



Halton Children's Trust
Minutes of Executive Group Meeting held on Tuesday 10th January 2012
2.00pm, Council Chamber, Runcorn Town Hall

Gerald Meehan	Strategic Director of Children's Services, HBC (Chair)
Ann McIntyre	Operational Director, Children's Organisation and Provision
Mark Grady	Children's Trust Principal Officer, HBC
Lorraine Crane	Divisional Manager, IYSS, HBC
Nigel Moorhouse	Operational Director, Children & Families Services, HBC
Steve Nyakatawa	Operational Director, Learning and Achievement, HBC
Emma Taylor	Divisional Manager, Team Around the Family Runcorn, HBC
Katharine Evans	Lead Engagement Officer, CYP Voluntary Sector Partnership
Jane Lunt	Operational Director, Child & Family Health, Halton & St Helens PCT
Paula St Aubyn	Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Quality and Review, HBC
Gareth Jones	Warrington & Halton Youth Offending Team
Michelle Bradshaw	Assistant Director, Child & Family Services, Halton & St Helens PCT
Karen Hickey	Assistant Policy Officer, HBC (minutes)

Apologies

Diane Sproson	Area Manager, Connexions
Simon Clough	Divisional Manager, 14 – 19 Services
Catherine Johnson	Principal Performance & Improvement Officer, HBC
Julia Rosser	Public Health Specialist Registrar, Halton & St Helens PCT
Michelle Vallance	Parent and Carer Engagement Coordinator

In Attendance

Paul McWade	Operational Director, Commissioning and Complex Care, Adult Services, HBC
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Item		Action
1.0	<p>MATTERS ARISING from 29.11.11</p> <p>The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record, with outstanding actions completed</p>	
2.0	<p>DECISION MAKING</p>	
2.1	<p>Positive Behaviour Support Service (PBSS)</p> <p>Paul McWade gave an overview of the development, current activities and future direction for the PBSS. This is a new service with the purpose of supporting and improving the lives of children and adults with learning disabilities and/or autism, and who exhibit behaviour that challenges services. The consequence of such behaviour can place carers and parents under considerable stress, and limit opportunities for the individuals concerned. The PBSS has been established to counter such consequences.</p> <p>The Executive Group endorsed and supported the service. Future commissioning for children with complex needs will be carried out by</p>	

2.2	<p>clinical commissioning groups, therefore it is important to promote PBSS within the NHS to ensure buy in. It was also proposed that the report should be further discussed at the Children's Trust Board, with a view to inclusion within commissioning priorities for the Trust. It was also suggested that schools could be approached with a view to buy in of the service.</p> <p>Children's Trust/HSCB Joint Frontline Event 2012 The date for the event has been agreed as the 8th March and will be run as 2 half day sessions. Activities for the day were outlined within the draft agenda circulated with the report. Regarding engagement of young people, it was proposed that a video blog could be included from the Youth Cabinet to enable them to contribute. MG to speak to Simon Price. It was suggested that the theme of the day should be highlighted as part of the opening speech. Themes will be engagement, both with frontline staff and also across both Boards, and Levels of Need. The group endorsed the plan for the event. MG to circulate updated agenda and also re-drafted joint working protocol between HSCB and the Trust.</p>	<p>Paul McWade (KH to agenda)</p> <p>MG</p>
3.0	<p>PRIORITIES</p> <p>3.1 Improve outcomes for children and young people through effective joint commissioning No Commissioning Partnership meetings have taken place since the last Executive Group meeting. Current focus for the Partnership is the Youth Service tender and also keeping abreast of changes within Health services.</p> <p>3.2 Improve outcomes for children and young people through embedding integrated processes to deliver early help and support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Early Help Frontline Event will take place on the 25th January, to promote latest developments within Early Help to frontline staff. • The Council Executive Board have agreed to the setting up of a task and finish group to review levels of need. The EHAS group are currently seeking a lead for this, preferably from a partner organisation. • An Early Help panel is to be established to focus on more complex cases, the first meeting will take place on the 28th February. • The first session of the revised CAF training will take place next week, all places have been filled. <p>3.3 Improve outcomes for our most vulnerable children and young people by targeting services effectively</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work around outcomes in education for Children in Care is continuing • A visioning day is due to take place on the 1st February • Within secondary schools, the free school meal gap is widening and work is underway to examine other local authorities who have had success in this area, for examples of best practice • SEN Green Paper: some local authorities have piloted some aspects of this and feedback is currently awaited on this. • New performance indicators for vulnerable young people are currently being developed, with the aim of improving on current measures used. 	

4.0	INFORMATION ITEMS	
4.1	<p>Feedback from HSCB Development Day At the recent HSCB Development day, a discussion took place around early intervention, and how we can provide a dialogue between the Children’s Trust and the Safeguarding Board on this subject. A number of recommendations were identified within the report. It was proposed that these should be reviewed by the Children’s Trust EHAS and Commissioning subgroups, in order to identify leads for each action.</p>	PRIORITY LEADS
4.2	<p>Troubled Families Initiative The government has a current focus provide targeted support for troubled families. A report on this will soon be presented to Council Executive Board and it has been proposed that the Children’s Trust and the Safer Halton Partnership should jointly oversee this work within Halton. A collective analysis will be carried out to identify families to be targeted. Also a new post for a senior level Troubled Families Co-ordinator is to be created. The post would be based within CYP commissioning, and will be monitored closely as payment will be by results. Executive Board report to go to Children’s Trust Board</p>	KH to agenda
4.3	<p>Auditing of Common Assessment Framework The report outlined the processes undertaken as part of the CAF audit and was presented to the Executive Group for information. It was acknowledged that improvements have been made within the service and the audit highlighted this. Proposals are for future audits to take place 3 times a year, and for the process to be widened to incorporate other Early Help services such as IWST.</p>	
4.4	<p>Auditing of Practice in Children’s Services, November 2011 The report sets out the findings and subsequent actions arising from the Auditing of Practice in Children’s Services in November 2011. It was highlighted that the journey of the child needs to be recorded and evaluated more effectively, as this area has been highlighted by Ofsted.</p>	
4.5	<p>CYP Voluntary Sector Forum Update A web page within the Children’s Trust website has now been created for the CYPVSP which will be promoted to all voluntary sector partners. The page will be used as a central information point for VSP members and in the future will contain a database of all members. A business model has been drafted with 5 main business areas which form a clear agenda for the partnership. GM suggested that the Children’s Trust website should be promoted via the management team and members briefings. KH to arrange this.</p>	KH
4.6	<p>Thematic Inspection of ‘out of area’ Children in Care in the Youth Justice System This inspection is around experiences of children in care across all areas. A key issue is criminalisation of young people in care and this will be a focus for the inspection. 10 cases will be examined in detail, 5 of which will be Halton and Warrington children placed out of area and the remainder will be out of area children who have been placed in the Warrington and Halton area. The inspection will take place at the end of February and a variety of partners will be involved.</p>	

4.7	Minutes from HSCB Board and Executive Meetings The minutes were circulated to the group for information.	
5.0	Date and Time of Next Meeting Tuesday 21 st February, 2.00pm – 4.30pm, Civic Suite, Runcorn Town Hall (Apologies from Michelle Bradshaw)	

Outstanding Actions to date:

Item	Action Required	Who by
2.1	PBSS: report should be further discussed at the Children's Trust Board, with a view to inclusion within commissioning priorities for the Trust	Paul McWade (KH to agenda)
2.2	Children's Trust/HSCB joint event: MG to circulate updated agenda and also re-drafted joint working protocol between HSCB and the Trust	MG
4.1	Feedback from HSCB Development Day: Recommendations to be reviewed by the Children's Trust EHAS and Commissioning subgroups, in order to identify leads for each action	Priority Leads
4.2	Troubled Families Initiative: Executive Board report to go to Children's Trust Board	<i>KH to agenda</i>
4.5	Children's Trust website: website to be promoted via the management team and members briefings.	KH