



**Halton Children's Trust**

**Minutes of Executive Group Meeting held on Tuesday 7th December 2010  
2.00pm, Municipal Building Widnes**

**Present:**

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director of Children's Services, HBC (Co-Chair)
Steve Collett	Chief Officer, Cheshire Probation Area (Co-Chair)
Nigel Moorhouse	Operational Director, Children & Families Services, HBC
Diane Sproson	Area Manager, Connexions
Paula St Aubyn	Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Quality and Review, HBC
Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Children's Organisation and Provision
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, Team Around the Family Widnes, HBC
Mark Grady	Children's Trust Principal Officer, HBC
Lydia Unsworth	CYP3SP Lead Engagement Officer
Emma Taylor	Divisional Manager, Team Around the Family Runcorn, HBC
Karen Hickey	Assistant Policy Officer, HBC (minutes)

**Apologies**

Michelle Bradshaw	Assistant Director, Child & Family Services, Halton & St Helens PCT
Gareth Jones	Warrington & Halton Youth Offending Team
Alison Upham	Principal Manager, Children with Disabilities, HBC
Hazel Coen	Divisional Manager, Performance, HBC

Item		Action
1.0	<b>MATTERS ARISING</b>	
1.1	Item 2.2, Children's Trust Equality and Diversity Scheme – all partners will need to ensure that their organisations complete Equality Impact Assessments on all new policy in accordance with the new Equality act legislation.	<b>ALL</b>
2.0	<b>DECISION MAKING</b>	
2.1	<p><b>Outcomes from Children's Trust Development Day</b> As part of the discussion group workshops which had taken place at the development day around future priorities for the Trust, a number of priorities were identified for future action.</p> <p>Three overarching priorities based on the priorities identified in the workshops were proposed for the Children's Trust to adopt from April 2011. These were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen partnership working to effect better joint commissioning in order to improve outcomes for children and young people</li> <li>2. Improved outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people by targeting services effectively</li> <li>3. Use effective integrated processes to intervene early for improved outcomes for all children and young people</li> </ol>	

	<p>A fourth Safeguarding priority was proposed, however it was felt that Safeguarding should be an intrinsic part of the other priorities, considered within each priority's terms of reference and cutting across all areas. The robustness of the consideration of safeguarding within each priority will be a key area for the Halton Safeguarding Children's Board to scrutinise.</p> <p>It was proposed that the Children's Trust name remains in place as:  <b>Halton Children's Trust – Halton's Partnership for Children.</b>  Underneath this, the Executive felt a new strapline should be developed to both promote participation and also the attachment of the children's workforce in Halton to the Children's Trust. The proposed strapline is:  <b>'Our children, our families, our future'</b></p> <p>The proposed new Children's Trust structure is outlined within the Development Day report (appendix 1 circulated with the minutes). There will also be a 'spring clean' of all sub groups to ensure that they are fit for purpose. As part of this, a mapping exercise of the sub groups that members of the Trust Board and Executive Group currently attend has also been completed, grouped by where they would link into the new structure to aid the rationalisation of these groups. This is also included as part of the Development Day report.</p> <p>Members are asked to review the Development Day report (appendix 1) and feed back any comments to Mark Grady.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
3.0	<p><b>PRIORITIES</b></p> <p><b>SDP Update - Young People are Physically, Emotionally and Sexually Healthy</b>  A presentation was delivered at the Children's Trust development session on the 6<sup>th</sup> December, highlighting progress to date and also priorities for 2011. The group has recently been working on commissioning priorities for 2011 and informing the development of GP commissioning and the Health and Wellbeing Board, to ensure appropriate focus on children and young people</p> <p><b>SDP Update – All Young People are Successful when they Leave School</b>  The Employment Learning and Skills Specialist Strategic Partnership met on the 6<sup>th</sup> December. A 'Science Halton' tool has been established to encourage children and young people to be involved in the sciences. This will contain information for all ages relating to employment and learning. The project is being led by Siobhan Saunders from the Adult Learning team. For more information visit <a href="http://www.sciencehalton.com">www.sciencehalton.com</a>.  Regarding structural changes within the council next year, Children and Young People's Directorate will incorporate Adult Learning and Enterprise. Daresbury laboratories are looking to establish a learning partnership, which may provide opportunity for Halton to be involved.</p> <p><b>SDP Update – Children and Young People do Well Wherever they Live and Whatever their Needs.</b> No further updates were available since the last Executive Group meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> October</p>	

4.0	<b>Information Items</b>	
4.1	<b>Children’s Trust Report Card for Quarter 2, 2010 - 11</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority 1 – there has been a reduction in breastfeeding rates. Regarding teenage pregnancy the progress for conception figures is red, though direction of travel has improved in comparison to last year.</li> <li>• Priority 2, figures show an early positive picture, with NEET figures now down to 9.6%.</li> <li>• Priority 3 – The percentage of Special Educational Needs, Teenage Mothers and YOT in Education, Employment or Training has all improved against last year’s figures. Educational attendance for Children in need and Children subject to Child Protection orders remained at the same levels.</li> <li>• Safeguarding – a performance report card and summary has now been produced for this priority and was circulated at the meeting. These will become a standing item at future Children’s Trust meetings</li> </ul>	
4.2	<b>Update from Children’s Trust Board Meeting 14.10.10</b> <p>WNF update – all Specialist Strategic Partnerships have now reviewed projects funded by WNF monies. Feedback is that there will be no WNF funding as of March next year. Organisations are being notified of cessation of services which were dependent on WNF funding. When decommissioning services, partners need to ensure that they are not disproportionately affecting their most vulnerable clients</p>	
4.3	<b>CAF Audit report</b> <p>The purpose of the report is to highlight the fact that casework auditing processes that are already established within the Borough do not currently include the quality auditing of CAFs, and to propose that a process for quality assuring CAFs is established that complements the established system of auditing casework overseen by the Safeguarding Unit. This process would be overseen independently by the Safeguarding Unit and the results fed directly into the main report submitted to the Safeguarding Board and any other relevant forum.</p> <p>In addition the report raises the issue of CAF auditing for discussion, so that views of all agencies can be considered before any process being implemented.</p> <p>Recommendations were that the Children’s Trust Executive Group agree to these proposals and that representatives of their respective agencies become part of a regular CAF auditing process, and that the proposals are accepted and become fully operational within the next 2 months. The recommendations were supported by the Executive Group, and findings will be reported back to group in the future.</p>	
4.4	<b>Minutes of HSCB Board and Executive</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Item 6.1, HSCB Executive minutes 22.11.10 - Police Child &amp; Vulnerable Adult report - current pathways are not clear, therefore a meeting has been arranged in January to clarify processes. In addition a joint independent research project has been agreed to examine best practice around the country.</li> <li>• HSCB Executive will meet more frequently next year to ensure better workflow</li> </ul>	

4.5	<p><b>Any Other Business</b>  Steve Collett announced that he will be retiring as of the end of December 2010. The Children's Trust Executive Group thanked Steve for his valuable contribution to the Children's Trust and wished him well.</p>	
5.0	<p><b>Date and Time of Next Meeting:</b>  Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011, 2.00pm Conference Room 2, Municipal Building Widnes</p>	

**Outstanding Actions to date:**

Item	Action Required	Who by	When by
1.1	Children's Trust Equality and Diversity Scheme – all partners will need to ensure that their organisations complete Equality Impact Assessments on all new policy in accordance with the new Equality act legislation.	ALL	Ongoing
2.1	Children's Trust Development Day - Members are asked to review the Development Day report (appendix 1) and feed back any comments to Mark Grady	ALL	25/01/11