



Staffordshire Children's Trust
Working together to improve the lives of children and young people

**Staffordshire Children's Trust Executive (ISG)
Thursday 17th February 2011
White Room, County Buildings, Martin Street, Stafford**

Present:

Martyn Baggaley
Nigel Manning
Tracey Redpath
Christina Webb*

Darryl Eyers*
Alison Perry
Sally Rowe
Paul Woodcock
Cate Crawford

Roger Graham
Deborah Ramsdale*
Cheryl Sherratt

Minute Taker:

* attended to present reports

Apologies:

Charlotte Bailey
Barry Halls
Emma Rodgers

Adrian Gough
Carol Jones
Kate Sharratt

Anna Halliday
Pat Merrick (Alison Perry rep)
Joan Wilson

**[For a summary of Action Points arising from this meeting,
please click here or turn to last page of Minutes](#)**

NB The meeting did not follow the same order as the Agenda, and the Minutes are recorded in the correct chronological order.

1. **Welcome & Introductions** (S Rowe)
Sally welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions was made.

2. **Minutes, matters arising and actions from previous meeting (09.12.10)** (S Rowe)
The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record; all matters arising were on the meeting's agenda; all actions were confirmed as completed including:
Action 3: Feedback from the latest Your View Counts questionnaire will be brought to the Executive, once it has been compiled.
Action 7: issues around the Children's Trust and SSCB Consultation and funding: Sally confirmed that any issues had now been clarified. Darryl Eyers and Christina Webb were attending this meeting to provide an update on partnership arrangements across Staffordshire
Action 8: distribution of the Reward Grant fund: it was confirmed that County Councillor Ben Adams has now written to the District and Borough Council Chief Executives and this will now be finalised via the district partnerships.

3. **National Updates/Reports**
- 3.1 **Munro Review Interim Report: The Child's Journey** (D Ramsdale)
Sally Rowe welcomed Deborah back, following her 18 month secondment to the National Safeguarding Unit.

A briefing paper on the Munro Review Interim Report was circulated with the Agenda, Deborah Ramsdale then highlighted the key issues:

- Professor Eileen Munro is completing a national review of child protection, of which there will be 3 reports, the last one is due out in April 2011.
- The first report gave an analysis of the systems in place, recognising that current procedures and changes have been introduced to address weaknesses, but there has been no analysis of their

unintended consequences. It focused on Social Workers, and feedback received following the report means there is now recognition for the significant role of other professionals in child protection.

- The report states services have become too focused on meeting targets and inspection ratings and not on the experience of the child; the second report recommends that announced inspections should be withdrawn, and only unannounced inspections take place as this is a fairer system of scoring and less professionals' time is taken up preparing for them.
- A further recommendation of the report is that Serious Care Reviews (SCR) should no longer be evaluated, and their focus should be on the processes and systems that can be improved, (this is to remove the blame element and ensure the SCR it is a better learning tool).
- A small multi agency working group have been formed to look at the 'Working Together' guidance, and what is 'must do' and what is 'good practice' within the guidance to enable practitioners to differentiate between the two.

Action: Cheryl Sherratt to forward concerns (and suggested possible solutions) regarding PCT commissioning safeguarding priorities for 2013 onwards, to Vonni Gordon, Families First Safeguarding, to raise at the next 'Working Together' Review Group.

- Final stage of Munro Review will involve five Local Authorities (LAs) piloting a change to statutory Initial and Core Assessment timescales; instead just having the one assessment within locally determined timescales that suit the family.
- Common Assessment Format (not Framework) (CAF) has also been mentioned and it is being suggested that each LA should develop their own local 'format' form.
- The report also refers to:
 - the role of Local Safeguarding Boards is to look at the journey of the child through the LA system, and ensure a highly trained workforce.
 - Multi Agency Teams (MATs) and the value of the different professionals within them are also noted. Multi Agency Teams should be available at the earliest point of need, but also include social work input to help prevent escalation of need and early identification of cases that do need referring onto Social Work teams.
- The report also recommends a multi agency panel to advise Government on safeguarding issues as they arise.
- The final report is due the end of May and is expected to have a small number of recommendations around cultural change rather than strategic change.

Action: Executive are requested to take note of the report and to start considering the sense of direction it provides to date (given that it is wider than just child protection) and how to formally take this forward. (All)

<http://www.education.gov.uk/munroreview/>

3.2 **Review on Early Intervention: Graham Allen MP (S Rowe)**

- Sally Rowe explained the key points of the report (a summary of which was circulated with the Agenda), which is a study of where we are in terms of early intervention and prevention, and compliments both the Munro and Frank Field pieces of work plus the overall direction of the Government.
- The report is broken into 2 elements:
 - The first is the brokerage of the 19 different programmes (assessed as being the 'top programmes' currently available which focus on reducing the risk of social and emotional difficulty) and thus identified as being a suitable starting point to look at how they can be developed and used nationally and locally.
 - The second part of the report looks at the potential for private financing of some of the work to be undertaken on a national level, and asks local areas to look at how they engage local business to be able to also take this agenda forward. It is recommended that 15 Early intervention Places be identified and become focal points for innovation. Staffordshire is one of the 26 expressing an interest in becoming an Early Intervention Place.
 - It is believed that Staffordshire are in a good position (with all the work currently being undertaken) to be chosen as a pilot, however if we are not chosen we will still move forward on this agenda and get local buy-in to support some of the suggested activities.

- A Ministerial statement due from the Department of Education and Department of Health on the pathway of health for children aged 0-5 underpins the recommendations in review.
<http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/g/graham%20allens%20review%20of%20early%20intervention.pdf>

Action: Members of the Executive to start gathering evidence together to build a 'case' for Staffordshire to be one of the Early Intervention Places. (also refer to point 7.1 in Minutes) (All)

3.3 **Review on Poverty and Life Chances: Frank Field MP** (S Rowe)

Action: Due to time restraints and a full agenda it was suggested that the Frank Field Report (circulated with the Agenda) is read in conjunction with other reports circulated.

<http://www.frankfield.co.uk/review-on-poverty-and-life-chances/>

3.4 **Public Health White Paper: Healthy Lives, Healthy People** (C Sherratt)

- Cheryl Sherratt gave a presentation on the White Paper, which included the following key points:
 - A radical new approach is to be taken, which includes empowering local leadership and encouraging wide responsibility across society, with a focus on key outcomes (these are yet to be identified).
 - The role of the Health and Wellbeing Boards will be crucial in the delivery of the White Paper once it has been passed, and so the voice of children and young people will be essential at the Board.
 - There is to be a national increase in the number of Health Visitors; Staffordshire do already have a high number (due to good recruitment and retention) but this figure will still need to increase to meet targets.
- The consultation on the paper ends 8 March 2011.

<http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/PublicHealth/Healthyliveshealthypeople/index.htm>

Action: copy of presentation to be circulated following meeting (C Crawford)

3.5 **Getting it Right for Children & Young People: Overcoming Cultural Barriers in the NHS so as to Meet Their Needs: Professor Sir Ian Kennedy** (C Sherratt)

Action: Due to time restraints and a full agenda it was suggested that the informal briefing paper circulated with the Agenda on Professor Sir Ian Kennedy's Report is read in conjunction with other reports circulated. (All)

http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_119445

4. **Children's Trust – the Way Forward** (D Eyers / C Webb)

Darryl Eyers gave a presentation to the Executive, which covered the following key points:

- A mandate was given to look at the partnerships across the County, including the Children's Trust, to ensure they are fit for purpose and fit in with the new way of working.
- The statutory function of the Children's Trust will cease on 1st April 2011, however we will still require a clear view of how to come together in partnership to deliver joined up services.
- Future Children & Young People's Strategic Action Plans will not dictate *how* services will work, but will focus on the outcomes we need to work together on, to be able to achieve.
- It was agreed that fewer partnership priorities are required to ensure a focus on achieving the overall desired outcome. In Staffordshire there have been 2 shared partnership priorities identified and agreed: Staffordshire will have a thriving economy; and Staffordshire will be a safe, healthy and inspirational place to live. The Children's Trust priorities for 2011 nicely align within these.
- There are 9 key principles for strategic partnerships detailed within the presentation (slide 6) and to ensure a fitting environment is in place to deliver these a proposed partnership structure was detailed in slides 11 & 14.

Discussion points:

- The new partnership environment seeks to reduce the number of meetings and reduce bureaucracy, thus allowing boards to give strategic direction; empower individuals; check; and challenge.

- Key to this is the role of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the level of influence they have, the voice of children and young people at the Board is therefore crucial.
- The Executive welcomed greater clarity of the role of the Children's Partnership Board; and the opportunity to refine it's core membership (that will be flexible and allow members to engage as appropriate). It was noted that the membership may also be considered 'interim' due to changes with Health that are ongoing, but this will not affect the role of the Board.

Proposal: the Children's Trust Executive make recommendation to the Children's Trust Board that they are in agreeance to the proposed structure (NB it is the Children's Trust Board's decision to agree/disagree with the proposed structure)

Action: Members of the Executive were requested to consider the options for the way forward for the Trust, discuss them within their own organisation, and ensure their Children's Trust Board member is briefed ready for the Children's Trust Board on 28th March 2011, to ensure a decision on the new structure can be reached at the meeting. (All)

Action: Copy of 'The Way Forward for Children's Trusts – A New Way or Working' presentation to be circulated following meeting. (C Crawford)

5. **Update on the District Trust Boards Arrangements** (T Redpath)

- An update paper was tabled at the meeting, which contained a brief update for each District Trust Board, all of which are going through a process of streamlining, and will therefore welcome the greater clarity of the role of the County Board.

Action: District Trust Boards update to be circulated with Minutes. (C Crawford)

6. **Staffordshire Children & Young People's Strategic Action Plan 2011** (P Woodcock)

- Paul Woodcock summarised the layout of the Children & Young People's Strategic Action Plan (CYPP) 2011 explaining that for each of the 6 key priority outcomes (along with Poverty which runs through all 6) the CYPP details the key strategy; the partnership lead; overall aim of the strategy; and how working together in partnership will add value to achieving the strategy's aim.
- Some information is still outstanding and is highlighted in red.
- Thanks were given to Cate Crawford and Michelle Davies in developing the CYPP.

Action: The Executive were requested to send any comments/feedback (and outstanding information) on the CYPP to cate.crawford@staffordshire.gov.uk by no later than 11th March, in readiness for its final sign off at the March Executive and Children's Trust Board.

At this point Cheryl Sherratt left the meeting.

7. **Quarter 3 Children & Young People's Strategic Plan 2010-11 Performance Reports** (P Woodcock)

- The Quarterly reports had been circulated with the meeting's Agenda, and Paul Woodcock then summarised the key points.
- It was noted that in relation to SO5 (Reduce Adverse Risk taking behaviour) and Teenage Pregnancy rates; Teenage Pregnancy workers have now identified hotspot areas across Staffordshire, and these are being targeted. It was noted that this is an early intervention issue for Staffordshire, and should be considered in the piece of work to be done for the Graham Allen review when creating the 'case' for Staffordshire to be one of the 15 Early Intervention Place pilot areas.
- Roger Graham noted that NHS North Staffordshire now have a CAMHS out of hours service in place, and this will be noted in the Quarter 4 performance reports.

7.1 **Strategic Objective 2** (refocus investment in services focused on early intervention and prevention) (M Baggaley)

- Marty Baggaley explained that the Delivery Plan for this objective was written in December 2009, and since then many significant changes have taken place with many of the actions now completed or not possible to complete (for example due to service and structural changes the direct comparisons due to be gained from the financial mapping exercise are all but impossible and of questionable statistical credibility for benchmarking)

Proposal: it is therefore recommended that that reporting on this objective be concluded at end of Q3 and this is reflected in the report.

Decision: Agreed

8. **Infant Mortality Rates** (R Graham)

- Roger Graham tabled a report at the meeting and explained that the report summarises the work undertaken to look into the variance in figures and to try and establish the reasoning behind them.
- It is unclear why the shift in rates has occurred and no particular provider trends have been identified, but feel it is down to various deprivation factors.
- The latest figures show a reduction in rates, but it is still high on the Public Health agenda and will continue to be monitored.

9. **Anti Bullying Strategy**

- The updated Strategy was circulated to provide opportunity for any changes to be made prior to its publication on the Children's Trust website.

Action: The Executive were requested to forward any feedback/comments on the Anti Bullying Strategy to Julia Anderson by 3pm Friday 4th March.

10. **Any other Business**

10.1 **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Update** (M Baggaley)

- This year's joint adults' and children's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is now available on the following websites:
 - <http://www.southstaffordshirepct.nhs.uk/YourHealth/profile/jointNeeds.asp> and
 - <http://www.staffordshireobservatory.org.uk/IAS/jsna>
- The JSNA is still in development and further data sets have been identified and will be added ready for next year's JSNA e.g. Children With a Disability data sets and trend data (for all data).
- An Executive Summary has also been produced and includes 'what can be done' around the key areas for improvement.
- It was noted that the key data sets should be used as prompts for further 'deep dives' when preparing documents.

10.2 No further items were raised.

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

Date: Wednesday 16th March 2011

Time: 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Venue: White Room, County Buildings, Martin Street, Ian, ST16 2DH

**** The meeting concluded at 4:06 pm ****

“These minutes are agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held. Any decisions, events, dates or timings etc. stated herein are subject to change without notice as partners endeavor to remain responsive to changing circumstances.”

Actions arising from meeting:

	Meeting	Action	Assigned to	Completed
1.	17.02.11 (3.1)	Forward concerns (and suggested possible solutions) regarding PCT commissioning safeguarding priorities from 2013 onwards to Vonni Gordon to enable her to raise them at the multi agency 'Working Together' Review group.	C Sherratt	Carry forward
2.	17.02.11 (3.1)	Executive are requested to take note of the Munro Review Interim Report and to start considering the sense of direction to date and how to formally take this forward.	All	✓
3.	17.02.11 (3.2)	Members of the Executive to start gathering evidence together to build a 'case' for Staffordshire to be one of the Early Intervention Place. (also refer to point 7.1 in Minutes).	all	✓
4.	17.02.11 (3.3)	Executive are requested to read MP Frank Field's report 'Review on Poverty and Life Chances' http://www.frankfield.co.uk/review-on-poverty-and-life-chances/	All	✓
5.	17.02.11 (3.4)	Copy of 'Public Health White Paper: Healthy Lives, Healthy People' presentation to be circulated following meeting.	C Crawford	✓ 18.02.11
6.	17.02.11 (3.5)	Executive are requested to read the informal briefing paper on Professor Sir Ian Kennedy's report 'Getting it Right for Children & Young People: overcoming Cultural Barriers in the NHS so as to meet their needs' in conjunction with other reports circulated. http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_119445	All	✓
7.	17.02.11 (4)	Members of the Executive were requested to consider the options for the way forward for the Trust, discuss them within their own organisation, and ensure their Children's Trust Board member is briefed ready for the Children's Trust Board on 28 th March 2011, to ensure a decision on the new structure can be reached at the meeting.	All	✓
8.	17.02.11 (4)	Copy of 'The Way Forward for Children's Trusts – A New Way or Working' presentation to be circulated following meeting.	C Crawford	✓ 18.02.11
9.	17.02.11 (5)	District Trust Boards update to be circulated with Minutes.	C Crawford	✓ 24.02.11
10.	17.02.11 (6)	The Executive were requested to send any comments/feedback (and outstanding information) on the CYPP to cate.crawford@staffordshire.gov.uk by no later than 11 th March, in readiness for its final sign off at the March Executive and Children's Trust Board.	All	✓
11.	17.02.11 (9)	The Executive were requested to forward any feedback/comments on the updated Anti Bullying Strategy to Julia Anderson by 3pm Friday 4 th March.	All	✓