

Children's Trust Board

(A themed group of Darlington Partnership)

Minutes of the meeting of the Children's Trust Board held on 19th November 2010, 9.30am, Darlington Town Hall

Cllr Cyndi Hughes	Lead Member, Children's Services
Melanie Brown	Children's Trust Partnership Manager
Paul Richardson	14-19 Partnership Manager
Mike Fryer	DAG
Seth Pearson	Darlington Partnership
Mervyn Bell	Darlington Borough Council
Paul Richardson	14-19 Partnership
Kate Jeffels	Safer Darlington
Maura Banim	Teesside University
Karen Grundy	eVOLution
Jenni Cooke	Darlington Borough Council
Miriam Davidson	Director of Public Health, Darlington PCT
Murray Rose	Director, Children's Services, DBC
Mark Cain	Locality Lead, Community Health Service
Kevin Weir	Durham Constabulary
Donna Jones	Workforce Development Manager
Elaine O'Brien	Darlington Borough Council
Bernie Bowes	DBC
Maura Banim	Teesside University
Sue Richardson	Education Village, Representing Special Schools

In attendance;

Charlotte Linton (Minutes)	eVOLution
Lynn Blewitt	eVOLution

1 Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Hughes welcomed members to the meeting.

Apologies were received from;

Ada Burns, Darlington Borough Council
Tim Fisher, Principal, QE 6th Form College
Anthony Prudhoe, NHS
Michael Barton, Deputy Chief Constable Durham Constabulary
Chris Davis, Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Trust
Julian Kenshole, Darlington Borough Council

2 Minutes of the Children's Trust Board meeting held on 17th September 2010

The minutes were approved and adopted by the Children's Trust Board.

3 Matters Arising

KJ updated the Board that the social norms report would be tabled at the next board meeting.

ACTION Kate Jeffels

4 Urgent Business to be considered under Item 21

Cllr Hughes added an update under the urgent business agenda item about the Jean Gross speech and language visit.

5 CYPP Performance Update

MB presented this performance update. MB highlighted that whilst NI112 Under 18 Conception Rate target was missed there has still been a significant improvement in Darlington for this performance indicator. NI57 Children and Young People's Participation in high quality PE/Sport target was missed this data is last years data and to mitigate this Andrew Dunn sent letters to schools and the Preventing Obesity Strategy was tabled at a Joint Head Teachers meeting. NI69 (Children who have experienced bullying at least once or more in the last four weeks) has previously been measured by the Tell Us survey and it will need to be considered how this will be monitored in the future. JC updated the Board that an anti-bullying coordinator has been appointed and that Gena Birchall had recently presented a report to the Darlington Safeguarding Children Board about the recent work programme for this post. JC will circulate this report to the board.

ACTION JENNI

MR commented that as there had been a low take up from schools participating in the last Tell Us survey and we need to be cautious about the indicators that have been measured from these results as there may not be representative.

The local target set to have all schools engaged in national healthy school status was missed, however all school are now engaged and the national target was met. We also now have 36 from 38 schools that have now achieved Healthy Schools Status in Darlington with the 37th school going to be considered for status in January 2011. The aim is to have 100% of schools in Darlington to be awarded NHSS by March 2011.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

6 School Standards Report

Bernie Bowes was welcomed to the Board to present the School Standards Report. The report indicated that the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile threshold target had been exceeded for the first time. The report provided an overview of how the different key stages were performing from early years up to A- level. PR notified the Board that the performance at Darlington College has also risen. MR commented that not all areas are performing as well and a small minority of institutions still need support.

SP commented that we need to monitor the progression into higher education. PR informed the board that Aim Higher data has gone up but the Aim Higher funding may go.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

7 Workforce Development Strategy

Donna Jones was welcomed to the Board to give an update on the Workforce Development Strategy. A paper went to the Executive Group in the summer and it was agreed to develop a refresh of the original strategy as lots of the aims and objectives remained relevant. The strategy refresh was carried out with the engagement of young people and it will be available on the internet once the strategy is approved by the board. Consultation was carried out with staff across the workforce and with over 200 children and young people.

The Board approved the strategy. The Board also agreed to the recommendations outlined in the report.

8 Safeguarding Report Update

JC took the group through the previously circulated report. The current figure of children on child protection plans in Darlington is 85. Neglect is the highest category of children on child protection plans and 0-4 age range is the highest age category. A multi-agency plan is not needed for sexual abuse the figures do not reflect the true numbers. Children looked after by family and friends are now be regarded as being in looked after care so the number is currently at 175.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

9 Update NEET reduction partnership

Mervyn Bell took the Board through the previously circulated report. This was the first time that the board had considered a report from the NEET reduction partnership. MB highlighted that plans and activity to address NEET young people requires a cross sector multi-agency response. The audit commission illustrated that NEET economic cost is £3.65 billion per year. A report called *Against the Odds* has been produced which costs early intervention. **ACTION MB is to circulate the report electronically.**

PR informed the Board that they may be early intervention money available and will inform the Board as soon as he is made aware of this.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

10 Children's Trust Update

MB took the board through the previously circulated reported. MB informed the Board that the parliamentary discussion regarding the removal of the statutory requirement of a Children's Trust Board will not be debated until the second parliamentary session which will be in the summer of 2012.

SP explained that as discussed at the previous Children's Trust Executive group the LSP will be reviewing Darlington Partnership and this will commence at the LSP Board meeting on 10th January 2011/. SP encouraged partners to remain involved in this consultation process.

The Board noted the contents of the report.

11 Volunteer Strategy

Lynn Blewitt attended the meeting to present the Volunteering Strategy. The document is a working document. The aim of the strategy is to provide a framework of good practice and how volunteering matters. KG informed the group that the government is putting emphasis on volunteering as opportunities for work experience. This is particularly important around times of redundancies. The strategy will be made available on the eVOLution website and will be updated as and when required. MD commented that is essential that people are aware of access to volunteering and what is available. LB is to draw up smart targets for each of the high level delivery actions.

The Board approved the strategy.

12 Proposal of Additional Board Member

CH informed the Board that she had been approached by a community group which supports parents of disabled children and the group have requested board representation onto the Children's Trust board. This was considered and discussed at some length at the meeting. It was agreed at this stage that this would not be the most appropriate meeting for the community group to attend as community groups are offered representation on the Aspiring Darlington Network and KG as VCS

representative from eVOLution represents the voluntary and community sector at the Children's Trust Board.

MR highlighted that there are other parent representative groups in Darlington and that the board would need to consider a process for engaging all of these groups.

The board also noted that Darlington Partnership is considering the implications of the changes in policy brought about by the incoming Coalition Government. Every aspect of the partnerships activity is affected which is giving cause for a wholesale re-thinking of the partnership's function and form. The next Darlington Partnership board meeting in January is focused entirely on this and the conclusions reached at this meeting will inform how it is taken forward. There will be a broader consultation undertaken through February with proposals being developed for consideration in March. The aim is to have a clear direction for the partnership for April 2011.

ACTION It was agreed that eVolution would invite the group that had requested board membership to the Aspiring Network.

ACTION ALL KG also requested partners to nominate staff to attend the Aspiring Network so that all of the voluntary and community sector have the opportunity to talk to key partners.

13 Feedback from Provider Forum

The contents of the report were noted by the board.

14 Feedback from Executive Group

The contents of the report were noted by the board.

15 Feedback from Joint Commissioning Unit

The contents of the report were noted by the board

Urgent Business Raised Under Item 4

- Jean Gross Visit- Cllr Hughes and the steering group had met Jean Gross in early November and this visit from the national lead of Speech, Language and Communication had gone very well. MB had been nominated as the link for national year of speech and language and communication and MB will keep the board updated about this.

16 Dates of Future Meetings

- Friday 18th February 2011 Children's Trust Board Darlington Town Hall Committee Room 2