

# Children and Young People's Partnership

A meeting of Children and Young People's Partnership was held on Wednesday, 20th April, 2016.

**Present:** Jane Humphreys (SBC) (Chairman),

Bev Bearne, Jane Smith, Priti Butler, Emma Champley, Liz Boynton, Chris Davis, Martin Gray, Christine Smith, Natasha Judge, Cll Ann McCoy, Janet Mackie, Hazel Ducker

**Officers:** Michael Henderson, Gemma Mann

**Also in attendance:**

**Apologies:** Ciaron Irvine, Maryssa O'Connor, Gemma Clifford, Sue Harris, Lindsey Robertson, Paul Williams

## **1 Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **2 Minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 March 2016 were confirmed as a correct record.

## **3 Minutes of Adults Health and Wellbeing Partnership held on 2 March 2016**

The minutes of the meeting of the Adults Health and Wellbeing Partnership held on 2 March 2016 were noted.

## **4 Minutes of Children and Young People's Joint Commissioning Group - 1st March 2016**

The minutes of the Children and Young People's Joint Commissioning Group held on 1 March were noted.

## **5 Alcohol and Substance Misuse: Early Identification and Intervention Training**

Members considered a report that outlined the Public Health Service approach to supporting early identification and delivery of interventions for alcohol and substance misuse. The report included an overview on updates to Government alcohol guidelines, and next steps for the Borough alcohol strategy & action plan.

It was noted that during 2013 / 14 alcohol related harm cost the region a total of £911 million. For Stockton this cost was estimated as £70.95million (including £16.66 million cost to the NHS), with Stockton on Tees ranked in the top 10% of local authorities with highest cost of alcohol per head of population nationally.

Members were provided with an update on the government's alcohol guidelines.

It was explained that alcohol screening and delivery of brief interventions / advice were a cost effective and preventative approach to reducing alcohol

related risk and harm across the population . Identification and Brief Advice (IBA) for alcohol consists of the use of a validated screening tool (AUDIT) and a short (5 – 10 minute) structured conversation to identify if an individual was at risk of harm through their alcohol use and to help them reduce their alcohol consumption from harmful levels. This approach was supported by NICE (The National Institute for Healthcare Excellence) and WHO (The World Health Organisation).

Members noted that Stockton Public Health was participating in the regional rollout of Have a Word Alcohol Brief Advice / Intervention training and have commissioned Lifeline Alcohol Service for the operational delivery of 'Have a Word' training across the Borough.

'Have a Word' training aimed to introduce practitioners to evidence based methods of how to initiate a conversation about alcohol and provide an alcohol intervention that could act as an early intervention to reduce an individual's progression into harmful drinking. Training sessions were currently being rolled out through delivery in staff settings to whole teams, in order for training to be tailored to staff groups, with time to address potential challenges that the delivery of brief interventions may hold. The training session was approximately 2 hours long, but could be adapted to meet the needs of the setting it was delivered in. A train the trainer model could be delivered.

It was considered that everyone was suitable for the training and partners were asked to support its roll out of teams and services Brief interventions did not take the place of specialist support services.

Discussion could be summarised as follows:

- it was noted that there was no safe level of drinking during pregnancy and there needed to be consistent messages around this. It was noted that the women who would be having children in the next 5 to 10 year would, currently, be in the final years of secondary school and college. It would be important to get the message to this cohort and start to embed the notion 'no drinking, during pregnancy' as a cultural norm.
- it was agreed that children and young people must have clear pathways around substance misuse. Work was currently underway to engage with all our schools and partners to make sure they were clear about the pathway and how they could support young people and share information.
- it was recognised that a partnership approach was needed and treatment services were not the whole answer. There were often vulnerabilities that needed to be addressed whilst in treatment. Something in that young persons life that was causing the substance misuse.
- in terms of CYP access to alcohol, there were links with community safety and licensing and information was shared.
- It was important to get the message about the dangers of legal highs to young people. It was noted that there was a briefing on psychoactive drugs, planned

for May.

- it was explained that secondary schools were being targeted but it was agreed that it was something that Primary Heads might welcome in some shape or form. There was a discussion around the vulnerabilities of children who could be influenced by older siblings and other factors. This issue would be discussed further, outside the meeting, in terms of interaction with primary schools, early help, youth service etc.

- consideration should also be given to a presentation to chairs of governors and an item being included in the governing bodies pack.

RESOLVED that the report and discussion be noted and actioned as appropriate

## **6 Children's Strategy**

Members considered a report that provided a draft Children's Services Strategy for 2016-18. Members were asked to provide comments.

Members noted that the Strategy:

- set out the vision, objectives and priorities for Children's Services for the first time;

- was based on a new approach, which translated the refreshed Council Plan into service priorities and clear action.

- was in two parts:

  - Part 1 provided a standalone strategy, including high level summaries of context, story and priority, and was intended more as a public facing document.

  - Part 2 provided a detailed change and improvement plan largely for internal action and implementation.

- included both those actions, which formed part of the transformation programme and those which related to business improvement actions for Children's Services as a whole.

- drew together:

  - The range of strategies and partnership activity already underway.

  - Planning and self-assessment for Ofsted.

  - Improvement planning

- was intended to provide a clear framework for action, prioritisation and for service planning, appraisal and as the basis for workforce development, systems refresh.

- would be shared with partners to be transparent and open about Council priorities.

It was noted that the Strategy would be go through to HWB and Cabinet comments from partners were requested

Discussion could be summarised as follows -

- partners felt the narrative of the document was accurate and clearly set out what needed to be done in terms of integration, targeting etc. It would focus partners' thinking around how they would contribute.

- it was suggested that the Strategy be highlighted to elected members. Following Cabinet a briefing note would be circulated to make all members aware and consideration would be given to it being linked to the Members' Safeguarding seminar, in the Autumn. Additionally, it could be presented at the Council's CYP Select committee, MALAP and any other key member meetings thought appropriate.

RESOLVED that:

1. the Strategy be supported.
2. subject to Cabinet's consideration of the Strategy, consideration be given to how the Strategy would be brought to the attention of elected members and organisations.

## **7 LAC and Care Leavers Strategy**

Members received a report that provided a draft refreshed Looked After Children and Care Leavers Strategy for 2016-18 and sought the Partnerships approval.

The Partnership was informed that the Strategy:

- formed part of an overall planned suite of documents which also included:

the revised pledge to the looked after children of Stockton - this was currently being developed by the Let's take Action Group in a number of forms;

A set of detailed statistics and data.

A refreshed sufficiency strategy which fulfilled the statutory duty on the Council to develop a sufficiency and commissioning plan.

- was much shorter and organised around a number of business priorities as well as thematic priorities;

- separated out more clearly the actions associated with service delivery from those associated with corporate parenting.

- it included a specific set of actions for 2016/17 which would form the basis of MALAP work programme for 2016/17.

- was deliberately written and proposed as a partnership strategy which would require all agencies involved to sign off through appropriate governance arrangements.

RESOLVED that the strategy be agreed and the Assistant Director of Early Help, Planning and Partnership agree any final changes in conjunction with the Chair of the Partnership and the Chair of MALAP.

## **8 Voice of the Child - Proposals**

Members considered a report that sought the Partnership's endorsement of proposals to embed an approach to voice of the child.

Members noted the proposals centred around the introduction of a framework which included action at strategic, operational and an individual level.

Discussion by the partnership could be summarised as follows:

- it was important that all services for children and young people collected the voice of the child information. This should be systematic and embedded in each service.

- CAMHS was looking at how it could collect the voice of those children who self harmed.

RESOLVED that the proposals detailed in the report be endorsed.

## **9 Annual Conversation**

Members considered a paper that provided a brief update on how outcomes from the 2015 Annual Conversation had been progressed, including links with the emerging Youth Manifesto. The report also provided indicative arrangements for 2016.

It was noted that outcomes would be submitted to

- secondary heads, primary heads forums.
- Stockton Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- Stockton Youth Assembly (outcomes would be used to develop the Youth Manifesto).

Topics for this year would be considered in due course.

Members discussed arrangements for this year's Annual Conversations:

- it was agreed that the number of adults in the group discussions had to be kept to the bare minimum.

- the conversations would be split between primary and secondary+.

- dates and times (after school) would be identified soon and placed in diaries.
- facilitators may need more preparation/have a plan
- need to take back some of the issues discussed last year, e.g self harm and supply teachers and explain where it has been discussed, what we've been able to do and, perhaps, what we haven't been able to do.

Members were asked to consider potential venues and were reminded that they would have to help facilitate the events.

RESOLVED that the update and discussion be noted actioned as appropriate.

## **10 Action Tracker**

Members considered the Action Tracker and asked to provide any necessary updates.

## **11 Forward Plan**

Members considered the Partnerships Forward Plan.

Need an update about what was happening around the 14 - 19 issue. It was suggested that it may be possible to include this with some of the discussions around the Combined Authority and the new arrangements put in place.

Members noted the Joint Partnership meeting focusing on Domestic Abuse and would be asking Partners to give an overview from their perspective around the challenges they were facing.

Members were encouraged to bring items forward for consideration.