



NORTH YORKSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD

Minutes of a meeting held on 17th May 2010

BOARD: Cynthia Welbourn – NYCC CYPS (Chair)
Emma Corner – Young People's Development Worker
Laura Wilson – Young People's Development Worker
Fiona Hunt – Young People's Development Worker
Jennie Johnson – Young People's Development Worker
Jo Harding – NYY CMHS
Cllr Caroline Patmore – Exec Member, CYPS
Lesley Ingleson – YJS
Nick Warnes – NY Police
Erica Taylor – NYPA
Nancy Palmer – LSCB
Paul Nixon – NYCC CSC
Jill Gibson – Jobcentre Plus
Gareth Whiles – NYYPCT
Sue Metcalfe – NYYPCT
Dave Goodwin – Districts (sub. for Peter Simpson)
Liz Copas - Parents

PRESENT: Claire Gibb – NYCC CYPS Finance
Cllr Jim Clarke – Exec Member
Carly Walker – NYCC CYPS
David Molesworth – NYCC CSC
Chris McGee – NYCC CYPS
Andrew Terry – NYCC CYPS
Stephanie Bratcher – NYCC Scrutiny
Dave Chapman – NYCC CYPS (notes)

	ACTION
<p>1. APOLOGIES (Board)</p> <p>Maureen Benson – Primary Angela Edwards – Early Years Chris Anderson – NY Fire & Rescue Carolyn Bird – NYCC CYPS</p> <p>(Observers)</p> <p>John Gaskin – GOYH, Children’s Services Advisor Helen Eaden – NYPACT</p>	
<p>2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22nd MARCH 2010</p> <p>Item 7 – Jo Harding informed the Board that the extra finance mentioned in the minutes was not exclusively for Health Visitors (as recorded), but covered other posts as well.</p>	
<p>3. MATTERS ARISING/DEVELOPMENT UPDATES</p> <p>The Board were informed that a report on Housing and Homelessness was due to be presented at the July meeting, following on from the report in March 2010.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn reminded Board members that a revised draft version of the <i>North Yorkshire Children’s Trust Governance Arrangements</i> had recently been circulated for consultation. Partners were asked to submit any final revisions and/or comments to Dave Chapman by Friday 28th May, after which the document would come into force.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>3.1 – That Board members submit any final amendments to the Children’s Trust Governance Arrangements by Friday 28th May at the latest.</p>	ALL
<p>4. DECLARATION BY BOARD MEMBERS OF PERSONAL INTERESTS</p> <p>None were raised.</p>	
<p>5. ISSUES / ITEMS ARISING FROM NYSP</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn noted that this section would be dealt with fully by the following reports (in Item 6), as both issues to be raised dealt specifically with financial risk and the Performance Reward Grant.</p>	
<p>6. CHILDREN’S TRUST FINANCIAL MATTERS:</p>	

a) PROGRESS PAPER:

Claire Gibb presented the report.

The report provided an update from the March meeting on work to collate financial information relating to the Children’s Trust in order to assess the current financial position, to identify potential areas of joint working and to enable a combined view of the way forward. Thanks were expressed to all partners who had contributed to the process and it was acknowledged that additional partners were due to submit data by the end of May.

The Board were informed that this work was not straight forward but that it was essential, as the Children’s Trust required a fully-costed Children and Young People’s Plan to make sure that identified priorities were correct and achievable.

Jill Gibson expressed concerns that the financial information submitted at this stage may not accurately reflect the position of Trust partners later in the year, due to the uncertain economic climate and recent change of Government.

Cynthia Welbourn noted that this applied to all partners but that, as more information became available, the figures would be updated accordingly. However, it was important to have the most accurate and honest picture available by September 2010, in order to inform future strategic planning.

The Board thanked **Claire Gibb** for the report.

ACTION:

6a.1 – That the Board notes the report.

6a.2 – That Board partners continue to actively support the process and contribute to the development of a clear financial position across the Children’s Trust.

6a.3 – That the Board receive updated financial reports at appropriate intervals throughout the year.

ALL

C Gibb

b) PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT:

Cynthia Welbourn presented the item.

The Board were provided with an update from a North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership (NYSP) report regarding Performance Reward Grant information, including how much grant could be attracted and how these funds would be distributed. All NYSP thematic partnerships had been asked to consider where this money should go and the Children’s Trust were asked to note that these discussions would need to be conducted. Although this issue would be returned to later in the year, if partners had any initial thoughts, they would be welcomed.

Nick Warnes commented that improving outcomes for Looked after Children would have a positive impact for all agencies within the Children’s Trust and

	<p>indicated that this would area would be a suitable recipient of PRG funds.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>6b.1 – That the Board notes the report and will give consideration to potential areas of work that could benefit from PRG funds.</p> <p>- FINANCIAL RISK ASSESSMENT:</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn presented the item.</p> <p>The report provided information on recommendations from the NYSP for all thematic partnerships to conduct a financial risk assessment. The Trust Board were informed that this process was already underway, in conjunction with the work discussed earlier in the meeting.</p>	ALL
7.	<p>NHS NORTH YORKSHIRE & YORK STRATEGIC PLAN</p> <p>Sue Metcalfe addressed the Board and provided some contextual information relating to the development of the North Yorkshire & York Strategic Plan. The Board were informed that the recently developed strategic plan remained committed to Vital Signs, LAA targets and priorities relating to children and young people, but that significant challenges existed across the area. There was now a limited amount of money available to fund all services and an approach had been agreed across the PCT to make the most effective use of these resources. An accompanying efficiency plan was in development.</p> <p>Gareth Whiles continued on to present the report, which outlined the areas within the 5 year plan that specifically focused on children and young people. The report provided details on a number of key areas, including children with complex needs, CAMHS and maternity and new-born pathways, before reiterating the Strategic Plan's continued commitment to Vital Signs and a greater focus on outcomes. The Board were informed that a progress report would be presented later in the year and that NYYPCT would actively contribute to the review and refresh of the CYPP, to ensure that joint priorities were effectively linked in both documents.</p> <p>Caroline Patmore welcomed the document generally, but was particularly happy to see the explicit inclusion of work to be undertaken with the Youth Justice Board to tackle Speech, Language and Communication issues, which was vitally important.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn thanked Gareth Whiles for the report and noted that it helpfully set out the priority themes for the health service in the next CYPP, but also recognised that further work with partners would be required to clarify what specific areas of work would fall under these priorities.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>7.1 – That the Board notes the report.</p>	

8.	<p>LAC HEALTH STRATEGY</p> <p>Gareth Whiles presented the item.</p> <p>The Board were reminded of the initial draft of the LAC Health Strategy that was presented during the March meeting and were informed of the significant progress made since then to complete the document. The Strategy now had a detailed Action Plan to enable work to be taken forward, and it was on this aspect that the report predominantly focused. The need to do more for Looked after Children in universal services and CAMHS was recognised, but work was underway and a multi-agency group [to be co-ordinated by the MALAP] had been established to improve the provision and sharing of information. The report concluded by asking the Board if this strategy and action plan adequately addressed Recommendation 7 in the Post-Inspection Action Plan and the Board indicated that it did.</p> <p>Jo Harding welcomed the document and, in particular, its emphasis on collecting performance data and sharing information.</p> <p>Sue Metcalfe asked for clarification about how the Children’s Trust would be kept informed of progress against the agreed actions and priorities.</p> <p>Gareth Whiles replied by stating that the day to day management of the strategy and action plan would be co-ordinated by the MALAP, who would in turn present update reports to the Trust Board.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn noted that it was important for this work to be managed by the experts, but that direction and monitoring of progress generally was to be retained by the Children’s Trust Board.</p> <p>Nick Warnes commented that outcomes for Looked after Children impacted on a great number of Trust Board partners and noted that a concerted effort around this group would have an impact across the Trust, therefore making it a potential area for PRG funds, as had been previously mentioned.</p> <p>Paul Nixon stated that the strategy was very welcome, but felt that it could benefit from a further focus on detailed work and planning around actual outcomes for children.</p> <p>The Board thanked Gareth Whiles for the report.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>8.1 – That the Board notes the report.</p> <p>8.2 – That the Board endorses the LAC Strategy and accompanying Action Plan.</p> <p>8.3 – That the Board endorses the proposal to allow the MALAP to co-ordinate the implementation of the Strategy.</p> <p>8.4 – That the Board receives regular progress reports against agreed actions at appropriate intervals.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>G Whiles</p>
9.	<p>TEENAGE PREGNANCY UPDATE</p>	

	<p>Carly Walker presented the report.</p> <p>The report provided an update on progress against activities within the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and provided the Board with the most recent data available. Although this data showed a 19.4% reduction in teenage pregnancies from the baseline, there was concern that this had risen against a national backdrop of failing rates. As the most up to date data was always relatively old (2008 in this case), it was very difficult to pinpoint specific causes, but it was suspected that, amongst other factors, this increase was linked to staffing issues and Health Visitor shortages.</p> <p>4.3 of the report brought the Board's attention to hotspots within the county and the report then provided information on a review of sexual health services, which would be completed by the end of May. Although this had not been completed yet, early findings indicated the importance of outreach services, a need for a more intelligent approach to advertising and room for improvement regarding the equity of services across the county. A formal report on the findings would be presented to the Board in July, along with an action plan.</p> <p>Gareth Whiles stated that support was available through the GP leads network and that monthly Practice-based Commissioners meetings could provide another avenue of support for this work.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn voiced her support for the work and stated that any difficulties needed to be overcome. The report in July would need to challenge the Board and its partner agencies to improve the situation and needed to highlight what services were available, the sufficiency of these services and how accessible there were.</p> <p>The Board thanked Carly Walker for the report.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>9.1 – That the Board notes the report. 9.2 – That the Board receives a report on the review of sexual health services and subsequent recommendations at the July 2010 meeting.</p>	<p>C Walker</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>MALAP REPORT</p> <p>David Molesworth presented the report.</p> <p>The report provided the Board with an overview of activity over the last 12 months and advised partners of the huge amount of guidance and publications relating to LAC that had been published in March 2010. The Board were informed of the implications of this new guidance and how it related to the functions and responsibilities of the Children's Trust.</p> <p>The report also provided details about a number of work areas, including Staying Put and Boarding School Provision. Overall, the situation was very positive and the work of the MALAP was progressing well, with LAA targets</p>	

	<p>relating to LAC (L61 and L62) both exceeding their targets. During the Ofsted inspection in 2009, services for LAC had been received positively and the 3 recommendations resulting from the inspection had all been dealt with, as detailed in a separate report on the meeting's agenda (Item 12).</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn thanked David Molesworth for the report and reminded the Board of the earlier suggestion to nominate work relating to Looked after Children for potential PRG resources.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>10.1 – That the Board notes the report. 10.2 – That the Board receives regular progress reports from the MALAP at appropriate intervals.</p>	D Molesworth
11.	<p>PRIVATE FOSTERING</p> <p>David Molesworth presented the item.</p> <p>The report provided the Board with an overview of recent national developments, which had resulted in a number of significant issues requiring the Board's attention. The Board were also reminded that Ofsted were due to initiate a programme of re-inspections of private fostering arrangements (between June 2010 – March 2013), with the period of notice likely to be 10 days. The report also provided contextual information relating to the current situation in North Yorkshire and the challenges that existed in trying to accurately estimate the total cohort to which these guidelines applied.</p> <p>The report provided a detailed explanation of the impact of the recent changes, which required a greater awareness and understanding of private fostering amongst both professionals and the public. The Board were informed that the key challenge was to ensure that all private fostering arrangements were notified to local authorities to enable them to carry out their duty to promote the welfare of privately fostered children. The report then provided the Board with detailed information relating to the recommendations of a recent DCSF Advisory Group. The Board needed to consider the implications of these recommendations and increase awareness of this issue throughout North Yorkshire, in order to ensure that everyone was in a state of "readiness to act" concerning private fostering.</p> <p>Sue Metcalfe commented on the fact that this responsibility also applied to the public and asked if they were generally aware of this and Jo Harding commented that the term "private fostering" also wouldn't help, as the term appeared to be very organisation-focused.</p> <p>David Molesworth replied that all children and young people at school had been given a leaflet to take home but that more needed to be done to ensure widespread acknowledgement of the duty.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn commented that the regulations lacked a certain amount of clarity and that Trust Board partners needed to provide good information and</p>	

	<p>advice to those requiring it, in addition to ensuring that the duty was being taken seriously by all involved and providing challenge to those not fulfilling their responsibilities.</p> <p>Paul Nixon asked whether information was being submitted from across all Trust Board partner agencies and was informed that the range of referrals was currently good, but that the challenge was to increase and maintain a greater ownership of this responsibility at a senior level.</p> <p>The Board then continued to discuss the potential for confusion between the standard notification of a situation (i.e. private fostering arrangements) and an actual referral to social care, which were two completely different things. The Board agreed that agencies needed to convey sensitivity when dealing with this issue, as some would be potentially uncomfortable with this, whilst underlining that notification was still required. It was agreed that a standardised approach would be developed for all partners to use, so that a clear message was consistently portrayed.</p> <p>The Board thanked David Molesworth for the report.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>11.1 – That the Board notes the report. 11.2 – That the Board acknowledges the planned national developments around private fostering and the Ofsted inspection arrangements. 11.3 – That the Board receives a progress report regarding this work later in the year. 11.4 – That a standardised approach is developed to ensure a consistent message is promoted across the county and Children’s Trust partners.</p>	<p>D Molesworth C Welbourn</p>
12.	<p>POST-INSPECTION ACTION PLAN</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn presented the item.</p> <p>The Board were informed that good progress had been made against all of the recommendations contained within the Post-Inspection Action Plan and that all issues had been addressed. Some of the issues, like LAC and Transitions, were being dealt with separately on the agenda, so the report focused on the remaining areas. Improvements continued to be made to ICT systems and the implementation of programme enhancement was on track. The re-launched ICS training had also been completed and Corporate Parenting was due to produce its first annual report in 2011, which would help maintain appropriate focus on this area of work. The Board were also informed that timeliness had also improved considerably and the challenge was now to embed and further improve performance in this area, although this would undoubtedly be helped by recent improvements to staffing capacity across the county.</p> <p>The report concluded by stating that the Post-Inspection Action Plan was now at an end in its current form and that a successor plan was now in development to ensure that the next phase of developments continued to be achieved,</p>	

	<p>monitored and evaluated. The Board would continue to be updated on developments relating to these areas of work.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>12.1 – That the Board notes the report. 12.2 – That the Board receives progress reports on this area of work for as long as is considered appropriate by the Trust Board.</p>	C Welbourn
13.	<p>IYS PRESENTATION</p> <p>Emma Corner, Fiona Hunt, Jennie Johnson and Laura Wilson presented the item.</p> <p>The presentation focused on a recent assessment of Integrated Youth Support Hubs across North Yorkshire, which had gauged the opinions of 128 young people on the Hubs and their services. The survey's respondents were widely representative of young people between 11-21, with 52% male to 48% female, 59% in school or college, 7% employed and 26% unemployed.</p> <p>The Board were then informed of the key findings of the assessment, which included information on preferred times to access services, what information-provision was valued by young people and ways in which the hubs could be improved. The presentation concluded by detailing potential improvements to Hub assessments, including a change to the format of the questionnaire to elicit more honest answers, and then outlined key areas for improvement in the future.</p> <p>Caroline Patmore commented on the fact that the presentation had highlighted that 56% of respondents wanted the hubs to be open in the evenings, when many hub opening hours were routinely restricted to the daytime.</p> <p>Fiona Hunt commented that this was due to existing contractual arrangements and that many Connexions advisors were contracted to work until 4pm.</p> <p>Laura Wilson also commented that some hubs had activities in the evenings, but that this depended on individual sites across the county, as they all had different programmes of activity.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn asked why this was the case and what could be done to resolve this issue.</p> <p>Chris McGee replied that the difficulties in flexible opening hours related to existing contracts but that solutions would continue to be sought.</p> <p>Jennie Johnson commented that the Hub in Ryedale was regularly used in the evenings by other hub staff and that provision was different from site to site, as mentioned earlier.</p> <p>Emma Corner also noted that, although the ambition had been to interview 30 young people for each Hub, in reality this had been more difficult in certain areas and response rates had fluctuated.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn mentioned that the IGen contract was to be re-commissioned soon and that the Children's Trust should support colleagues to</p>	

	<p>ensure that the successful contractor should provide a more flexible and responsive offer of services.</p> <p>The Board thanked Emma Corner, Fiona Hunt, Jennie Johnson and Laura Wilson for their presentation.</p>	
14.	<p>MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT</p> <p>Chris McGee presented the report.</p> <p>The report provided the Board with an update of progress relating to the 14-19 agenda, specifically with reference to recent legislative changes (as a result of the ASCL Act 2009) and the transfer of staff from the LSC to the local authority.</p> <p>The Board were also reminded that, although the majority of the work was being conducted on their behalf by the 14-19 Strategic Advisory Group, the Trust Board would continue to receive progress reports at regular intervals. Priority areas of work would also be incorporated into the wider review and refresh of the CYPP, which would ensure that the Trust would maintain a strategic overview of the work.</p> <p>Lesley Ingleson asked if arrangements had been made regarding funding transfers and whether money would follow young people out of the county; for example, with reference to young people in custody.</p> <p>Chris McGee replied that these details needed to be worked through and that this was also the case nationally. It was still very early in the process and discussions would need to be held between home and host local authorities to establish suitable arrangements.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn commented that a number of pilots were currently underway, which may provide some solutions. The transfer of staff from the LSC had also gone extremely well and the area had gained a great deal of expertise. It was also excellent to have Jobcentre Plus representation on the Board, as they would be able to provide valuable insight into this are of work, amongst others.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>14.1 – That the Board notes the report and the work timetable, as outlined within the report.</p> <p>14.2 – That the Board receives regular progress reports on 14-19 developments at appropriate intervals.</p>	C McGee / L Burdett
15.	<p>LDD – TRANSITIONS</p> <p>Andrew Terry presented the report.</p> <p>The Board were informed of progress made to improve transitions for young people in North Yorkshire and were advised of improvements to information</p>	

	<p>sharing, including the development of a shared dataset between Adult and Community Services and Children and Young People's Service. A programme of training was also running across the county and all Trust partners were invited to participate in it. The report also noted the need to map provision across the county and to make effective links with the Children and Young People's Plan. The Board were then asked to endorse the work to date to enable work to move forward.</p> <p>Caroline Patmore commented on the quality of the work and noted that progress covered by the report was extremely worthwhile and very welcome.</p> <p>The Board thanked Andrew Terry for the report.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>15.1 – That the Board notes the report and endorses the recommendations contained therein.</p> <p>15.2 – That the Board endorses the Joint Policy and Procedure for Transitions, as outlined in the report.</p> <p>15.3 – That the Board receives regular progress reports on Transitions at appropriate intervals.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>A Terry</p>
16.	<p>LSCB REPORT</p> <p>Nancy Palmer presented the item.</p> <p>The Board were updated on developments relating to the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board, including the recent publication of the new <i>Working Together</i> guidance, which provided greater clarity on the relationship between the LSCB and the Children's Trust Board. The report also provided information on the appointment of lay people on the NYSCB, ongoing performance management arrangements and procedures relating to Serious Case Reviews.</p> <p>The Board were then updated on the work of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP), in addition to being informed of progress made relating to integrated data and a programme of training that was underway.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn thanked Nancy Palmer and asked if there were any questions, before reminding Trust partners that the NYSCB annual report would be in development over the new few months.</p> <p>Nancy Palmer added that the NYSCB had to report on the safeguarding work of the Children's Trust Board and its partners and that this information would in turn help to support the development of the next CYPP. Any matters arising would be taken forward in consultation with Trust partners.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn noted that a great deal of safeguarding publications had been released, including <i>Working Together</i>, the <i>1st Annual Report</i> (following Laming) and the <i>Singleton Report</i>. In order to develop the new CYPP, it was essential for the Trust Board to know where all partners stood with reference to</p>	

	<p>these issues and it would be necessary to look at the Board's collective responsibilities, possibly at the July Board meeting.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>16.1 – That the Board notes the report. 16.2 – That work is undertaken to investigate the current position of Children's Trust Board partners with reference to safeguarding and that a report outlining this information is presented at the July meeting.</p>	A McMorris / C Welbourn / D O'Brien / D Chapman
17.	<p>FORWARD PLAN 2010</p> <p>The Board noted the current Forward Plan.</p>	
18.	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Jo Harding asked if any further information regarding ContactPoint arrangements had been received, following the recent change of Government. Cynthia Welbourn replied that everyone had received the same information to date, but that it was too early to know whether a potential alternative would emerge in its place. The situation would need to be monitored closely as, irrespective of national decisions impacting upon ContactPoint, partners needed to maintain robust local arrangements for sharing information. Nick Warnes suggested that this issue warranted closer attention at the Board meeting in July, as significant investment and resources were required by partners to meet ContactPoint milestones. Cynthia Welbourn stated that she would seek further clarification regarding this and would advise partners accordingly.</p> <p>Cynthia Welbourn then noted that this would be the last Children's Trust Board meeting for Paul Nixon, who was leaving North Yorkshire to start a new post in Hull. The Board thanked Paul for his extremely valued contribution to the Board in recent years and wished him the best in the future.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <p>15.1 – That the emergent situation regarding ContactPoint is monitored closely and given further consideration at the July meeting of the Board.</p>	ALL
19.	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will take place on Monday 19th July 2010, 12:45 for 1.00pm start in The Grand, County Hall, Northallerton</p>	