

West Cheshire Children’s Trust Executive

**Action Note of meeting held on Monday 18 September 2017
(Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall)**

In attendance:

- Cllr Nicole Meardon (Chair)
- Mark Parkinson – Director, Education, CWaC
- Alistair Jeffs - Director, Commissioning People, CWaC
- Helen Brackenbury – Interim Director, Integrated Early Support
- Gerald Meehan – Chief Executive, CWaC
- Isabel Noonan – Policy Manager, CWaC
- Angela Lewis – Children’s Commissioner, CWaC
- Gillian Ackerley – Senior Manager, Children’s Social Care, CWaC
- Gill Frame – Chair LSCB
- Alan Fairclough – Cheshire Police
- Sioban Simcock – Children’s Commissioner, CWaC
- Robert Berrie - Integrated Early Support (for item 8), CWaC

Item No	Minute/Action	Who
1.	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies Councillor Meardon welcomed all to the meeting. The Chair expressed concern that some partners were unable to attend the meeting as a number of items needed partner sign up before the next meeting; this would be done virtually following the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were noted: Cllr Margaret Parker, <i>Emma Taylor, Lorraine Crane, Tony Sharples, Alan Fairclough, Sarah Blaylock, Lesley Dixon, Nick Evans, Luke McDonnell, Kevin Bennett</i></p> <p>Joint Targeted Area Inspection Helen Brackenbury gave an update on the announced Joint Targeted Area Inspection. The inspection team, made up of representatives from Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission (CQC), Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) and Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Probation (HMI Probation), will be on site in week commencing 25 September as part of the three-week inspection focusing on Neglect. When inspectors arrive on 25 September an initial set up meeting will take place where the lead officer from all organisations involved will be expected to attend. Gerald stated that he had briefed the acting Chief Constable and been in touch with the Probation Service as the inspection is about how joined up we are across agencies on Neglect.</p>	
2.	<p>Notes of meeting held on 20 March 2017 and Matters Arising / Review of Actions The minutes from the previous meeting held on 22 May 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and all actions completed.</p> <p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>Page 3 – Item 5 – Refreshed Children and Young People’s Mental Health Transformation Plan</p>	

	<p>Mark Parkinson asked for progress on the Children and Young People’s Mental Health Transformation Plan and expressed a particular concern on the lack of demonstrable outcomes associated with the Plan. Cathy Walsh who attended the previous Executive to give an update has now left her role and Mathew Adam is currently leading from a commissioning point of view.</p> <p>Gill Frame highlighted that she would be pursuing a challenge from the LSCB perspective seeking assurance that the offer to children and young people is the same across both West Cheshire and Vale Royal CCGs.</p> <p>Alistair Jeffs pointed out that the Transformation Plan is a CCG responsibility and concerns need escalating to the CCGs.</p> <p>ACTION: Alistair Jeffs to compile an escalation letter to the Chief Officers of the CCGs to be sent on behalf of the Chair of the Children’s Trust.</p>	<p>Alistair Jeffs</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Final Draft Early Help Strategy</p> <p>Helen Brackenbury explained that a first draft of the Early Help Strategy 2017-2020 had been presented to the Executive on 20 March. The Executive had agreed that a multi-agency Task and Finish Group be established to work up a final Strategy and this has been brought to the meeting today for final sign off. The Strategy is a ‘starting point’ for all West Cheshire strategic partners to consider how early help, delivered in partnership with children, young people and families can improve life chances, particularly for families experiencing complex and multiple difficulties.</p> <p>ACTION: Send out the Early Help Strategy to Executive members for virtual sign up for return by Thursday 21 September 2017.</p>	<p>Isabel Noonan</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Future Direction of Children’s Services</p> <p>Helen Brackenbury reported that the Children’s Social Care and Integrated Early Support Senior Management Teams had been working on a multi-agency approach to manage risk and work collaboratively for those children moving into statutory social work. There is no fixed Model at this stage but some Local Authorities have had innovation grant funding to work up models and their reports are out, so these could inform a style of working for Cheshire West and Chester going forward. Emma Taylor is leading on this and is keen to move towards a joined up Children’s Workforce and has requested the Trust oversee the re-modelling. The issue will also be raised at the LSCB Executive meeting.</p> <p>Gerald Meehan explained that an early decision had been taken to exclude Children’s Services from the integrated model of Adult Social Care and Health services but agreed that a parallel review for Children’s Services take place at the same time overseen by the Children’s Trust Executive and LSCB.</p> <p>ACTION: Future Direction of Children’s Services be a standing item on the Children Trust Executive agenda.</p>	<p>Sarah Blaylock/Isabel Noonan</p>

<p>5. 5. i)</p> <p>5.ii)</p>	<p>Partner Commissioning <u>West Cheshire Commissioning Performance Review update</u> At previous Executive meetings it was agreed to bring examples of how the impact of IES commissioned services are monitored and reported. The purpose of this is to support the development of a reporting structure for the Children’s Trust as part of a wider exercise on how the Executive will monitor outcomes and impact of commissioned services going forward.</p> <p>At Executive on 22 May it was agreed that Angela Lewis develop a draft standardised Commissioning Performance Report Card with completed examples and Angela presented the Template to the meeting today.</p> <p>Mark Parkinson asked if more outcome information could be included in the ‘Impact’ column to demonstrate the difference services have made.</p> <p>ACTION/AGREED: Include main outcomes achieved per quarter under Impact section (high level/examples)</p> <p><u>Updated Commissioning Framework</u> Alistair Jeffs presented the refreshed Cheshire West and Chester’s Children’s Trust Joint Commissioning Framework 2017/19. Agreed: Joint Commissioning Framework 2017/19.</p> <p>Gill Frame asked that all commissioning contracts include the safeguarding standards that are required from the service, and that this be included in the framework. ACTION: Commissioning contracts include safeguarding standards that are required from the service, and that this be included in the framework</p>	<p>Angela Lewis</p> <p>Angela Lewis</p> <p>Angela Lewis</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Update on the Starting Well Service developments Sioban Simcock, Commissioner referred to the report at Executive updating on the outcome of the Starting Well Service commission, contract award and mobilisation period. The contract with CWP, the successful provider was signed in July and the mobilisation period commenced soon after. This is a joint partnership approach between CWP and the LA to ensure a smooth transition between the 5 current services into a single service with over 200 staff coming together. Themed Task and Finish groups meet weekly to progress each action plan. The biggest challenges to the project are data migration and preparing the recording and reporting systems to be viable for January 2018.</p> <p>ACTION: the Executive to continue to receive regular updates as move towards commencement date of January 2018</p>	<p>Sioban Simcock</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Unregistered Schools Mark Parkinson circulated the Ofsted booklet on Safeguarding children in unregulated and unregistered education settings. The purpose is to raise awareness with members and partners of potential safeguarding issues of unregistered and unregulated settings.</p> <p>The Local Authority has overarching responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people, regardless of</p>	

	<p>where they are educated; and have responsibilities under the Prevent duty to understand the range of out-of-school settings in their area. Mark pointed out that it is a criminal offence for a person to conduct an independent school which is not registered with the Secretary of State for Education. Mark asked if anyone came across provision that raised concerns to contact the Local Authority.</p> <p>ACTION: Raise the issue at the next LSCB Board meeting in October.</p>	<p>Mark Parkinson</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Inter Parental Relationships and Parenting Offer</p> <p>Robert Berrie gave a presentation to the Executive on a proposed local inter-parental relationship and parenting offer, practitioner toolkit and tiered training offer. There is an increasing evidence base for the need for early intervention services and local authorities as a whole to better respond to inter parental conflict and support positive parenting. The Early Intervention Foundation 2016 reports have found ‘the quality of the inter-parental relationship, specifically how parents communicate and relate to each other, is increasingly recognised as a primary influence on effective parenting practices and children’s long-term mental health and future life chances’.</p> <p>The Executive watched a short video demonstrating examples of ‘Parental Conflict: and its impact on children and how local authorities can help.’ Helen Brackenbury explained that it is proposed to develop a Cheshire West and Chester Inter-parental Relationship and Parenting Offer. The proposed offer will build on the evidence based and innovative practices developed by 12 local authorities involved in a pilot. This will involve working in a collaborative way across services to ensure families have access to a suite of parenting programmes that are responsive to their needs and have a clear relationship focus in line with the national DWP Local Family Offer approach.</p> <p>Work has started with the national charity OnePlus One to look at developing a shared pathway, practitioners toolkit and the roll out of a graded training offer to ensure that the workforce are better equipped to recognise and respond to the early signs of inter-parental conflict to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and families. A conference and proposed launch event is planned for November 2017 aimed at the partnership of services and organisations supporting families across west Cheshire.</p> <p>Helen Brackenbury explained that a stage has not been reached yet to determine if additional commissioning is required; currently Triple P and 123 Magic parenting programmes are used with 123 Magic due to be rolled out in a number of schools. Gill Frame pointed out that front line practitioners need the tools/mind set to engage in difficult conversations with parents and to be confident to have that conversation.</p> <p>Helen Brackenbury asked for Trust endorsement and engagement in the development of a parental offer explaining that she has spoken to Colin Billingsley from DWP about joint working in developing the programme and he is supportive.</p> <p>ACTION: Send out the report on developing a Cheshire West and</p>	<p>Isabel Noonan</p>

	<p>Chester Inter-parental Relationship and Parenting Offer to Executive members for virtual sign up.</p>	
9.	<p>LSCB – Challenge Gill Frame asked for partner support to the anti-bullying awareness week from 13-17 November. Gerald Meehan asked if schools have their own bullying impact assessment. Mark Parkinson explained that the Authority is no longer required to monitor bullying incidents in schools but that the 3 school representatives on the LSCB should be taking this forward. ACTION: Mark Parkinson agreed to raise at the Education Improvement Board, School Association meetings and e-mail schools highlighting the cultural changes in the school environment with regard to bullying and ask how they are going to respond.</p> <p>Alan Fairclough explained that the Police would be participating in anti-bullying week and also referred to the Fire services ‘Safety Central’ inter-active support for cyber bullying that has now gone live. Angela Lewis suggested that young people could be asked what bullying feels like in the school environment through the Youth Senate. Gill Frame endorsed this approach as a good way of triangulating impact. ACTION: Youth Senate be asked to undertake an anti-bullying piece of work with young people.</p> <p><u>Parents Event Evaluation – March 2017</u> The LSCB delivered a parent’s workshop on the topic of young people’s emotional wellbeing and mental health in March 2017. The event was delivered by staff in Cheshire and Wirral Partnership CAMHS service, and received support from the National Charity, Young Minds. This was the first time that the LSCB has undertaken any direct engagement with parent’s and carer’s. The event was well evaluated by those parents/carers who attended. The event was oversubscribed and the issue going forward is regarding the offer to parents who have children with emotional health and wellbeing issues.</p> <p>Sian Jones – LSCB Business Support Manager The Executive extended its thanks to Sian Jones, LSCB Business Support Manager who is leaving her post for her significant contribution to the work of the LSCB.</p>	<p>Mark Parkinson</p> <p>Angela Lewis (Lesley Dixon)</p>
9.	<p>Any Other Business <u>Progress and update on Accountable Care Organisation</u> Alistair Jeffs explained that work has been undertaken on the joint Health and Adult Social Care agenda with regular papers being submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The intention is to establish a Joint Commissioning Committee across Cheshire from April 2018; and move to a formal integrated organisation by December 2017. A strategic case setting out the ambition and direction of travel for integration is being prepared for wide circulation. The proposal does exclude: Children’s Social Care Specialist Mental Health Services Specialist Hospital Services Dental and Optical Services</p>	
10.	<p>Items for Health and Wellbeing Board Inter Parental Relationships and Parenting Offer</p>	

OUR PARTNERSHIP FOR CHILDREN

	Commissioning Framework	
10.	Date of next meeting: Date: Monday 20 November 2017 Time: 3.15pm to 5.15pm Venue: Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall	