

West Cheshire Children's Trust Executive

Action Note of meeting held on Monday 13th July 2015 (Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall)

In attendance:

Gerald Meehan – Strategic Director, Children and Families Service (Chair)
 Gill Frame – Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Chair
 Mark Parkinson – CWaC Head of Education
 Emma Taylor – CWaC Head of Children's Social Care
 Councillor Nicole Meardon – Lead Member for Children and Families
 Paula Wedd – West Cheshire CCG, Director of Quality & Safeguarding
 Tracey Matthews – NHS Vale Royal CCG, Service Delivery Manager
 Tony Sharples – CWaC Public Health
 Lorraine Crane – CWaC Strategic Lead for Children's Commissioning
 Clare Myring – CWaC Strategic Commissioning
 Sioban Simcock – CWaC Strategic Commissioning
 Isabel Noonan – CWaC Policy Manager

| Item No | Minute/Action | Who |
|---------|--|-----|
| 1. | <p>Welcome, introductions and apologies The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and the following apologies were noted: <i>Dr Sue O'Dell, Helen Brackenbury, Alistair Jeffs, Supt. Nigel Wenham, Sue Preston, Alison Amesbury, Alison Kelly and Sarah Blaylock</i></p> | |
| 2. | <p>Notes of meeting held on 18th May 2015 / Review of Actions The minutes from the previous meeting held on 18th May were confirmed subject to the following amendments and outstanding actions:</p> <p>Item 2 Local Safeguarding Children's Board – Challenge Gill Frame referred to the previous action required regarding drugs and alcohol services and reported that this is now moving forward from a commissioning perspective and can be closed as an action for the Trust.</p> <p>CAMHS Review – Latest Position Andy Cotgrove (West Cheshire CCG) facilitated a very productive meeting between the CCGs, CAMHS Team and the Local Authority. This resulted in clear and constructive actions around communication and operational issues. Gerald Meehan recorded his thanks to Andy for leading this review.</p> <p>Item 3 Joint Commissioning Framework – Work on SEND Lorraine Crane reported that Sam Myrtagh, Commissioning Officer responsible for SEND is scheduled to meet Mark Parkinson on 3 August to discuss how to speed up the work around SEND and the wider contributors to this.</p> <p>Item 4 – the Voice of Children and Young People – retirement of Ron Davies, Participation Officer Mark Parkinson reported that Ron had retired at the end of June and prior to his retirement had produced a paper on the key elements of his role so that the Trust could determine how to support this role going</p> | |



| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| | <p>forward. Using the Children’s Society to provide some of the function around the Youth Senate and Youth Parliament is being explored as is including the role in the new specification of the retained Youth Service. In terms of involving young people in individual consultation activities, these would have to be costed as additional days within a commissioned framework and paid for by the service concerned. Angela Lewis, Commissioning Officer for Youth Services is drawing up a specification.</p> <p>Lorraine Crane reported that Cheshire East commission the Children’s Society to deliver children and young people’s participation and this works well. Tracey Matthews thought that partners contributed to the service in the East as the thoughts and wishes of children and young people will be common to all agencies; including the commission of Young Advisers.</p> <p>Mark Parkinson explained the budget to support the activities has yet to be identified.</p> <p>ACTION: Tracey Matthews to check partner contribution to the participation model adopted by Cheshire East Council</p> <p>ACTION: Mark Parkinson to update on progress of participation at the next Trust Executive.</p> <p>Item 6 Terms of Reference and Membership The Executive discussed how health providers should be represented on the Children’s Trust Executive. As there are a number of providers that could be represented Paula Wedd and Tracey Matthews agreed to talk to their peers to come to a consensus as to how providers are best represented on the partnership; including taking onto account representation on the Trust Strategy Groups.</p> <p>ACTION: Isabel Noonan to discuss with Paula and Tracey how best to represent health providers on the Trust.</p> <p>Item 9 – Local Safeguarding Children’s Board – Challenge</p> <p>ACTION: Mark Parkinson to send the autism pathway to members electronically ACTION: still outstanding – capture data for CWaC for the number of Police Protection Orders.</p> | <p>Tracey Matthews</p> <p>Mark Parkinson</p> <p>Isabel Noonan</p> <p>Mark Parkinson Nigel Wenham</p> |
| <p>3.</p> | <p>Participation Strategy Refresh</p> <p>Isabel Noonan presented the refresh of the Trust’s Strategy and Standards for Participation and Involvement of Children and Young People. The Strategy sets out what the Trust will do and how partners will consult and participate with children and young people. Once the refresh is finalised page 8 of the Strategy asks partner agencies to sign up to the Agreement.</p> <p>Gerald Meehan asked if members felt close to children and young people participation. Emma Taylor from Children’s Social Care perspective felt that she was close, through Participation Officers whose role is</p> | |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | <p>expanding to cover the whole of Children’s Social Care not just Children in Care Council. Lorraine Crane reported that she had come up against some barriers with procurement on the basis that decisions could be open to challenge.</p> <p>ACTION: Lorraine Crane and Councillor Meardon to discuss issues with Procurement.</p> <p>Councillor Meardon reported that a lot of participation work had been carried out through the Youth Senate such as the review of PSHE in schools. This used the Young Advisers Model enhancing the conversation using peers to promote conversations.</p> <p>ACTION: explore in the participation role under Item 2 the use of the broader community of young people to assist in participation activities – Mark Parkinson and Lorraine Crane</p> <p>Gerald Meehan reported that in Halton young people attend and Chair the Children’s Trust meetings and this has the effect of changing the dynamics of the meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Explore the future attendance and chairing of the Children’s Trust Executive by young people.</p> <p>Paula Wedd reported that there is still some out of date information contained in the refreshed document which needs updating before partners sign up to the Strategy.</p> <p>ACTION: Isabel Noonan/Sarah Blaylock to do final update of Participation Strategy and re-circulate to members to sign.</p> | <p>Lorraine Crane</p> <p>Mark Parkinson Lorraine Crane</p> <p>Isabel Noonan Sarah Blaylock</p> <p>Isabel Noonan Sarah Blaylock</p> |
| 4. | <p>Update on Children and Young People’s Plan Refresh and feedback on consultation</p> <p>Isabel Noonan thanked partners for their contribution to the final iteration of the refreshed Plan which is on the Health and Wellbeing Board agenda on 15 July for final comment and endorsement.</p> <p>The Youth Senate had spent some time looking at the Plan and is very supportive of its content and approach. There was particular interest in the health related areas of the Plan, especially mental health. They also requested that the term ‘voice of the child’ be extended to ‘voice of children and young people.’</p> <p>ACTION: Isabel Noonan to send Senate response to Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy Group for consideration as part of their work</p> | <p>Isabel Noonan</p> |
| 5. | <p>Voice of Children and Young People</p> <p>The Executive is to receive examples/evidence of the voice of children and young people across the Partnership. The example received at this meeting demonstrates the evidence of the influence of the Children in Care Council.</p> | |



OUR PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

| | | |
|----|--|----------------|
| | <p>Emma Taylor explained that Children in Care and Care Leavers is a Strategic Outcome for the Partnership. The evidence presented is an extensive list of how the Children in Care Council has been involved in a range of activities to improve services. There are still areas that could be developed more such as the impact of the involvement of the Group on the wider children in care and widening the work of the Group in influencing services.</p> <p>Councillor Meardon explained that the input of the Children in Care Council has shaped the format and work of the Corporate Parenting Board.</p> <p>ACTION: Evidence for next meeting is from West Cheshire CCG, to include outcomes.</p> | |
| 6. | <p>Monitoring Progress against Strategic Outcomes</p> <p>Each outcome in the refreshed Children and Young People’s Plan is supported by a Strategy Group. The Executive is responsible for monitoring progress against each Strategic Outcome. The Executive agreed that each meeting should receive a brief update from each Strategy Group highlighting progress and potential barriers and that one Group brings a more detailed progress report on a rotational basis.</p> <p>ACTION: The SEND Strategy Group to do a detailed progress report for the meeting in September to co-inside with the Commissioning Action Plan report</p> | Mark Parkinson |
| 7. | <p>Commissioning Update: Missing from Home/Child Exploitation Report</p> <p>Clare Myring provided an update on the development of the Missing from Home (MFH) and Care and Child Sexual Exploitation commissioned service.</p> <p>The Missing from Home Joint Protocol has been refreshed and agreed pan Cheshire. The four Cheshire local authorities agreed to proceed with a joint missing from home/care commissioned service and Catch 22 has been awarded the contract from 1 July 2015.</p> <p>The return interview (voluntary conversation between child/young person with MFH case worker) can be declined by the parent or carer or by the child themselves. The majority of return interviews not taking place tend to be amongst older young people with one-off incidents. However, all cases of service decline are monitored by Catch 22 and shared with other appropriate services. The average time to complete return interviews in CWaC is currently 6 days; undertaken by one Case Worker for MFH and CSE.</p> <p>The reasons given for missing are mixed and include for young people living at home, family conflict, neglect or abuse; for children in care include going to see family and friends and curfew times.</p> <p>The Liquid Logic team are working with Children’s Social Care to agree a new process for recording missing/absent young people that will assist</p> | |



| | | |
|-----------|--|---|
| | <p>with consistency of reporting.</p> <p>For CSE under the new commission, the service has been refocused to provide a dedicated and specialist service to young people who are either at risk of sexual exploitation or who have experienced sexual exploitation. A one day Child Exploitation Event dedicated to year 10 students as part of their PSHE took place at Neston High School. There was positive feedback from both the School and young people and learning will be used to roll out similar events to other schools.</p> <p>The Executive discussed how information is captured on Children Missing when placed Out of Borough. This is the responsibility of Children’s Social Care and CWaC has signed up to a regional agreement for sharing such information. In addition Out of Borough Placements is an agenda item at the next Local Authority Practice Improvement Meeting.</p> <p>Paul Wedd reported that she receives a quarterly report of CSE but questioned how this could be made more visible within the community in an appropriate manner. Clare Myring reported that it was planned for Cheshire Constabulary to have a CSE Communications Officer but this has slipped due to re-organisation. The Pan Cheshire Group is looking at producing a letter to all schools raising awareness of CSE which could also be cascaded in electronic/text form.</p> <p>ACTION: Gill Frame to report communications slippage to LSCB</p> | <p>Gill Frame</p> |
| <p>8.</p> | <p>Local Safeguarding Children’s Board – Challenge</p> <p><u>Future in Mind aspiration</u> – Gill Frame asked about commissioning plans in relation to the report from the national task force on YP mental health.</p> <p>John Bucknall is looking at the standards from ‘Future in Mind’ and mapping the current position before a local bid is drawn up. Tracey Matthews explained that the Government Transformational Fund (guidance document still awaited) will formally bring CCGs and Local Authorities together to develop plans from universal to specialist provision.</p> <p>ACTION: Report to future meeting once mapping against aspirations is complete.</p> <p><u>Rapid response to child death</u> – Gill Frame reported that there is a new Chair of the Child Death Overview Panel and asked if commissioned services in Cheshire are in line with Working Together? Paula Wedd reported that current practices are not in line with Working Together and home visits and out of hours response is an issue. The suggestion is that a proportionate response would be a pan Cheshire rota approach.</p> <p>ACTION: Get an update from NHS England on Pan Cheshire approach</p> <p>ACTION: Take challenge back to LSCB where doctor and nurse representatives will be present.</p> | <p>Lorraine Crane/John Bucknall</p> <p>Paula Wedd/Tracy Matthews</p> <p>Gill Frame</p> |

| | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| 10 | <p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Lorraine Crane reported that John Bucknall had run a Workshop in Ellesmere Port – A DVD titled ‘Invisible Scars’ had been offered to partners with a very high uptake.</p> <p>Gerald Meehan reported that Ofsted are consulting on Joint Targeted Area Inspections and a SEND inspection will take place in the future.</p> <p>ACTION: Discuss SEND Framework at September Executive</p> <p>Gerald Meehan referred to the Government policy on devolution; Liverpool City region is one of the areas identified of which Halton is a member. At some point Cheshire and Warrington may have an opportunity and consideration may have to be given to what this means for children and young people across Cheshire and Warrington.</p> | Mark Parkinson |
| 11. | <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Monday 14th September 2015, 3.15 – 5.15 pm, Chester Town Hall (Palatine Room)</p> | |

