

Minutes Children’s Trust Board, 19th August 2011

Present: Cllr Hughes; Murray Rose, Miriam Davidson; Chris Sivers; Jonathan Fay; Seth Pearson; Karen Grundy; Joanne Benson; Mervyn Bell; Janet Walke; Mel Brown; David Mason; Tim Fisher; Kath Vasey, Tim Grant, Chris Reeves

Apologies: Mike Fryer; Chris Sivers, Elaine O’Brien, Debbie Bunford, Maura Banim, Lynn Hunter, Sue Richardson, Gary Huntington, Kathryn Larkin-Bramley, Yvonne Coates, Paul Richardson, Chris Davies, Lou Okello

Item	Action
1	<p><u>Welcome and apologies</u> Cllr Hughes welcomed board members to the meeting.</p> <p>There were no matters arising from the board meeting of the 20th May 2011 and these were adopted by the board.</p> <p>Murray Rose highlighted the excellent ‘A’ level results across Darlington. Tim Fisher explained that the ‘A’ level results were a fantastic day for young people in Darlington.</p>
2	<p><u>NEET’s overview in Darlington</u> Mervyn Bell took the group through the previously circulated report on young people not in education, employment or training. Darlington’s NEET figure was 6.7% for the period November – January 2011 and this compares to 7.9% within the North East and nationally the figures is 6%. Mervyn Bell updated the board that due to NEET accounting rules the LA figure will now be based on 16-19 year olds and residents of the borough – Darlington’s June figure for NEET was 11.2%.</p> <p><u>Action</u> – M Bell will send the September offer figures to board members in the next few weeks</p> <p>Mervyn highlighted Paul Richardson was working on the Raising Participation Age and the NEET Reduction Partnership would work with Paul’s RPA action plan to ensure any duplication with this are avoided.</p> <p>Mervyn highlighted that there will be a greater focus of providing support to more vulnerable groups.</p> <p>Tim Grant highlighted as Principal of Darlington College he is accountable for NEETS and Tim outlined how Darlington College has tackled the NEET challenge:</p>

- funding places at Clervaux
- Initiated a scheme with Student Loans Company in terms of 60 young people will undertake a training scheme to encourage young people into long term employment
- NORDAC PIONEER – young people are undertaking programmes with young people who are not connected and this NORDAC Pioneer programme has a 70% success rate in progressing young people to employment.
- Tim has a vision to develop a ‘NEET’ Centre and the first centre opens in Catterick on the 1st September 2011. Tim would like to open a NEET Centre in Darlington but this will be a financial challenge.

The board noted the contents of the report

The board agreed to task the NEET reduction Partnership to take specific action to reduce the number of young people resident to Darlington who are in education, employment or training.

Seth asked if any analysis has been undertaken re the impact of the removal of the education maintenance allowance? Tim Grant highlighted the challenge is actually ensuring young people can travel to College. Bursary support is available at Darlington College for every young person if their family income is less than £20K. This relates to financial support of £400 for this young person to mitigate the removal of the EMA.

Jo Benson highlighted that YOS NEET figures have illustrated improvement in their recent NEET figures. 82% of young people involved in YOS are now in employment, education and training previously the highest figures had been 67%. The E to E co-ordinator is an excellent role to have within YOS for this important work on NEET agenda. Cllr Hughes asked how do young people know that the support is there in relation to financial support? Tim Grant highlighted that every college is free to make their own arrangements therefore there will be some confusion with young people.

Action – The Children’s Trust Board agreed to publish a communication briefing so young people are confident that there is financial support available.

Tim Grant highlighted that the 16-25 age group of young people has been impacted by multiple government policy changes and proposed that the Board should develop a task and finish group to examine this and agree to develop actions that would support this age group of young people.

Seth highlighted that the TOR needs to have a sharp focus for the 16-25 group.

	<p><u>Action-</u> The board agreed to develop an enquiry group for 16-25 year age group.</p>
3	<p><u>Safeguarding peer challenge</u> – Janet Walke took the group through the strengths of the review and some areas that have been highlighted by the peer challenge.</p> <p>MB to highlight some strengths and weaknesses from presentation.</p> <p>JW highlighted that the peer challenge team have now published a letter with Darlington’s key strengths and sent this to Murray Rose. There will be a robust action plan developed to meet these recommendations.</p> <p>Dllr Hughes thanked the team at the local authority for the support provided while the peer challenge was underway.</p>
4	<p><u>Final Performance Report for the CYPP 2011-2014</u></p> <p>MB took the group through the report and highlighted some key areas of performance. It was agreed that a new performance management framework and targets will be developed for the new CYPP 2011-2014.</p> <p>Miriam commented that the final performance report is a really useful document and that details information would be useful to have to hand for the Ofsted announced inspection. MB explained that a number of good practice examples are under developed to ensure we have local vignettes available that highlights Darlington’s good practice.</p> <p>Cllr Hughes highlighted that these local vignettes will be useful to have for the Children’s Trust.</p>
4	<p><u>Life Stages Services update – Kevin Kelly</u></p> <p>Kevin Kelly updated the board about the new life stages services structure with the 0-12, 13-25 and 26+ teams.</p> <p>Kevin highlighted that this new model is gaining national attention as this has not been developed before. Phase One is the integration of social care. 638 people in Darlington are part of this new life stage service model.</p> <p>Kevin highlighted that Connexions, Health and other services are involved in the new model. Phase two of the model would be to look at the wider opportunities for wider health integration.</p>

	<p>Murray praised the work that Kevin has now underway for developing this lifestages services. Cllr Hughes asked if there is a rapid response team so that families aren't impacted by the new service model. Kevin highlighted that there will be no front line impact to families.</p> <p>Cllr Hughes highlighted that the changes made to Early Years Inclusion Service may mean some families may need additional support and Cllr Hughes asked for reassurance that wouldn't be the case.</p>
5	<p><u>Updated Darlington Health Profile</u> – Miriam took the board through the annually updated Health Profile for Darlington.</p> <p>Miriam highlighted two elements of the profile for the board to consider. The profile highlighted six indicators that impact on children and young people. These are smoking in pregnancy, breastfeeding initiation, physically active children, obese children, children's tooth decay at age 12 and teenage pregnancy (under 18). Miriam highlighted that all of these six indicators are reported to our Health and Wellbeing scrutiny to outline what is happening in Darlington to tackle these areas.</p> <p><u>Action</u> – Miriam asked Seth to bring to a future Children's Trust board the recent work discussed at the July LSP board re Health.</p>
6	<p><u>LSP review</u> – Seth Pearson advised the board that the final model will be considered by the LSP board on the 14th September 2011. Seth urged people to feedback comments to the six questions outlined in the report. Seth highlighted the key change is that the current theme group structure would no longer continue and that there would be a sector led approach to replace the previous thematic groups. Seth highlighted that enquiry groups would take forward children and young people issues.</p> <p><u>Action</u> – Board members to respond to Seth Pearson with comments about the review.</p> <p><u>Action</u> – Seth to engage with Schools re the review of the LSP. MB has sent the consultation document to schools but the timing meant this occurred at last week of term which isn't ideal.</p>
7	<p><u>Draft Anti-Social Behaviour strategy</u></p> <p>Chris took the board through the draft strategy. Chris and Joanne Benson highlighted that a recent Red Hall Community victim offending rehabilitation panel took place and has been very positive in terms of the community response to this.</p> <p>Mel asked if the actions outlined in the strategy were reflective of current service delivery? Chris explained that a</p>

	<p>further action plan sat alongside the strategy and this reflected the current delivery.</p> <p>Tim Grant suggested that social networking needs to be used for young people instead of neighbourhood watch methodologies. Tim felt that new media needs to be utilised for young people.</p>
<p>8</p>	<p><u>Feedback from Provider forum</u> - The board noted the contents of the report</p> <p><u>Feedback from Executive Group</u> - The board noted the contents of the report</p> <p><u>Feedback from Joint Commissioning Unit</u> - The board noted that contents of the report</p> <p><u>End of year aspiring Darlington Performance Report</u> - The board noted the contents of the end of year report</p>