



**Minutes - Halton Children's Trust Executive Group Meeting  
16 December 2014**

**Present:**

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director Children & Enterprise, HBC (Chair)
Tracey Coffey	Operational Director, Children and Families Services, HBC
Gill Frame	Halton CCG
Steve Nyakatawa	Operational Director, Learning and Achievement, HBC
Catherine McCudden	Assistant Policy Officer, HBC (minutes)
Lorraine Crane	Divisional Manager, IYSS, Commissioning & Troubled Families, HBC
Mark Grady	Principal Policy Officer, Children & Enterprise, HBC
Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Children's Organisation and Provision, HBC
Julia Rosser	Consultant, Public Health
Veronica Wright	Divisional Manager, Team around the Family, HBC

**Apologies:**

Michelle Forder	Parent & Voluntary Lead Engagement Officer, HBC
Gareth Jones	Youth Offending Service
Simon Clough	Divisional Manager, 14 – 19 Services, HBC
Michelle Bradshaw	Family Services Manager (Universal Services), Bridgewater
Jan Snoddon	NHS Halton CCG
Catherine Johnson	Principal Performance Officer, Children & Enterprise, HBC
Chris Masikane	Operational Assistant Director Children, Families & Wellbeing Division, 5 Boroughs Partnership

Item		Action	Deadline
<b>1.</b>	<b>Minutes and Matters Arising from 04.11.2014</b> Accepted as a true record. Matters arising included:		
1.1	<u>1.1 Children's Trust Membership</u>  Police – MG has contacted Nigel Wenham for Police representation. This has been cascaded locally to Halton to Paul Beauchamp and Martin Cleworth. MG to contact Paul and Martin to request a named representative to receive information and attend as required.  Health – The second Health representative will be agreed at the next EHAS meeting, the meeting scheduled for November was cancelled due to the Ofsted inspection.	<b>MG</b>	<b>17.02.15</b>
1.2	<u>2.2 ChiMat Child Health Profiles</u> Children's Trust Report Card is now updated including CHiMat Child Health Profiles.		
1.3	<u>3.1 Halton Alcohol Strategy</u> Breakdown of data for specialist elements completed Feedback completed for November deadline		

<p><b>2.</b></p> <p>2.1</p> <p>2.2</p>	<p><b>INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS</b></p> <p><b>Ofsted Inspection-Update</b> GM gave an update of the inspection to date:</p> <p>GM wanted to express his thanks for a fantastic effort by everyone involved saying that those involved including partners had excelled in their efforts in terms of the inspection overall. Some other points included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ofsted will meet tomorrow, 17<sup>th</sup> December, in a feedback session to grade Halton for its performance</li> <li>• Some of the positive outcomes came out of children in care and adoption services</li> <li>• The Safeguarding Board also came out with a very good result as did Early Intervention</li> <li>• It was suggested that the Strategic Framework is solid at present</li> <li>• Nothing alarming was indicated by the report and the Trust is confident in 6 months significant progress will have been made, particularly with the Care and Initial Assessment teams.</li> <li>• JSNA is the best they have seen – although issues surrounding disability were weak</li> <li>• The commissioning services also came out as being particularly strong</li> </ul> <p>GM asked to relay to the partners how strong the relationship benefited the assessment overall.</p> <p>TC reiterated that there were no cases of children ‘at risk’ and Ofsted applauded their level of reflective assessment and also extended her congratulations and thanks for overarching support.</p> <p><b>CAF Report</b> VW provided an update of the report which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within the last 6 months improvements have continued to improve and translate as being good or satisfactory in the cohort.</li> <li>• When the audit was started 3 years ago CAFs were not as regularly reviewed as they are now.</li> <li>• CAF audits were praised and as significant increase of people are putting themselves forward for a CAF review</li> <li>• In terms of Voice of the Child and SMART targets - expectations are high with tool sharing services now available to link to assessment and care plans, particularly where male carers are involved</li> <li>• E-CAF will be up and running from January’15</li> <li>• DCLG - Delivering differently in Neighbourhoods bid will find out in January’15 if the bid has been successful. The bid would help to build family CAF champions</li> </ul>		

<p>2.3</p> <p>2.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to improve family feedback, still struggling to get families at point of audit</li> </ul> <p>VW suggested that we needed to be better at disseminating findings through the services/ agencies- Working Together meetings and CAF training. The team aim to build into Early Intervention how to deal with levels of assessment.</p> <p>AM suggested we change terminology to Requires Improvement and feed back to Paula St Aubyn.</p> <p>VW Talking to MF about using YP carer’s to give an account of their experience to improve services</p> <p><b>Performance Report</b> MG gave an overview as follows:</p> <p>The report card circulated was put together through the submissions received for the Sustainable Community Strategy at the end of quarter 2. Further analysis will be provided following the next EHAS meeting, which was delayed due to the inspection. CHIMAT information has been integrated however where possible, where the data matches. A more complete report will be provided following quarter 3, where Early Intervention measures will start to be fed in</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was noted that inspectors had referred to 22% of Care leavers being pregnant/parents. This is separate data to our Teenage Pregnancy rates – which are for all young people up to 18.</li> <li>• JR confirmed Care Leavers have been identified within the FNP and will be receiving additional support.</li> <li>• TC suggested doing direct research with care leavers who are parents to identify what informed choices they have made based on the education/support they have received</li> </ul> <p><b>Update on Commissioned Services</b> AM gave an update on the services which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocacy/ Independent Visitors have now been commissioned</li> <li>• Emotional Health and Well-Being have had positive outcomes</li> <li>• Shorts breaks contract is now looking ready to go out to tender.</li> <li>• Specialist List for Youth Services has been awarded</li> <li>• CSE and missing offer has been extended.</li> </ul> <p>LC: There are concerns that other authorities are investing more money so Halton will need to match up or risk losing out. 31<sup>st</sup> March deadline for contracts, revealed Speech and Language is going back out.</p> <p>JR: FNP will be commissioning in Oct’15 resuming the same service. School Nursing will be going out soon for procurement in Sep’15 and Well-being enterprise has received funding for CIC.</p>		
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2.5	<p><b>Closing the Attainment Gap Report:</b></p> <p>SN gave an overview of the report paying particular attention to <b>3.2, 4.2, 5.5</b> and <b>7.3</b> which concluded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaps are closing, but not fast enough, Halton are still performing poorly</li> <li>• Key stage 1 &amp; 2 free meals are variable and Ofsted outcomes look more positive than statistically accurate</li> <li>• Gender is still an issue, especially in early key stages</li> <li>• Across the board the performance has improved, but writing still needs improvement in all key stages</li> <li>• Annual Education Report - Halton is in the top ten of the country, outside of London, which is an excellent achievement for disadvantaged Young People in the borough for FSM.</li> </ul>		
3. 3.1	<p><b>ITEMS FOR AGREEMENT</b></p> <p><b>Halton Suicide Prevention Strategy</b></p> <p>JR presented on behalf of Dr Anwar the new Suicide Prevention Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New plans to do a suicide audit on an annual basis, identifying possible areas of prevention</li> <li>• Initiatives have been made to work hand-in-hand with mental health professionals identifying those at risk</li> <li>• Few cases in Halton of YP committing suicide, but an increase in Halton - unsure whether this is a reflection nationally</li> <li>• Often a verdict of suicide is not given and there is a strong link between self-harm and suicide</li> <li>• Supporting staff to identify children at risk which is on the rise (CDOP Report)</li> <li>• Suggested 'culture of the bridge' may lift suicide statistics. Last year has increased and this propagates in the press as a cultural thing.</li> </ul> <p>Areas for action can be identified on p19-25 of the report which includes early intervention for children at risk and those YP who have already experienced suicide within the family unit.</p>		
4. 4.1 4.2	<p><b>PRIORITY UPDATES</b></p> <p><b>Commissioning Partnership Action Plan</b> (attached)</p> <p><b>Early Help-Closing the Gap Action Plan</b> (attached)</p>		
5. 5.1	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <p>GM thanked Steve for his time with Halton Borough Council</p> <p><b><u>Date/time of next meeting:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February 3-5pm Committee Room 1</b></li> </ul>		

**Runcorn Town Hall**

**2015 meeting dates**

**3-5pm, Committee Room 1 as follows:**

- **31 March**
- **12 May**
- **23 June**
- **4 August**
- **15 September**
- **27 October**
- **8 December**