

## West Cheshire Children's Trust Executive

**Action Note of meeting held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
(Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall)**

**In attendance:**

- Cllr Nicole Meardon (Chair)
- Mark Parkinson – Director, Education, CWaC
- Emma Taylor – Director, Children's Social Care, CWaC
- Helen Brackenbury – Interim Director, Integrated Early Support, CWaC
- Tony Sharples – Public Health
- Isabel Noonan – Policy Manager, CWaC
- Angela Lewis – Children's Commissioner, CWaC
- Alan Fairclough – Cheshire Police
- Sue Preston – The Children's Society
- Gill Frame – Chair LSCB
- Jamaila Tausif – Vale Royal CCG
- Cathy Walsh – West Cheshire CCG
- Alison Amesbury – Strategic Housing, CWaC
- Lorraine Crane – Children's Commissioning Officer, CWaC
- Zara Woodcock – Integrated Early Support Manager, CWaC

Item No	Minute/Action	Who
1.	<p><b>Welcome, introductions and apologies</b> Councillor Meardon welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies were noted: Cllr Margaret Parker, <i>Alistair Jeffs, Sarah Blaylock, Luke McDonnell</i></p>	
2.	<p><b>Notes of meeting held on 21 November 2016 and Matters Arising / Review of Actions</b> The minutes from the previous meeting held on 21 November 2016 were confirmed as a correct record. Matters Arising:</p> <p><b>Page 1 – Item 2 – Joint Protocol between Housing and Children's Social Care</b> The Joint Protocol has been signed off by Emma Taylor, Director Children's Social Care and Alison Knight, Director Places Strategy. Alison Amesbury explained that officers are holding monitoring meetings to ensure that the Protocol is being adhered to. Joint assessments are now taking place. Additional Units of Accommodation owned by a Registered Housing Provider but managed by Children's Services has been made available to ensure that Bed and Breakfast accommodation is not used.</p> <p><b>Page 2 – Item 3 – Voice of Children and Young People; Passport work on self-harm</b> An update was provided as follows: A new health app is now available for young people to quickly access information about mental health. The benefits of the app include – an easy way to share personal information, useful for hospital appointments</p>	



	<p>or admission and quick access to support, sign posting and health updates.</p> <p><b>Page 5 – Item 8 – 0-19 Services and Children’s Centre Update</b> Clarification was sought on why the change of name from school nurse to Public Health Nurse. Sioban Simcock, Commissioner explained that the service is a universal service for young people between 5-19 years regardless of whether they attend a school setting or not, thus term ‘school nurse is misleading</p>	
3.	<p><b>Review 2016-17 of CY&amp;P Plan Priorities and Consideration of Priorities for 2017-18</b> The Executive agreed the final report of the review of Strategic Outcomes and Milestones achieved for 2016-17 of the Children and Young People’s Plan.</p> <p>Additional actions for the 2017-18 work plan were proposed as follows:</p> <p>SO1 EHWB – work with John Bucknall to cross check actions contained in EHWB work Plan and update accordingly. SO2 – Children in Care and Care Leavers – include an additional key outcome and actions on ‘ All Care Leavers are ready for adulthood and employment’ SO3 – SEND – SEND Strategy Action Plan will be the work plan for 2017-18 actions SO4 – Prevention – Helen Brackenbury proposed that she would review the Prevention Strategic Action to include actions from Child Poverty Strategy Action Plan and table proposals at next meeting for the Executive to approve. SO5 – Closing the Gap (Early Years) – Early Years Strategy Action Plan will be the work plan for 2017-18 actions.</p>	<p><b>Isabel Noonan/Sarah Blaylock</b></p> <p><b>Helen Brackenbury</b></p>
4.	<p><b>Partner Commissioning Overview</b> The Executive agreed that it was good to review all commissioning activities in one document. Emma Taylor pointed out that there would be further input on parenting programmes and support when the service changes from April 2017.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Bring revised Parenting Pathway to next meeting of Executive</b> <b>ACTION: Alongside Parenting Pathway consider voluntary organisation support to Cheshire West and Chester families</b></p> <p>Lorraine Crane thought it would be helpful to map gaps in provision so that future requirements could be prioritised and re-configured. <b>ACTION: Map gaps in commissioned service provision</b></p> <p>Nicole Meardon asked that an overview of Outcomes be included in the document. Helen Brackenbury suggested that outcomes for the Integrated Early Support Quarter 4 come to the next Executive as a sample of monitoring outcomes to inform a wider exercise on outcomes of commissioned service reporting. <b>ACTION: Integrated Early Support Quarter 4 outcomes of Commissioned Services to next Executive meeting</b></p> <p>Nicole Meardon asked how Health and Police partners feedback on</p>	<p><b>Zara Woodcock</b> <b>Sue Preston</b></p> <p><b>Lorraine Crane</b></p> <p><b>Helen Brackenbury</b></p>

	<p>outcomes. Alan Fairclough explained the Community Safety Partnership demonstrates what has been achieved.</p> <p>Gill Frame asked about communications of service offers to front line staff and how they appear on the Local Offer. Helen Brackenbury explained that Amanda Hand, IES Communications Officer is currently compiling a list of services available per age range which will be circulated to Local Authority front line staff and partner agencies before uploading onto the Local Offer.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Communication on Early Help Services be produced and widely circulated and uploaded on to Local Offer</b></p>	<p><b>Helen Brackenbury</b></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Refreshed Children and Young Peoples Mental Health Transformation Plan</b></p> <p>The Executive received an updated and refreshed Children and Young People’s Mental Health (CYP MH) Transformation Plan. It is an NHS England requirement that the Plan is refreshed and published on the website following sign off by the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>Cathy Walsh, West Cheshire CCG asked the Executive to note the work including the investment into service provision and training and to support the idea that all service provision identifies itself within the ‘Thrive model’ (not to be confused with the LA Thrive model) which supports a system without tiers.</p> <p>The key deliverables and objectives identified are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To build capacity and capabilities across the system to secure sustainable improvements in children and young people’s mental health outcomes by 2020.</li> <li>• Investment in additional staff and in the provision of training.</li> <li>• Roll out the Children and Young People’s Improving Access to Psychological therapies programme (CYP IAPT).</li> <li>• To develop evidence-based community eating disorder services - there is now a fully functioning eating disorder team in place.</li> <li>• To improve perinatal care. A national bid for monies has been successful to develop a Cheshire and Merseyside Specialist Perinatal Community Team.</li> </ul> <p>Nicole Meardon expressed her support for the Thrive Model of working without Tiers. Lorraine Crane asked about a children and young people version of the Plan. Cathy explained that the Youth Senate has provided feedback on the Plan and this will be used in work going forward. Gill Frame wondered if the Plan was light on help for parents.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Agreed to add links into Plan to other supportive sites to assist parents with parenting skills.</b></p> <p><b>ACTION: C&amp;YP Mental Health Transformation Plan be submitted to LSCB for information</b></p> <p>Emma Taylor felt the ‘Thrive Model’ and no wrong door was very important as there are a number of high risk cases of self-harm. A strategic review of how we work across agencies with this cohort of girls is required. Emma reported that she has requested a review of residential services provision to take account of this issue which has also been</p>	<p><b>Cathy Walsh</b></p> <p><b>Cathy Walsh</b></p>

	<p>discussed at the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Board with an action to operationalise a review.  <b>ACTION: Cathy Walsh and Emma Taylor to meet to look at developing a workstream for high risk cases of self-harm as part of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Board.</b></p> <p>Mark Parkinson fully supported the Plan but suggested the next step was to move to a position where outcomes/impact is also captured. The Emotional Health and Wellbeing Board is currently devising a performance monitoring framework and looking to create a data dashboard. Jamaila Tausif explained that the CCGs give regular assurance to the NHS on outcomes.  <b>ACTION: Bring snapshot of outcomes report to NHS England to next meeting of Executive.</b></p>	<p>Emma Taylor/Cathy Walsh</p> <p>Jamaila Tausif</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>TAF Performance and Interface with Partners</b>                  Zara Woodcock gave an update of TAF activity across CWaC Children’s Services and partners. IES and Primary schools remain the highest initiators of TAFs across the borough. During 2016 schools initiated 436 TAFs, representing 70% of all the total agency initiation across CWaC. Ongoing work related to this will be addressed through a joint termly meeting between the CWaC Primary and Secondary Heads and CWaC Children’s Services.</p> <p>Overall TAF activity by all partners is declining with schools closing more TAFs in 2016 than they initiated; in addition a third of the closed TAFs are as a result of escalation to Children’s Social Care.</p> <p>Helen Brackenbury asked partners help in further promoting the use of TAFs as an assessment tool as it is still not embedded across agencies. Discussion took place as to whether the TAF formed part of service contracts and partners agreed to review such contracts. Lorraine Crane referred to a legal clause that should be part of contracts and agreed to send it to the CCG representatives on the Executive.  <b>ACTION: Send legal clause on the use of TAFs for inclusion in contract to CCGs.</b></p> <p>Emma Taylor reported that Children in Need figures have risen and explained that a health check is required to include other partners to examine what the data is telling us and propose actions to address the trend. Gill Frame felt that activity in the Universal under 5s could be a factor and questioned whether there are capacity issues, for example with Health Visitors.  <b>ACTION: Emma Taylor and Helen Brackenbury to initiate Health check on Children in Need data and report back to the Executive.</b></p>	<p>Lorraine Crane</p> <p>Emma Taylor</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>Early Help Strategy</b>                  Zara Woodcock presented a draft of the Early Help Strategy 2017-2020 for observation and comment; and proposed that a Task and Finish Group be established to work up an Action Plan. 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. Helen Brackenbury explained that this</p>	

	<p>Strategy is a partner co-produced document and asked for guidance from the Trust in bringing this to fruition. Nicole Meardon stressed that as a Partner agreed approach it has to be jointly owned and implemented together with the TAF process.</p> <p>The following representatives were proposed to join the Task and Finish Group:                  Jo Vitta, Vale Royal CCG                  Sian Jones, LSCB                  Julie Karmy, Children’s Commissioner                  Children’s Social Care representative - tbc                  Education representative – tbc                  Sioban Simcock or Tony Sharples – Public Health</p> <p>Sue Preston asked that the voluntary sector input be kept in mind when finalising the Strategy and Action Plan.</p>	<p><b>Zara Woodcock to set up Task and Finish Group</b></p>
8.	<p><b>Commissioning update: National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS)</b></p> <p>Angela Lewis informed the Executive that following a recent commissioning process, undertaken jointly with Halton Borough Council the National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS) will continue to provide the Children’s Rights, Advocacy and Independent Visitor Service for a number of children and young people, namely Children in Need, who have a Child Protection Plan, children with disabilities, children in care aged up to 18 years, homeless 16 and 17 year olds, Care Leavers up to the age of 21 years (up to age 25 years in accordance with Keep On Caring Supporting Young People from Care to Independence July 2016) and unaccompanied asylum seeking children.</p> <p>NYAS will provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and young people with awareness of and access to services which are their legal right</li> <li>• Advice and information</li> <li>• A minimum of 20 Independent Visitor to visit, advise and befriend service.</li> </ul>	
9.	<p><b>LSCB Challenge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refreshed LSCB Business Plan – Gill Frame distributed the Cheshire West and Chester LSCB Refreshed Business Plan for 2017-18 which aligns with the Children and Young People’s Plan.</li> <li>• LSCB Parents event – Friday 24 March 2017 – Gill reported that demand had been overwhelming. Evaluations from the event will be fed back.</li> </ul>	
10.	<p><b>Items for next Health and Wellbeing Board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emotional Health and Wellbeing</li> <li>• Early Help and TAF process</li> <li>• LSCB refreshed business Plan</li> </ul>	<p><b>Isabel Noonan /Sarah Blaylock</b></p>
11.	<p><b>Any Other Business:</b></p> <p><u>Accountable Care Organisations</u> – Gerald Meehan, Chief Executive for Cheshire West and Chester Council sent an update to the Trust concerning the scope of developing Accountable Care Organisations</p>	

	<p>(ACO's) and the question of whether Children's Services should be included in the process. Children's Services will be treated as a parallel strand to the work rather than full incorporation at this stage. ACO's cover West Cheshire and Central Cheshire in terms of current discussions.</p> <p><u>Women, Children and Vanguard's Health Services</u> - It was reported that discussions are taking place where sites should be in the future across the patch including whether to join Cheshire and Wirral services. Delyth Curtis, Deputy Chief Executive for CWaC People's Services is part of the process.</p> <p><u>Children's Society</u> – Sue Preston reported that as part of the Weaver Vale Housing Trust project two young people had become volunteer young helpers and have received a national award.</p> <p>The Children's Society has also been working with children and young people on a project titled 'Big up the Bill' to highlight good examples of how police officers have supported young people in a positive way. The young people who have run the campaign have also created tips for police on how better to work with young people.</p> <p>Substance Misuse Strategy – Tony Sharples reported that the Substance Misuse Strategy is out to consultation from mid-April 2017.</p>	
13.	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p><b>Date: Monday 22 May 2017</b>  <b>Time: 3.15pm to 5.15pm</b>  <b>Venue: Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall</b></p>	

