board:
 - SI and LG can represent.
 - It is difficult for head teachers to represent schools as they are all so different.
 - Schools are radically different.
 - Schools do identify and liaise with other partners in their direct communities.
 - There needs to be a network to get information.
- Breaking cycles, how to use resources for better health, prevention, changing knowledge and education. A system for parents groups.
- There are areas of concern scattered around the county, outside major hot spots, how do we cater for these areas? Heightening perceptions i.e. teacher in a social advantaged area setting homework to look up something on the internet – can we assume that everyone has access. Divides are wider within a rich area for Acorn 5.

- It was agreed strategically that priority needs to be given to this. The Local Delivery Programme is established and has started to roll out. For example a mobile Children's Centre to target and tackle small clusters of rural deprived. We need to identify these areas that we want to tackle.
- LH referred to a midnight bus used in Birmingham working from 12 midnight to 3 am, picking up young people from the streets. Encouraging them back into school and engaging with other children and young people. This has proved to be successful.
- Some services are being accessed by those who don't need it, so not more of the same; we need to provide something different. Creative delivery is critical.

It was agreed the following actions would be taken forward as a result of the discussion:

- Explore what other authorities are doing differently.
- Provision mapping, linked with local delivery – who is doing what?
- Training for staff – getting them to see how powerful they are in implementing changes.
- Targeting resources via the CYPP with links to the LSPs and BSP. Revisit the LAA delivery plan. Needs to be evidence based –e.g. Joseph Rowntree Foundation paper.
- Considering issues of rural deprivation through local delivery and workforce strategy.
- Communicating key messages with partners. There will be winners and losers in terms of how resources are allocated.

CM thanked LG for the presentation.

6. Government Children's Plan (Chris Munday)

CM presented the brief summary paper 'The Children's Plan: Building a Brighter Future'.

The Trust Delivery Group is undertaking some work on this to look at what is new and what we need to consider.

Awareness needs to be raised around this.

Action: All

7. Children's Trust Statutory Guidance (Ed Mallam)

EM presented the paper 'Statutory Guidance for Children's Trusts on the Duty to Cooperate – Consultation Response Form'. The closing date for the consultation is the 26th June.

Generally this is well on track for proposals being made. Positive things include progress in Buckinghamshire on:

- Workforce Development.
- Integrated Processes.
- Integrated Strategy.
- Links to LAA.
- Joint Commissioning.
- Participation by children and young people in decision making.

Clarification around schools was requested. Under ECM schools are not obliged or have a duty to cooperate, does this over-ride that. Response - no, there is nothing statutory about engaging. However more work has been done with schools than before.

Partnership and Guidance around key partners. How should the PCT move forward, there will be a point when a formalised agreement/legal framework will be required? Should we now move towards a more legalised arrangement to establish who is accountable? Response – the Trust has a clear legal constitution at the moment. This needs to be looked at and legal view sought and then agreed by the Trust.

Other points noted:

- It is noted in the document that Schools are important partners.
- Joint Commissioning is a lot more than contracting and procurement.
- An interesting item in the document was about 'holding internal providers to account'.
- How is the transition between child and young person being managed?
 - Delivery 13 plus to 19.
 - Accredited target.
 - It was suggested talking to Chris Garcia and Dean Taylor.

CMason will take this up.

Action: CMason

It was agreed that the Trust Board would make a response to the consultation. EM to draft a response and bring to the next meeting. Individual organisations are also obviously able to respond if they so wish.

Action: EM

8. Local Area Agreement (Chris Munday)

There is nothing to report on this at the moment.

9. Organisational Updates

AH reported on a good workshop held on the 1st April about Eating Disorders, which was well attended by GPs, schools etc. On the 11th September there will be a launch of a Healthy Eating Pack that will go to schools. Young people's comments on this provided surprising and useful results.

SW reported that the re-configuring of Children's Services Buildings has started and is due to complete in November/December. There will be no 'In Patient Services' for High Wycombe. LH asked how critically ill, looked after children will be educated (currently ward 11). Response – Educational provision will be provided at Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

JT reported that the PCT has a new Chief Executive, Ed MacAlister-Smith, who will normally be attending the Trust Board.

CMason gave a reminder about the Youth Focus led Building the Trust conference to be held on the 14th May.

LH reported on the 'Airspace Event' at Burnham Upper School. There was initially a problem engaging with the young people, however about 10 joined in (2 boys and 8 girls) and the work went on for about an hour.

HE reported that a new Children's Centre, St Peters, has opened in Burnham, thanks to a lot of people who helped with this project.

EM reported that Theresa Doyle has been appointed as the Participation Worker, who you can contact for advice on participation related work.

CM reported that all 24 Children's Centres have been designated within the deadline imposed by the Government (it will be 2 years for full care to be offered.)

CM also reported that we have now got guidance for the Annual Performance assessment of the County Council. Deadline for submission to Ofsted is by 26th June. Work streams are being set up to progress. Members of the Board or representatives from their organisations may be approached to contribute. A draft APA will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Action: EM

10. Any Other Business

None

11. Date and Time of next meeting

Thursday 29th May, 9.30am to 12 noon, Mezz 2, County Hall, Aylesbury