

## West Cheshire Children’s Trust Executive

### **Action Note of meeting held on Monday 11 November 2019** **(Nicholas House, Chester)**

**In attendance:**

- Councillor Nicole Meardon – Chair
- Emma Taylor – Director Children’s Social Care
- Ian Ashworth – Director of Public Health, CW&C
- Councillor Jill Houlbrook CW&C
- Sian Jones – Safeguarding Children Partnership
- Jo Vitta – Cheshire CCGs
- Richard Rees – Cheshire Police
- Sean Barlow – Cheshire Fire
- Sue Tomlinson - CWAPH
- Mike McCann - CWASSH
- Hayley Doyle – Senior Manager, Children’s Strategic Commissioning, CW&C
- Anna Johnson - Innovation and Practice Development Lead, Children’s Services, CW&C
- Samantha Horton-Leigh – Programme Manager, Children’s Services, CW&C
- Daphne Jones – Interim Director Education and Inclusion
- Sarah Blaylock – Policy Manager, CW&C
- Isabel Noonan – Policy Manager, CW&C

Item No	Minute/Action	Who
1.	<p><b>Welcome, introductions and apologies</b> Councillor Meardon welcomed all to the meeting. As there were additional guests to the meeting everyone introduced themselves. Apologies were noted: Mark Parkinson – Director of Education, CW&amp;C, Helen Brackenbury – Director of Early Help and Prevention, CW&amp;C, Emma Leigh, CCG, Del Curtis, Deputy Chief Executive, People, CW&amp;C, Jamaila Tausif CCG, David Curry CWASH</p>	
2.	<p><b>Notes of meeting held on 22 July 2019 and Matters Arising / Review of Actions</b> The minutes from the previous meeting held on 22 July were confirmed as a correct record. Matters Arising <u>Page 2, Item 2 – A further update on the commissioned service: Early Help and Prevention Targeted Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service</u> <b>Action: Emma Taylor, Helen Brackenbury and Sioban Simcock to meet to discuss potential increase in use of Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service</b> – An electronic response would be circulated. <u>Page 5, Item 8 – JSNA headlines for consideration as part of Place Plan development</u> <b>Action: check wording of ‘year on year increase in rate of children in need’ and ‘year on year increase in rate of children in care’ as appears to be at odds with North West Regional data</b> Helen Pickin-Jones had provided a response which Emma Taylor will address outside of the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p><b>PART 1: Future Direction of Children’s Services – Anna Johnson and Samantha Horton-Leigh</b></p>	

	<p>Anna Johnson presented a Progress Update on New Ways of Working supported by Samantha Horton-Leigh, Programme Manager. Options for the future of the working Programme post DfE funding were also discussed.</p> <p>Examples of current language and moving to new understanding and language from a trauma-based perspective were presented. A pilot is running with schools in Ellesmere Port on how to apply trauma informed practice to a class of 30 which could avert/reduce the number of children excluded for example.</p> <p><u>Multi Agency Group Supervision and Learning Conversations</u> Between July and November 4 Multi Agency Group Supervisions and 2 Learning Conversations had taken place. There had been a random audit of 15 Children’s Social Care cases (open for more than 12 months) and a TAF Audit at 12 months. An example of a Learning Conversation and agreed way forward for a family was presented. The key findings from a multi-agency audit around sexual abuse were also presented. Examples of partners engaging in the new approach include Weaver Vale Housing Trust adopting a group supervision and peer supervision framework since attending training; and JH Godwin Primary school in Blacon taking a whole school approach to New Ways of Working developing a trauma informed approach across the school.</p> <p><u>Training and Development</u> To date 851 staff have attended or booked onto New Ways of Working training. Councillor Houlbrook asked if this included staff from Dale Camp. Currently no, but Anna Johnson agreed to approach Dale Camp. <b>ACTION: Anna Johnson to contact Dale Camp about New Ways of Working training</b></p> <p>Jo Vitta asked if a wider breakdown of health representatives attending training could be profiled not just CWP. <b>Anna Johnson to profile all health representatives attending training.</b></p> <p>2 learning events had taken place on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> November with input from the Family Nurse Partnership service. To date 42 partner organisations had been represented on the Programme with 104 school staff trained from 56 schools and a multi-agency investment of 17,055 staff hours for training.</p> <p>The new draft Children’s Trust Website including New Ways of Working has been distributed and members were asked to feedback any comments to Amanda Hand by 15 November</p> <p><u>Sustainability</u> Emma Taylor reported that funding for New Ways of Working is due to cease in March 2020 with no confirmation yet that it will continue beyond this date from the DfE. Therefore, there is a risk that the achieved potential for the whole partnership will be lost unless alternative sources of funding can be identified with partners.</p> <p>An options appraisal was presented to the Trust on the potential impact of ending the Programme post March 2020 (no DfE funding), continue with phase 3 of programme if funding available or a scaled back option with continuation of posts in kind. Councillor Meardon pointed to the multi-agency progress that has been made across the whole children’s services and felt the Trust should commit to ensure the Programme continues. Jo Vitta pointed out that the CCG is currently working up their commissioning intentions for next year and whilst committed in principle</p>	<p>Anna Johnson</p> <p>Anna Johnson</p>
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	<p>to the Programme would need to know the financial ask. The Trust heard that rather than a formal evaluation of the Programme being undertaken by the DfE, a comparative analysis will be completed, for example referrals into iART, reduction in CIN. In terms of longer-term sustainability of the Programme embedding will come from people being trained and acting as 'Train the Trainer'.</p> <p><b>Action: Financial breakdown of potential funding required from partners to be produced for Development Session on 5 December (distributed before the session)</b></p>	<p>Anna Johnson</p>
<p><b>PART 2 – Business and Development</b></p>		
<p>4.</p>	<p><b>Children and Young People’s Plan</b>                  Sarah Blaylock presented a paper setting out proposals for the Executive’s approval on how to proceed with the development of a new Children and Young People’s Plan. The current Plan has been extended to 2020 to align with the new Cheshire West Place Plan which is nearing mobilisation. The Plan has five key areas of action which include Best Start and Education and Learning.</p> <p>Nicole Meardon advocated a working group to re-assess priorities such as a wider inclusion priority. Views of young people such as through the Youth Senate and Commissioning to be included. Also sharing the priorities of other associated Strategies to assess gaps and overlaps should be undertaken.</p> <p><b>Action: Produce presentation for Development Session to consider initial priorities for new Plan including JSNA data and voice of children and young people.</b></p>	<p>Sarah Blaylock                  Isabel Noonan</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Update on the commissioned service: Early Help and Prevention Targeted Emotional Health and Wellbeing Service</b>                  Hayley Doyle explained that children and young people’s emotional health and wellbeing remains a priority for CW&amp;C. Social Care teams are increasingly finding themselves dealing with a growing number of families who are experiencing mental health problems. The highest prevalence was amongst children and particularly amongst 10-15 years age group, where 40% (413 children and young people) had presented at the Local Authority front door with ‘Child or Adult Mental Health’ being the main reason for their contact. Funding was identified through a bid for ‘Priority Outcomes Reserve’ and Core Assets Children’s services are the provider of the contract with the annual contract value of £146,350 for a period of 3 years. Three Emotional Health and Wellbeing Practitioners are in post based within each of the 3 Early Help and Prevention Districts.</p> <p>During 2018-19 127 referrals were accepted by the service. A detailed protocol has been established with the CAMHS service with Core Assets working at CAMHS Level 2 and 3. They are also supporting professionals to make a referral to CAMHS. The Service also provides a training offer which is supported by resources delivered by MindEd. The Trust was asked to actively promote the uptake of the training programme and the use of MindEd resources through their respective organisations. Sue Tomlinson agreed to raise awareness of MindEd as she felt schools are not aware of it. Sian Jones reported that Children’s Safeguarding Partnership has asked all schools to promote the MindEd resource on their websites. She also reported that CWAPH is working alongside Matthew Adam from CCG on an Education Action Plan; a limited</p>	

	<p>resource to work with a small number of schools to promote Team around the School and Team around the Family.  <b>Action: Hayley to raise the issue of the use of MindEd in schools with Sioban.</b></p> <p>The Service is entering its final contract year as it expires in December 2020. Sioban Simcock is working on an exit management plan.  <b>Action: Bring a further report to Children’s Trust Executive detailing proposed exit plan for Service in February 2020.</b></p>	<p>Hayley Doyle</p> <p>Hayley Doyle/ Sioban Simcock</p>
6.	<p><b>Children’s Trust Executive Mid-Year Review</b>  Sarah Blaylock referred the Executive to the mid-year performance summary report the Sub Groups had completed against the 2019-20 outcomes. Summary of areas discussed:  <u>Strategic Outcome 1 – Emotional Health and Wellbeing</u> – development of an ASD pathway across both authorities (CW&amp;C and Cheshire East) is underway using the learning from Cheshire East experience.  <u>Strategic Outcome 2 – Children in Care and Care Leavers</u>  There is an active Adoption Recruitment Strategy – Together for Adoption. Care Leavers in EET remains stable at 52% and is proving resistant to improve despite interventions.  <u>Strategic Outcome 3 – SEND – 0-25 Inclusion Framework</u> to aid early identification, support and funding has been published and included on the Local Offer website. Digital Hub trial launched to manage/co-ordinate the EHCP assessment and review process. All new assessments in trial settings to be started through the HUB. SENCO training is very positive.  <u>Strategic Outcome 4 – Prevention</u>  Partnership representation within iART has increased as a result of Earned Autonomy funding, which has enabled improving relationship and threshold understanding in relation to substance misuse, mental health and NPS/CRC. Continued use of TAF across the children’s workforce is improving. Child Exploitation Group has been refreshed and re-launched led by Sian Jones. Emma Taylor questioned whether the rag rating for Serious Organised Crime and Domestic Abuse should be green?  <b>Action: Review rag rating for Serious Organised Crime and Domestic Abuse Key outcome</b>  <u>Strategic Outcome 5 Closing the Gap in Early Years</u>  Processes are in place for Health Visitors to support settings in closing the word gap in early years. 68% of children were assessed as working within their age-related expectations (ARE) for 2019; same as 2018 but a bigger cohort of children. EYFSP GLD 2019 – 72% same as in 2018 and in line with England. Sufficient provision for 2, 3- and 4-year olds remains good with good take up.</p>	<p>Helen Brackenbury</p>
7.	<p><b>Parenting Strategy - Approval</b>  The new Parenting Strategy with its overarching aim to ensure that ‘Every parent has the resources, resilience and relationships they need to raise children who are safe, happy, healthy and achieving their full potential’ was approved by the Executive.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Standing Item: Implications for Children’s Trust of changes to CCG</b>  Jo Vitta reported that the merger of the 4 CCGs into one Cheshire CCG has been formally approved. Senior appointments are now taking place with Tracey Cole being appointed Director of Strategy and Partnerships with Jamaila Tausif as her deputy. A communication from Clare Watson</p>	

	<p>Accountable Officer for Cheshire CCGs detailing current appointments will be circulated to the Executive.  <b>Action: circulate communication from Clare Watson on CCG staff appointments</b></p>	<p><b>Sarah Blaylock Isabel Noonan</b></p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><b>Safeguarding Children Partnership – Business Plan and Annual Report</b>  <u>LSCB Annual Report</u>                  Sian Jones presented that last LSCB Annual Report before the change to Safeguarding Children partnership. The Report covers the period 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019. During this time two inspections took place – HMICFRS Inspection of Police Custody and the Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) and the findings from these inspections are referenced in the report.</p> <p>The Annual Report details the work of a number of Task and Finish Groups that have worked towards progressing the priorities of the Board. A suite of policy and procedures have been refreshed and New Ways of Working is referenced through-out the Report. The Report highlights where progress has been made during the period and identifies priorities for the Business Plan 2019-2021. For example, the continued rise in children who self-harm and pathways of support, support for children affected by Domestic Abuse and decrease of the number of children in Youth Custody.</p> <p><u>Business Plan 2019-2021</u>                  The Business Plan sets out three strategic priorities for the Partnership for 2019-2021, as follows:  <u>Priority 1</u> (led by police) a focus on children and young people with complex needs including those who go missing from home or care; missing from education and those at risk of exploitation – emphasis on safeguarding and accountability for children not in places of education, assurances that our children in care placed outside the authority are appropriately safeguarded and a preventative approach to safeguarding children at risk of exploitation.  <u>Priority 2</u> (led by LA) ensuring a Think Family response to children and families where substance misuse, domestic abuse, learning disability and mental health problems are a feature of the family environment – includes specific strategies and protocols in response to the four identified areas.  <u>Priority 3</u> (led by CCG) responding effectively to children and young people who experience poor emotional wellbeing or mental health – ensured that this priority is distinctive from Strategic Outcome 1 of the Children and Young People’s Plan. Ensured that support is provided at the earliest opportunity including a request from schools that an ‘Ops Encompass style’ DA notification system between health and schools is developed in order that schools are in a position to offer emotional support. Consent issue will have to be carefully considered. Jo Vitta reported a new Designated Nurse for Safeguarding has been appointed – Sue Pilkington.</p> <p><u>iCON ‘Babies cry, you can cope’ and agency sign up</u>                  Sian Jones gave a verbal update on the national programme iCON which</p>	



	<p>is being delivered pan Cheshire. SCP is supporting the training arm of the Programme and asked for representatives from Police, Fire, Early Years and Housing to support this by identifying one or two iCON ambassadors who can attend training sessions in readiness to cascade iCON training to their organisation. Schools would be briefed through Forums and networks.</p> <p><b>Action: Agencies notify Sian Jones of representative support to the Training element of the iCON Programme.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Briefing note outlining Programme, emphasising universal service be sent to members of the Children’s Trust Executive.</b></p>	<p><b>Sian Jones and agencies</b>  <b>Sian Jones to provide brief for distribution</b></p>
10.	<p><b>Items for next Health and Wellbeing Board</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parenting Strategy – for information</li> <li>• Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Plan 2019-2021</li> </ul>	
11.	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b></p> <p><b>Date: Monday 3 February 2020</b>  <b>Time: 3.00pm to 5.00pm</b>  <b>Venue: Palatine Room, Chester Town Hall</b></p>	

