

West Cheshire Children’s Trust Executive

Action Note of meeting held on Monday 20 November 2017 (Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall)

In attendance:

- Cllr Nicole Meardon (Chair)
- Mark Parkinson – Director of Education, CWaC
- Alistair Jeffs - Director, Commissioning People, CWaC
- Emma Taylor – Director of Children’s Social care, CWAC
- Isabel Noonan – Policy Manager, CWaC
- Sarah Blaylock – Policy Manager, CWAC
- Gill Frame – Chair LSCB
- Alan Fairclough – Cheshire Police
- Sioban Simcock – Children’s Commissioner, CWaC
- Tony Sharples – Public health, CWAC
- Sue Preston – The Children’s Society
- Matthew Adam – West Cheshire CCG
- Graham Dyson – Vale Royal CCG
- Jo Vitta – Vale Royal CCG
- Anna Johnson - Innovation and Practice Development Lead, Children’s Services, CWAC
- Amanda Jones – Senior Manager, Children’s Social Care, CWAC

Item No	Minute/Action	Who
1.	<p>Welcome, introductions and apologies</p> <p>Councillor Meardon welcomed all to the meeting. As there were additional guests to the meeting everyone introduced themselves.</p> <p>Apologies were noted: Cllr Margaret Parker, <i>Helen Brackenbury, Terry Upton, Gerald Meehan, Luke McDonnell, Delyth Curtis, Laura Marsh</i></p>	
2.	<p>Notes of meeting held on 18 September 2017 and Matters Arising / Review of Actions</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting held on 18 September 2017 were confirmed as a correct record and all actions completed.</p> <p>Matters Arising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 2, Item 2 – Notes of meeting held on 20 March 2017 and Matters Arising/Review of Actions – Refreshed Children and Young People’s Mental Health Transformation Plan - Transformation Plan Update on the agenda today – Item 3 • Page 2, Item 3 – Final Draft Early Help Strategy Send out the Early Help Strategy to Executive members for virtual sign up for return by Thursday 21 September 2017 - Actioned • Page 2, Item 4 – Future Direction of Children’s Services. Future Direction of Children’s Services to be a standing item on the Children’s Trust Executive Agenda – On today’s Agenda, Item 6 – Partnership Practice Model 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 3, Item 5 – Partner Commissioning Actions for inclusion in Commissioning Performance Review – completed by Angela Lewis Action: Commissioning contracts include safeguarding standards that are required from the service, and this is included in the framework. Being actioned by Angela Lewis. • Page 3, Item 7 - Unregistered Schools To raise the issue at the next LSCB Board meeting in October – Did not go to LSCB in October but will be on the next LSCB agenda • Page 4, Item 8 - Inter Parental Relationships and Parenting Offer Send out report on developing a Cheshire West and Chester inter-Parental Relationship and Parenting Offer to Executive members for virtual sign up. Actioned and feedback received and acted upon. • Page 5, item 9 - LSCB – Challenge Mark Parkinson agreed to raise the cultural changes in the school environment with regard to bullying at the Cheshire West Education Improvement Board (CWEIB), School Association meetings and e-mail schools and ask how they are going to respond. – Action taken – Schools were alerted to the anti-bullying week and provided other recent information/advice to schools. Awaiting the final version of the Serious Case Review (SCR) report and then will be asking the school reps on the LSCB to action the recommendations with their associations. - Youth Senate asked to undertake an anti-bullying piece of work with young people. – Lesley Dixon, Children’s Participation Officer is undertaking this. 	
3.	<p>Transformation Plan Update – Matthew Adam and Graham Dyson Matthew Adam explained that there have been staffing issues and as a result there has been a decline in attendance at the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Partnership meetings and momentum in taking forward.</p> <p>The Emotional Health and Wellbeing Action Plan is being refreshed by Matthew Adam, Daphne Jones and Sharon Vernon and will be formally approved by the Partnership. There will be a greater emphasis on an outcomes focussed framework with outcome measures across the Partnership. The main aims will be;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to increase resilience, • ensure we have robust provision, • a single point of access to services, • a crisis care service (CWP bid for funding from NHS England), • behavioural services and support for vulnerable groups through integrated ways of working across the Partnership <p>Matthew provided an update on developments in West Cheshire who have undertaken commissioning for children and young people at risk of anti-social behaviour and those at risk of permanent school exclusion through integrated working and closer inter-agency working. Also children</p>	

	<p>and young people have been asked to look at digital platforms that may help improve emotional health and wellbeing and anxiety disorders.</p> <p>Graham Dyson supported Matthew's summary of progress to-date and provided an update on developments in Vale Royal, specifically the commissioning of Visyon Ltd as an early intervention provider. The aim is to provide short interventions to help prevent children and young people having to access higher level services. This is through self-referral. They have also developed the You in Mind website as a sign posting directory with the aim to roll out across the whole of Cheshire.</p> <p>Mark Parkinson asked for more detail with regard to the Visyon service as neither he nor members of the SEND Strategy Group are aware of the Service. He raised concerns that schools or the Integrated Early Support (IES) service should be doing some of this intervention work and asked if schools had been given enough guidance on how and when to refer in? Graham explained that the main referral trigger is through GPs. Gill Frame explained that the key issue for the LSCB is that there should be an equitable offer particularly in relation to self-harm across CWaC. Matthew explained that in West Cheshire CCG the comparable service is a Tier 2 service through CWP together with some triage service.</p> <p>ACTION: To provide details/brief to schools/partners outlining the Visyon offer including target groups, criteria and routes of referral etc. This can also be taken to CWEIB</p> <p>ACTION: To look at the parity between West Cheshire and Vale Royal including services and pathways available and report back to the next Executive meeting in February 2018.</p>	<p>Graham Dyson</p> <p>Graham Dyson Matthew Adam</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Integrated Early Support Emotional Health and Wellbeing Update – Sioban Simcock</p> <p>Sioban Simcock reported that a contract for targeted Early Help and Prevention Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service was awarded to Core Assets in September 2017. The annual contract value is £146,350 for a period of 3 years. Staff within Integrated Early Support (IES) have been picking up emotional health and wellbeing issues in case-loads that require intervention but do not meet CAMHS thresholds or need support when stepping down from CAMHS. The commissioned service will see the appointment of EHWP practitioners based in the 3 Early Help and Prevention (formerly IES) Districts. The aim is to recruit 6 part-time practitioners although the number is proving problematic at the moment.</p> <p>Practitioners will be employed by Core Assets but sit within the Early Help and Prevention Teams (formally IES) and work closely with iART, have shared access to eTAF and case management systems; as well as sharing patient records with the CAMHS system (once license has been granted)</p> <p>Emma Taylor asked if Practitioners would lead a case in Early Help and Prevention as other staff do and this was confirmed. Also is there a risk of duplication of services with for example the Transformation Plan. Siobhan explained that she and Matthew Adam from West Cheshire CCG had written the Commission Specification and the main distinction</p>	

	<p>is that this new service is at Partnership Plus (Level 3) on the Continuum of Need whereas the Transformation Plan services are below this.</p> <p>Mark Parkinson pointed to a potential gap in services for children and young people with disabilities if they are not known to the Early Help and Prevention Service.</p> <p>ACTION: Sioban to ask Core Assets to look at the potential for including children and young people with disabilities within the Early Help and Prevention Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service as the specification does confirm that they will work with children and young people with SEND.</p> <p>ACTION: Matthew Adam to check the inclusion of children and young people with Disabilities within the Transformation specification.</p> <p>ACTION: Longer term to draw up a roadmap of where to access services and who is providing. (Gill Frame supported this pointing out that people not knowing the offer is an outcome of the latest Serious Case Review).</p> <p>ACTION: Sioban to update the Executive on progress at the next meeting.</p>	<p>Sioban Simcock</p> <p>Matthew Adam</p> <p>Matthew Adam</p> <p>Sioban Simcock</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Children’s Trust Options Paper – Mark Parkinson Framework</p> <p>Mark Parkinson presented a paper on the Future Organisation and Purpose of the Children’s Trust on behalf of Delyth Curtis, Deputy Chief Executive - People. Now that the Strategy Groups underneath the Executive are taking responsibility for ensuring services are delivered in line with the priorities and local needs are identified within the Children and Young People’s Plan it is now opportune to review how partners co-operate to deliver services together going forward.</p> <p>The proposal is to move to 4 meetings of the Executive per year with each meeting having a Part 1 and Part 2 section on the agenda.</p> <p>Part 1 would be a standing item to review and move forward future children’s partnership practice.</p> <p>Part 2 would follow an annual cycle as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February – Planning meeting to review and refresh priorities using the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) • April – Business and Developmental meeting • July – Commissioning – review commissioning priorities • October – Mid-year review. <p>The existing sub-groups would be augmented with an additional sub-group for commissioning with the purpose to review specifications and current processes and make decisions to de-commission or re-commission services for children across the partnership.</p> <p>Sarah Blaylock fed back a concern from Fay Quinlan on behalf of commissioning services within West Cheshire CCG with regard to the</p>	

	<p>timing of the Executive meeting in July to look at commissioning. Alistair Jeffs felt the July timeframe would work on a rolling programme of looking back at commissioned services, challenge and review leading up to the following year.</p> <p>Emma Taylor pointed to the next item on the agenda – Partnership Practice Model saying that the Trust Executive needs to be a decision making body in order to avoid issues inappropriately being submitted to the LSCB and fully endorsed the revised proposed Trust Model.</p> <p>AGREED: The Executive agreed the revised Trust Model subject to it being endorsed by partners’ agencies governing bodies.</p> <p>ACTION: To book the February and April meetings prior to receiving feedback/endorsement of wider proposed annual cycle from partners.</p>	<p>Partner agencies</p> <p>Sarah Blaylock/ Isabel Noonan</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Partnership Practice Model – Anna Johnson and Amanda Jones</p> <p>Emma Taylor introduced the item stating that the recent Joint Targeted Area Inspection feedback showed strong partnership working at all levels, that collaboratively we work well together and are well co-ordinated, that we have a skilled workforce across the Partnership; our audits also say that we are good on practice. We now have the opportunity to build on this work.</p> <p>We want to close the gap to inequalities, to have one approach, an integrated workforce with a shared language (and shared understanding of what success looks like), to enable our families to think differently and a consistent common approach to practice and shared outcomes. All this should have an impact on early identification. To assist this approach funding has been made available to the Council to fund a post for two years and Anna Johnson has been appointed as the Innovation and Practice Development Lead and she will act on behalf of the whole Partnership.</p> <p>Anna provided some thematic examples that could be explored to ensure a common approach:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessments – we know our cases escalate up for assessments not service • Re-referral: escalation often left too late • Evidenced based: not currently reflected in our assessments – how do we move forward to evidence based interventions • Parental factors: future indicators for a child • Older Children in Care: Chronic neglect and trauma in early childhood - consider how to include in our approaches and interventions. <p>We need to consider risks – to understand and manage risk across the Continuum.</p> <p>We need to look at new approaches to practice. Anna discussed what other areas are doing including Hertfordshire – Family Safeguarding in Action – where there have been reductions in domestic abuse call outs,</p>	



	<p>attendance at A&E, improvement in school attendance and a reduction in care proceedings as a result of their reforms to children's services.</p> <p>Moving Forward we need to look at areas that we could focus on – safeguarding has to be our priority. Examples of areas that we could focus on include evidence based approaches, motivational interviewing, early identification, a solution focused approach and engagement of those who are hard to reach as well as workforce development.</p> <p>Emma Taylor stated that we are in a strong position but we all need to sign up to one model that we can define. She has already met with and shared this with Paula Wedd, West Cheshire CCG and Peter Shaw, Police who both agree in principle with this.</p> <p>Gill Frame agreed that the opportunities are there and sighted a Think Family Approach and evidence based assessments.</p> <p>Police are looking to re-invest resources on school offer focussing officers work with the vulnerable youth cohort such as PRU schools and children in care who persistently go missing.</p> <p>Matthew Adam thought the first steps to consider are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree aims • Why are we doing this? • What do we want to achieve? • What are our shared values and principles? • Consider good practice that is already in place <p>Action: Anna Johnson to draft a letter to come from Councillor Meardon inviting partners to a strategic group early in the new year to take forward before moving forward with Task and Finish Groups.</p>	<p>Anna Johnson</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Mid-Year Review – ALL The Mid-Year Review completed by the leads for the Strategic Outcomes and the relevant sub groups was presented to the Executive.</p> <p>Agreed in future that report to be more targeted.</p> <p>Action: Template to be developed for year-end review with a focus on exceptions. To also use the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) to review and set priorities for the coming year at the February meeting</p>	<p>Sarah Blaylock Isabel Noonan</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Safeguarding Children Returning from Syria – Emma Taylor Emma Taylor stated that this is for information and asked that partners share with relevant staff and to note the e mail contact details if require any assistance in dealing with cases via the Due Diligence and Counter Extremism Division in the Department of Education Counter.extremism@education.gsi.gov.uk</p> <p>Jo Vitta to ensure circulation to GPs.</p>	

9.	<p>LSCB – Challenge – Gill Frame Neglect Strategy. Endorsed by the LSCB two weeks ago. Need to make sure in line with NICE guidance – Tony Sharples is working on this. The new strategy was well received by inspectors during the Joint Targeted Area Inspection on Neglect. There is an Action Plan included as part of the document.</p> <p>The Executive endorsed the Strategy.</p>	
9.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tony Sharples stated that Public Health have consulted on the re-commissioning of services including sexual health, substance misuse, NHS Health Checks and Integrated Wellbeing Service and a paper was going to Cabinet on 29 November for approval. 	
10.	<p>Items for Health and Wellbeing Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s Trust proposal • Transformation Plan update • IES Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service update • Practice Model and link to LSCB Neglect Strategy 	
10.	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <p>Date: Monday 26 February 2018 Time: 3.15pm to 5.15pm Venue: Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall</p>	

