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CHILDREN LEEDS SOUTH LEADERSHIP TEAM

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE SOUTH LEEDS YOUTH HUB
ON THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2009
9.30 A.M. TO 12 NOON

Present

Dave Bache	Area Inclusion Partnership Project Director
John Chadwick	Education Leeds Integrated Services
Doreen Escolme	Health
Dennis Fisher	Governors representative for the South
Cathy Gurney	Head of Children Centre Services South
Chris Halsall	Education Leeds School Improvement
Barry Jones	Multi Agency Panels
Deborah Kenny	Education Leeds – Leeds School Improvement Adviser
Shaid Mahmood	Education Leeds – Locality Enabler
Josh McDonald	Youth Hub Development
Pat McGeever	Health for All Leeds
Louise Megson	St Luke's Care - Voluntary Sector Leeds Voice
Rosaline Morley	Integrated Process Co-Ordinator
Munaf Patel	Signpost
Barbara Temple	Ed Leeds – Extended Services
Carolyn Wright	Joseph Priestley College
Bernadette Young	AMB Chair

1. Welcomes and apologies

BY opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Josh McDonald was thanked for his hospitality.

Apologies

Gill Austerfield
Simon Costigan
Diane Drury
Keith Lander
Sue Morgan
Lesley Schofield
Jeanette Scott
Vera Smith
Liz Snelling
Satbinder Soor
Jonathan White

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2. Minutes and Matters arising from the last meeting

P2 and P3 ok.

Barbara Temple – Activities Grant – All Cluster chairs have received indicative amounts and will be getting the money in April.

Cluster Managers are working with their Clusters to see how they will use the money. The money is based on free school meals. The money will be used to support young people and their families. Plans will go back to the Leadership Wedge to look at.

Family Conference – money has been found, continuing the project until April. Social Care will find the money for the co-ordinator's post. Need additional funding for running costs from November to March.

The Monitoring Group will meet on 12 October at 1.00 p.m to 3.00 p.m.. If anyone is interested let Barbara Temple know.

Shaid Mahmood stated that the SYLPP was in a difficult financial place. There was a board meeting yesterday. There appears to be some duplication across areas. Needs to be greater accountability regarding resources. Need to show through the Performance Monitoring Group that money is well spent. See if money can be pooled together.

Shaid Mahmood handed out a leaflet re monitoring and resources.

Put resources together regarding NEET.

Dave Bache stated the SLYPP need to know what budget they can expect and how can resources be moved to a targeted group? Need to know what is possible!

P4. Extended Services to begin to look at the way work is done in the localities. More work is required but it is moving in the right direction.

P5. Cathy Gurney will bring the Children's Services Business and Action Plan to the next meeting.

There are concerns re Early Years and KS1. The working group has started and has looked at data and cases. There are some challenging and emotional issues. Will need funding. Diane Elson would be useful to have on that group. Diane has done a lot of nurturing work.

At the Placement Panel yesterday it was felt that 'Looked After Children' needed more support. There is a lack of real involvement of agencies.

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P6. School Improvement Quiz moved to another meeting.

Youth Hub Plans were available for the group to look at. The project board met last Friday. Josh McDonald hopes to report back on proceedings at a later date.

Munaf Patel has appointed an administration assistant.

P7. Shaid Mahmood met with Julie Sykes and K Lambert to discuss how work could be done with Community Services in the area. There is a duty to co-operate around Safeguarding. Julie stated that the Police really wanted to work with the SLYPP.

A meeting has also been held with Simon Whitehead (Safer Leeds) to discuss a model that might work best within all areas. The right team is essential. Thought is being given to what they want from the SLYPP to produce an agenda on a District Safety Partnership. The main aim is to keep kids safe in the community. Will do a city wide piece of work.

Cathy Gurney and Stuart Piper (Police) to pull together and concentrate on domestic violence in the South.

Munaf Patel's department are looking to reduce the number of burglaries in the South.

Barbara Temple offered to help re Police work.

Shaid Mahmood had been in touch with Flavia re Participation Partnership and suggestions on how to take this forward and improve the outcome for young people. Provide some rigour around Extended Services Participation. *It was mentioned that Flavia had left 'Cupboard' as the organisation had been downsized.*

Shaid Mahmood stated that Participation needs to be driven and tested out through a toolkit. Barbara Temple to add to Cluster Evaluation. Josh McDonald is also working hard on how to do this.

P8 – Procurement Process for Cluster Management – The Cluster developed with learning partnerships. Initial funding for schools to become extended partnership. There are no formal arrangements re governance. There is now pressure to formalise arrangements. Angela Bailey in the East has informed that procurement is needed to put out to tender to employ the Cluster Manager. There is funding for another year.

Application for a waiver is to be signed off by Chris Edwards. If this is the case it will be business as normal.

Leadership across Boundaries conference – Dave Bache will send out slides on what people consider to make a good leader. One of the workshops on 'Outcomes' was run

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by Andy Gill. Dave Bache will ask Andy or one of his colleagues to attend the next meeting. Dave Bache asked the group to work in pairs on an exercise he handed out.

4. Themed Task Groups

Carolyn Wright (JPC) attended the NEET meeting last week. Fed back on the 2 events i.e. 'Preventing NEET strategy' and 'Keeping Warm'

Preventing NEET – Pilot recommendations on page 4 of document will need to go back to the Group. Running 2nd phase of the pilot. Working with Beeston Hill and LS10. Need to get it right before moving to another area. Expand to Year 5. The Activity Grant goes to Clusters in April. Preventing NEET is working well.

C Wright reported on the mini pilot project conducted in July. Base line data was handed to the group.

All Year 11 learners at JPC, who intended returning in September, were invited to attend on one of two drop in sessions in July. No-one attended the drop in sessions through the summer. The learning mentor has been in touch with the students since summer. 33% returning rate of Year 11's to College.

Had 'Keep Warm' days for applicants at 16. 320 invited. Those who did not attend were contacted by a Connexions PA to find out what had happened to them.

A 5 week E2E pre-apprenticeship programme was held in July/August to support students.

Schools need to know where students have gone.

D Bache commented that the Youth Hub offers students the opportunity to design and influence how they are taught. Schools are under pressure for students to achieve 5A* to C. Look at what can be done to support schools at KS1.

Shaid Mahmood said that groups need to try and get an understanding of what works for their area. Felt that this was a good benchmark for the city. Develop a model locally and take to the next step. Shaid Mahmood and Carolyn Wright to develop this in the South and take across the Wedges.

Put on the next agenda (Carolyn Wright).

Teenage Conception – Jonathan White had sent a draft copy of the terms of reference for the group to look at. The members of the strategic team are:

Jonathan White
Louise Megson

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Jenny Midwinter

The group will also look at Raising Aspirations, Access to Contraceptive Services and Sex and Relationships Education.

Health Representatives – there are plenty on the sub-groups. Louise Megson asked for details of Health workers.

There will be task groups with informal chair. Jenny Midwinter is taking this citywide. Jenny is linked to the Strategic Board which is very useful. Jenny did some work in the summer. Do any groups need to be re-adjusted? Elective members will be in all groups from November 2009.

Councillor Bob Gettings is an elective member for the Outer South teenage pregnancy and attendance. Explore what schools are doing around SRE. The Authority is stepping up elective members.

Is anyone liaising with the Catholic diocese? Shaid Mahmood did not know. Take back through Jenny. **Louise Megson to take back and check.**

Cathy Gurney – Family Support Group – 5 groups across the city with common terms, who meet regularly. The main purpose is a family support strategy which is being developed for the city.

- (1) Try and make sure the CAF is being used by all agencies across each wedge.
- (2) Look at parental participation. Involve parents more.
- (3) Function of networking.

Maggie Hartley works with families in South Leeds. Revise on a quarterly basis.

Details will be forwarded to Anne Lodge for circulation to the group.

If anyone is interested in Additional CAF or Multi Agency Training they need to speak to Rosaline Morley. Two training days have been arranged for November and additional dates in December will be organised. Members interested will be put on a waiting list.

5. Inspection of Social Services

Shaid Mahmood introduced Nick Garrett from Leeds City Council, Barry Jones from the Multi Agency Organisation, Rosaline Morley – CAF team and Alan Reece Seconded Secondary Head. Thanks were given for allowing the agenda to be changed.

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Information was given regarding inspections. There are announced and unannounced inspections. Have to move on quickly with the development. Colleagues who have worked on this are: Rosaline, Barry and Nick.

The group went through some slides.

Director of Chair of Safeguarding – to review its effectiveness and what value it should add.

13 May 2009 – the new Ofsted and CAA Inspection framework was published. Testing is now much harder. Less emphasis on how we do things more emphasis on what has been done. Very little notice is given – report is done very quickly. Need greater evidence of what frontline workers are doing.

Description of profile for Children's Services

Block A – Inspections of regulated services (i.e schools)

Block B – Inspections of safeguarding and services for LAC (unannounced and announced). If Block B is not strong will not be an adequate result from the inspection.

Block C - National performance indicators

E-mail sent in the summer from Rosemary Archer via Shaid Mahmood. Some people had not received the e-mail!

An unannounced inspection took place on 21 July – contact, referral and assessment services in the city. Inspection focused on 2 social care offices and contact centre.

Childrens Act 1989 – Section 17 – This is a child who is unlikely to achieve, have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision of services by an LA or a child whose health or development is likely to be impaired or further impaired without the provision of such services, or a child who is disabled.

Childrens Act 1989 – Section 47 – Places a duty on children and young people's social care to make enquiries to decide whether action should be taken to safeguard or promote the welfare of a child or young person who might be at risk of significant harm.

Nick Garnett – Looking at top level and area level, at legislation coming in next year and at some decisions which have been signed off. Interested in paper trails.

Having a meeting with area safeguarding chair. Benchmarking LSCB's. This is important. Need to co-ordinate safeguarding. Talking to people at the frontline to see if they know what LSCB is!

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Local safeguarding group has been set up. Nick will be in touch - will send details out regarding action to date.

Following the unannounced inspection it concluded that:

- The response to child protection referrals did not meet statutory guidance
- Children had been left at potential risk of harm.
- Inconsistent referrals from agencies
- Inconsistent assessment by CYPSC

Actions:

- 7 cases for immediate action. All children are now safe
- Revised Section 47
- New leadership team (Jackie Wilson (Chief Officer), Sal Tariq, Ros Cheetham and Gail Faulkner (Heads of Service Delivery Fieldwork) to qualify assure and risk assess local CYPSC response.
- Have 3 Integrated Response Groups in Leeds, will have a triage referral system ensuring cases are passed to the right people.
- Review of child abuse cases and neglect cases since April 09 has highlighted the need for further action by services in cases that were designated NFA
- Group referring a case will get feedback and be kept informed.
- Quality assurance is in place.
- Strengthened management of field work services
- Have integrated response group rather than multi-agency
- Route for every referral. This is the start of the process not the end

Announced inspection could be the second week in October. Focus on impact and front line services and evaluation of impact and quality of service.

1. LAC – Framework is good
2. What constitutes LCA
0 – adult
Beyond 21 for disabled child
3. Community safety – Health covered by framework.

Get it right around LAC and other services will be ok. Can use as a benchmark for other services.

Main focus of safeguarding

- Local policies and procedure comply with statutory guidance and regulation

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- How well local agencies work together
- How well local policies support good practice
- Evaluate the impact of LSCB and children's trust arrangements on outcomes for children

Main focus of Looked after children

How effective services are working together to:

Assess the child's needs

Plan for the child's care and education

Review the implementation and impact of that planning

Achieve improved outcomes for the child:

What is a corporate parent? Someone who works with a child who is a LAC.

How does everyone working with a LAC:

Agree on their needs

Listen to the child's point of view

Ensure what is planned for them is implemented

Find out what support might be available

Know if the plan is working between reviews.

Are you ready for the inspection:

10 day maximum notice

Agencies and team need to be on high alert

Data needs to be better - all information needs to be documented

Can you find the information requested

Need to engage with children to assess their needs

Safeguarding – schools could be vulnerable. Schools getting an extra half day on safeguarding. Going through things with a fine toothcomb.

How do children respond to questions?

Looking at persistent absence.

Do children feel safe in school?

Shaid Mahmood has been working around self-assessments. Make sure what is done in self assessment is there. Integrated locality work is very important to the inspection. Key blocks mandated for the centre.

CAF: Safeguarding:

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- Work together and communicate better together
- Need to be putting the child at the centre.
- Making sure it is child focused. Part of the process is prevention. Child centres and school wobbly need to go to CAF.
- Note if issues at home. If need more services involved that is when CAF comes into place.
- CAF Record now available across the city. CAF have real evidence. Rosaline's team is growing

Family of Schools have received documentation via Mary Armitage.

Recognising a number of people to be trained.

Developing Integration Capacity

This is needed to help:

- Ensure children, young people and families get the right services at the right time.
- Ensure consistent and shared approaches to the assessment of need
- Enable proper and swift responses when needs are identified

Have capacity around a locality and to meet families' needs. Pilot programme employed by schools to test this out.

Interested in how the individual works.

As a city developing – research has been done on this.

Integrated locality working - CAF

- CAF has enabled 1,300 children and young people to be supported.
- All the guidance notes have been updated as required
- Evaluation of local services is being reported to the Leadership teams

Large extended services clusters are going to work. Map Project Support Officers to work alongside Integration capacity role. 15 collaborators around the city. Details still to be mapped out. Discussions still ongoing.

Have inner and outer south – South – Rothwell & Morley, Inner south Cottingley and Leeds 10. There will be more details in the next few months.

Last page last slide

2 modules multi agency panels to support colleagues.

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Team around child has done everything around CAF if not at risk of immediate harm go to the panel integrated intervention panel.

Where CAF consent is a barrier that can go to an Intervention Panel. CLP – Children Leeds Panel – 3 set up in the city. Model the same as the integration panel.

CAF allows resources to be brought to the family. Signpost – good progress. Will build on this. Reconfigure people who we work with.

Will support panels, monitoring etc. Five people eventually. Dave Bache asked if a visual chart could be provided to let people know what is happening. Barry will provide this – will take a few weeks.

Research is on the web. Have key points for circulation as soon as possible.

Look at the Children Leeds website.

Need more paper information on Section 47 and Section 17.

Look at the members for the SLYPP Group.

Any other business

Next Meeting – Wednesday 18 November at 9.30 a.m. – 12 noon at South Leeds CLC