



Halton Children's Trust

**Minutes of Executive Group Meeting held on Tuesday 26th October 2010
2.00pm, Municipal Building Widnes**

Present:

Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Children's Organisation and Provision (Chair)
Jane Lunt	Operational Director, Child & Family Health, Halton & St Helens PCT
Julia Rosser	Public Health Specialist Registrar, Halton & St Helens PCT
Jonathan Potter	Divisional Manager, Children's Locality Services, HBC
Gareth Jones	Warrington & Halton Youth Offending Team
Mark Grady	Children's Trust Principal Officer, HBC
Joe Linnane	Performance Manager, Connexions
Karen Hickey	Assistant Policy Officer, HBC (minutes)

Apologies

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director of Children's Services, HBC
Steve Collett	Chief Officer, Cheshire Probation Area
Nigel Moorhouse	Operational Director, Specialist Services, HBC (Co-chair)
Diane Sproson	Area Manager, Connexions
Paula St Aubyn	Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Quality and Review, HBC
Michelle Bradshaw	Assistant Director, Child & Family Services, Halton & St Helens PCT

In attendance

Les Unsworth	Policy Officer, HBC
John Gallagher	Principal Policy Officer, HBC
Val Stoddart Cross	Principal Educational Psychologist, HBC

Item		Action
1.0	MATTERS ARISING	
1.1	Item 1.2, Children's Trust website , development is still on-going, the site will now be hosted within Halton Strategic Partnership website to ensure that it is accessible to all partners.	
1.2	Item 2.1, WNF Review and Evaluation - evaluation has now taken place across all 5 SSP partnerships and 3 generic areas have been identified which would have the biggest impact across all priorities within the LSP. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol harm reduction • Employment/NEET issues • Safer communities The 4 priorities for Children and Young People previously identified will fit within these areas.	
1.3	Item 3.1 Children's Trust meetings – work on the matrix of meetings is still ongoing, this will be discussed at the away day in November.	MG
1.4	Item 4.1, Sustainable Community Strategy – drafting of the strategy is progressing. A report was submitted to the Children's Trust Board which will be circulated with the minutes.	KH
2.0	DECISION MAKING	

2.1	<p>Children’s Workforce Development Strategy</p> <p>The document has been to the Children’s Trust Board and the draft agreed pending further amendments. This will be an enabling strategy which will interlink with other strategies and work plans to provide direction. The action plan within the document now provides more specific timescales and outcome measures. The document will be sent to print on the 29th October</p> <p>A launch event for the strategy will take place on the 18th November, in conjunction with the Children’s Trust Equality and Diversity Scheme. Multi agency shadowing opportunities will be on offer at the event, as a result of feedback from the Children’s Trust/HSCB joint event in February. Children’s Trust partners have been asked to promote the event to staff within their organisations. AMc highlighted that JG will need to ensure adequate supplies of the strategy, plus promotional material are issued to all partner organisations.</p>	
2.2	<p>Children’s Trust Equality & Diversity Scheme</p> <p>This has been developed as an action identified within the Children & Young People’s Plan 2009-11. Under the Equality Act 2010 general duties are reaffirmed, and the socio-economic duty towards protected characteristics is also included, which cover new areas of protection. It is imperative for all Children’s Trust partners to be responsible for, and have a real commitment to, equality and diversity, to ensure it is incorporated in to everyday business and practice. Five critical factors have been identified for improving equality and diversity across the partnership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment • Involving users • Mainstreaming equality and diversity • Monitoring performance data • Sustainability <p>An action plan is included within document, including monitoring mechanisms. Partner organisations will need to raise awareness of legislative changes and individual responsibility to adhere to new guidance within their practice and procedures. The possibility of multi agency training needs to be explored. JL to nominate representative from PCT for the Children’s Trust E&D working group.</p>	JL
2.3	<p>Anti Bullying Work in Halton</p> <p>The Executive Group members were informed of the current status of anti bullying work within Halton. Val Stoddart Cross is now leading on this area of work. A multi agency anti bullying operational group has now been established and will report directly to SDP1. There are a number of tasks for the group to address, including establishing local measures for bullying following demise of Tellus. Additionally a means of sharing good practice is to be established, to include adult services. The Anti Bullying Charter is also to be updated. The approach was supported by the Executive Group, and members were asked to note in their diaries Anti-bullying Week in November, including a conference on 15th November at the Stadium.</p>	ALL
2.4	<p>Maternity Matters Strategy</p> <p>The strategy and action plan has been developed to facilitate the</p>	

	<p>commissioning of high quality maternity care that is more flexible and responsive to the clinical, social and cultural needs of women and their families with the aim of increasing choice. Options on how to re-energise the Maternity Matters steering group are currently being explored.</p> <p>The Executive group were asked for endorsement of strategy and action plan, and acknowledgement of opportunities for integrated working with Team Around the Family. A Children's Centres Away Day will take place on the 8th December to establish priorities, JL will attend this. The Executive Group endorsed the strategy</p> <p>2.5 Team Around the Family</p> <p>The Executive Group were updated on Team Around the Family (TAF) developments within Runcorn and Widnes, with note to key areas of development and priorities over the next 3 months.</p> <p>Staffing structures are now in place for TAF, and an Integrated Working Support Team (IWST) has been established. Earlier this year the Children's Trust agreed that the Operational Director of PCT Commissioning would be the Chair of a new Strategic Group that would oversee the development, practice and processes of integrated and preventative working within the Borough and this group is now operational. Ongoing work is needed to ensure CAFs are completed when required but that appropriate help is given via the IWST Team. Improving and maintaining relationships with all key partners is a key priority for TAF.</p> <p>Recommendations were that the Children's Trust Executive Group accepts the terminology associated with the TAF model. Further reports will be brought to the Children's Trust on progress, on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>2.6 NHS White Paper Consultation</p> <p>A short response has been submitted to the consultation on behalf of the Children's Trust. There is a possibility for school health services to transfer over to the local authority in future. JL agreed to circulate the response.</p> <p>2.7 Family Nursing</p> <p>This is an intensive preventative programme for teenage parents, with the aim of improving antenatal health and child health and development. NHS Halton & St Helens have withdrawn from the current implementation phase of Family Nursing due to resource constraints. The Children's Trust need to be aware of the decision taken, and take this into account when deciding their commissioning priorities for 2011/12, to consider how best to work with teen parents in order to improve outcomes for this group. This will be examined further as part of the Joint Commissioning Unit work.</p> <p>2.8 Children's Trust Development Day</p> <p>This will take place on the 26th November, 9.30am – 1.00pm at the HBC Corporate Training Centre, Widnes. The event will be a launch pad for development of the Children & Young People's Plan 2011</p> <p>The agenda will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress of existing priorities • Emerging national priorities 	<p>JL</p> <p>JL</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halton issues • New Children's Trust priorities and structures to take forward. <p>MG to circulate draft agenda for further comment.</p>	MG
3.0	PRIORITIES	
3.1	<p>SDP Update - Young People are Physically, Emotionally and Sexually Healthy</p> <p>Recent focus has been on in year budget cuts in some local authority grants and defining the commissioning intentions based on the priorities to get maximum impact with funding available. The NHS White Paper has set out the intention regarding GP commissioning from 2013. The Public Health White paper in late autumn will provide further clarity regarding where commissioning for children's services will sit. Also the Comprehensive Spending Review in late October will clarify funding for 11/12 and beyond. To assist this process, SDP 1 is to hold a workshop to start looking at needs analysis, gaps and current funding to enable a commissioning and financial plan for 11/12 to be developed</p>	
3.2	<p>SDP Update – All Young People are Successful when they Leave School</p> <p>At the end September 2010 the percentage of 16 to 18 year olds NEET in Halton had fallen to 9.15% compared with 10.56% at the end September 2009. This equates to fall in real terms from 437 young people in September 2009 to 362 in September 2010. Schools data shows improved outcomes at 16, with 90% of pupils leaving with 5 A-Cs which impacts on self esteem as well as greater opportunities. Multi agency working has contributed to this recent improvement. There is some concern regarding Youth Offending Team (YOT) figures as there has been slight rises. The abolition of EMA will also impact on this, as this will particularly affect YOT cohort.</p>	
3.3	<p>SDP Update – Children and Young People do Well Wherever they Live and Whatever their Needs</p> <p>At the last meeting the Group looked in detail at ongoing work within Halton on Child & Family Poverty, and this will be a key item at future meetings. In response to the Child Poverty Act 2010 an overall needs assessment for Halton will be in place shortly and a Child & Family Poverty Strategy will be launched by March 2011. The SDP will be informed of progress around this and involved in its development. It was agreed that the needs assessment should be used by the SDP to lead on the development of a wider needs assessment covering all issues to ensure all children do well wherever they live and whatever their needs across the full age range.</p>	
4.0	Information Items	
4.1	<p>Aiming High for Disabled Children</p> <p>The Executive Group were advised on progress of the Aiming High for Disabled Children programme and the significant issues for the future delivery of disabled children's services. Nationally there is uncertainty with regards to future direction for disabled children's services, and also future funding for short breaks. Locally improvements have been made in short breaks provision, however families have requested support for more family</p>	

	orientated activities. There are current issues around collection of data, as current recording mechanisms do not support reporting requirements. Alternative ways to deliver services in absence of funding are currently being explored.	
4.2	<p>Comprehensive Spending Review</p> <p>Key changes within the review are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overall 60% reduction in capital funding for local authorities. • Within Health there will be 1% growth over next 4 years • From 2014 1 billion of NHS funding will be given back to Social Care • The Youth Justice Board has been abolished; this was single largest funder for YOT. Funding cuts on police and probation service will also impact on YOT. <p>Any areas of development or growth that partners are aware of should be shared in order to assist with staff migration and avoid losing workforce skills within Children's services.</p>	
4.3	<p>Children's Trust Performance Report</p> <p>Deferred until next meeting, pending production of report.</p>	
4.4	<p>Update from Children's Trust Board meeting 14.10.10</p> <p>Deferred until next meeting, pending agreement of minutes.</p>	
	<p>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Tuesday 7th December 2010, 2.00pm Marketing Suite, Municipal Building Widnes</p>	

Outstanding Actions to date:

Item	Action Required	Who by	When by
1.3	Children's Trust meetings matrix – to be discussed at Away Day in November	MG	
1.4	Sustainable Community Strategy report to be circulated with minutes	KH	
2.2	JL to nominate representative from PCT for the Children's Trust E&D working group	JL	
2.3	members to note in their diaries Anti-bullying Week in November, including a conference on 15 th November at the Stobart Stadium.	ALL	
2.4	JL to attend Children's Centres Away Day on the 8 th December	JL	
2.6	NHS White Paper Consultation – JL to circulate response	JL	
2.8	MG to circulate agenda for Children's Trust Away Day for further comment	MG	