

**Stockton-on-Tees Children's Trust Board**  
**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2010**  
**Stockton Central Library**

**1. Present**

|                      |     |  |
|----------------------|-----|--|
| Cllr Alex Cunningham | AC  | - Cabinet Member For Children and Young People<br>Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council |
| Pam Andrews - Mawer  | PAM | - Board Member – Cleveland Police Authority  |
| Cllr Jim Beall       | JB  | - Councillor, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council                                     |
| Tony Beckwith        | TB  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council   |
| Darren Best          | DB  | - Cleveland Police   |
| Lesley Cannon        | LC  | - Jobcentre Plus   |
| Sandra Egleton       | SE  | - Children Services, Barnardos   |
| Martin Graham        | MG  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council   |
| Ruth Hill            | RH  | - NHS Stockton-on-Tees   |
| Elizabeth Horne      | EH  | - Stockton Schools Representative  |
| Jane Humphreys       | JH  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council   |
| Carol Langrick       | CL  | - North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust   |
| Peter Lowe           | PL  | - Voluntary Sector Representative (The Children's Society)                         |
| Cllr Ann McCoy       | AM  | - Councillor, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council                                     |
| Julia Morrison       | JM  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council/ NHS Stockton                                   |
| Graham Prest         | GP  | - NHS Stockton-on-Tees   |
| Lucia Saiger         | LS  | - Teesside Probation Service   |
| Peter Seller         | PS  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council/ NHS Stockton                                   |
| Marilyn Surtees      | MS  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council representing the Central<br>Area Partnership    |
| Fran Toller          | FT  | - South Tees Acute NHS Trust   |
| Simon Willson        | SW  | - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council   |

In Attendance: Mike Batty (Development and Neighbourhood Services, SBC attending on behalf of Paul Dobson) Steve Davies (North East Regional Programme Lead, Commissioning Support Programme), Cllr Suzanne Fletcher (Councillor, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council attending on behalf of Cllr Alan Lewis) John Tierney (Integrated Youth Support Services, SBC), Tracy Cooke (Minuting, SBC).

Chair AC welcome new members Lesley Cannon from Jobcentre Plus and Darren Best from Cleveland police taking over Dave Brunskill's role.

**Apologies**

Dr Kailash Agrawal, Jackie Ennis, Paul Dobson, Cllr Alan Lewis, Shaun McLurg, Linda Watson

**2. Minutes from Previous Meeting**

- Minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the last meeting.

**3. Matters Arising**

CAF – JH updated the board that additional funding from partner organisations has been secured. The post of CAF Co-ordinator was advertised, however no appointment was made and the post will be re-advertised.

Shadow Youth Board – PS apologised for the distribution of the draft document that accompanied this item which was distributed in error. Following Joe Lee's presentation at the last meeting a group of young people will be visiting Staffordshire to look at their shadow youth board. A group of young people and John Tierney have been working with the Central Area Partnership Board to determine how young people can become more engaged with the board. A number of options have been considered and the preferred models being either to have "young people's issues" as a standing item on the agenda of the Central Area Board Partnership meetings or to have a separate Central Area Partnership Youth Board.

JB hi-lighted the Central Area Partnership Board keenness to involve young people in their board and

how this could be used as an example to other area partnership boards and asked for the CTB (Children's Trust Board) endorsement of the project.

JT suggested that the setting up of a Central Area Partnership Youth Board could be used as a pilot and this could be encouraged and be used by other area partnership boards and the Children's Trust Board.

The board agreed to endorse the pilot.

Integrated Service Areas – a number of changes in the management structure have been circulated to the board. JH suggested that this should be an agenda item at the next meeting

#### **4. Issues from Members and Young People**

None raised

#### **5. Election of a Vice Chair**

The Chair AC invited members of the board to provide nominations for a Vice-Chair. Ruth Hill was nominated and seconded. The board agreed and RH was elected Vice-Chair.

#### **Action / Decision**

Ruth Hill is now Vice-Chair of the Board.

#### **6. New Children's Trust Board (CTB) Governance Arrangements**

Steve Davies (North East Regional Programme Lead) from the Commissioning Support Programme delivered a presentation regarding the new legislation around Children's Trusts and Children's Trust Boards and how these would impact on Stockton-on-Tees. He highlighted the key changes including statutory changes to the membership to include key personnel from Health, the local Authority, voluntary and community sector, police, youth offending service, probation service and connexions with other local and national organisations.

The other key change is how the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) will be developed, with the Children's Trust Board now being responsible for the production of CYPP

Steve Davies then provided the board with the results of the Self Assessment exercises the board completed in October and December last year. The data was presented will average scores for the three sections – Commissioning Governance and Framework; Commissioning Activity and Commissioning Capacity and Competence. The board's rating was very positive with above average results when compared with other areas from the North East Region. SD then suggested that he could send a comparative report of other local authorities' scores.

Board members discussed what the impact of the changes would mean for the board. AM queried whether the changes would give partner agencies a duty to co-operate and to ensure that the representatives from other organisations had decision making powers to act on behalf of their organisation. SD and several board members made comparisons on how the Stockton-on-Tees CTB performed in relation to other local authorities both regionally and nationally. JH commented on the positive work done by CTB and how much it was already meeting the new criteria set out by the government. This led into discussion about membership and whether a member who has a multi-functional role could represent several functions or organisations? A revised terms of reference for the board will be required to reflect the new changes

Several board members raised issues on the language of the report around the CTB's relationship with Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children's Board (SLSCB ) particularly on the point "The SLSCB is responsible in turn for challenging the Children's Trust Board and the Children's Trust partners individually on their success in ensuring that children and young people are kept safe. " MG explained that this came from the new CTB guidance. This led into in depth discussion of the board relationship with SLSCB and whether scrutiny would be led from the SLSCB to CTB or the reverse. DB queried the role of the police within the CTB and asked whether the same people were acting on both boards. JH

commented that there were a number of key personnel that attend both CTB and SLSCB including herself. She explained that the membership of the SLSCB had undergone a review and would be looking at electing an independent chair to ensure independence. The difference in responsibility between the CTB and the LSCSB is that CTB covers all of outcomes affecting children and young people where as SLSCB priorities focused on the safety and protection of children and young people. JB commented on the guidance not providing much clarity on the interrelationship between the two bodies.

AC asked the board members whether the preferred option would be to have a wider representation or reduce the group to a core membership with links to the thematic groups which feed into the board.

PL commented on the difficulties from voluntary/ community sector regarding capacity and whether a Children and Young People's champion could be employed to support community/ voluntary sector "a bridge to communication". PS explained that this role in the past was formerly the Partnerships Manager and there was support from his current team. PS explained that it would need to be clarified whether this would be an administrative or management post. PS commented that he has been approached by head of the 14 – 19 partnership and regarding a place on the board

FT asked whether there was need for representation from the South Tees Health Authority as there already representation from both the PCT and Acute Trust level. Following the discussion regarding membership PS asked members forward their suggestions regarding membership in line with the new guidance to either himself or MG.

#### **Children and Young People's Plan (Trust Guidance)**

Following on from the previous item PS provided members with a timeline over the next financial year for the development of the next Children's and Young People's Plan following the new guidance with key areas include improving well-being, early intervention and prevention, targets and incorporating the children's workforce strategy. The timeline illustrated how the process would be incorporated in the Children's Trust Board meeting structure with the CYPP signed off by the board in late March 2011.

The board discussed the changes with several enquiring whether the document would be available to consultation as in previous years. PS confirmed that it would continue to be circulated to the thematic groups along with area partnerships and groups involving children and young people.

JH commented that there will be a new Children Trust Grant available in 2011, but was waiting for further information.

#### **Action / Decision**

PS / MG to review current CTB's Terms of Reference to ensure it will meet the requirements of the guidance.

Board members to feed back to PS / MG comments / suggestions around the membership of the board  
MG / PS to prepare a paper regarding the above actions for meeting in July 2010.

#### **8. Promoting the Emotional Health of Children and Young People: Guidance for Children Trust Partnerships, including how to deliver on NI 50 (National Indicator)**

PS delivered a presentation outlining the key points of guidance document Promoting the Emotional Health of Children and Young People: Guidance for Children Trust Partnerships, including how to deliver on NI 50 (National Indicator). The CAMHS subgroup will lead on the implementation of the guidance and will feed into the Be Healthy Partnership

The several board members discussed the document and how it could be implemented. Issues around budgets and resources were discussed. JH commented that there would be significant funding from other partner agencies. MS commented on a piece of work out in Easington with the third sector providing services for children and young people. The programme was evidence based and SE commented that Barnardos have been working with the group.

#### **Action / Decision**

Board accepted recommendations.

**7. Multi – Agency Looked After Partnership (MALAP)**

SW provided the board with a progress report from MALAP and reminded them of the corporate parenting responsibilities for looked after children. One of the key issues is how to ensure children and young people are listened to and the Children in Care Council (Let's Take Action) contribute to this. The current corporate parenting strategy will be revised to incorporate emerging priority areas and members will be provided a copy to comment upon in May. SW asked the board to note the report and to agree develop the existing strategy

**Action / Decision**

The board accepted the report and agreed for the strategy to be developed.

**9. Improving Partnership Working Re Safeguarding and Looked After Children**

SW updated the board regarding the new cycle of inspection process where the authority will get 2 weeks notice before a full inspection will commence. He discussed the criteria around evidence and the importance of the Trust and its partners in assessing how well they are performing and where improvement can be made.

SW suggested to board to arrange a ½ day workshop for relevant Children's Trust partners to look at the criteria for evidence in order to get an accurate view of partnership working.

**Action / Decision**

The board noted the report, SW to circulate evidence criteria to relevant organisations.

**10. Children Trust Management Team (CTMT) Decisions**

JH asked the board to note the recent decisions made by CTMT on behalf of the Trust.

**Action / Decision**

The board accepted the report.

**11. Local Safeguarding Children Board Information Exchange**

JH updated the board on developments within the LSCB (Local Safeguarding Children's Board) including the annual report 2008/09. She asked the board to note the increase in Child Protection cases in the last year.

She also updated on the changes to the board structure and the board is also looking to appoint an independent chair.

JH also provided board members with the E-safety Strategy and mentioned the development of E-Safety group to oversee the strategy. MG commented that following the email from LSCB business manager to the board members requesting for nominations from their respective organisation to join the group, however to date the response has been low. JH suggested to circulate the request to members again as the issues around E-safety have been recently hi-lighted in the press.

**Action / Decision**

LSCB Business Manager to circulate email requesting nominations to E- Safety Group again.  
Board accepted the reports

**12. Exception Report from Partnership Groups**

None

**13. Any Other Business**

**Comprehensive Area Assessment.**

SW gave a verbal update on Comprehensive Area Assessment and Mental Health is one of the key areas.

**Your Welcome Event**

Event to launch the new quality standard for young people health service will take place 31 March 2010. Organisations such as Brook, Teenage Pregnancy could be assessed and rated by the new standard. JT will be attending along with a group of young people which have been involved in the project. Children Trust members were invited to attend.

**Workforce Development Training Opportunity**

PS updated the board on an opportunity for middle managers working with children services to attend a Leadership Development Programme. Two places are available to Stockton Children's Trust, nominations / expressions of interest to be forwarded to Eric Jewitt (email [eric.jewitt@stockton.gov.uk](mailto:eric.jewitt@stockton.gov.uk)) by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

**Action / Decision  
Board noted report**

**14. Open to the Public**

No public questions/comments were made.

**15. Close**

AC thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

**16. Dates for future meetings:**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> July 4.30 – 6.30pm – Stockton Central Library Lecture Theatre.  
**(Please note change of date)**