



Staffordshire Children's Trust

Working together to improve the lives of children and young people

Minutes of the Children & Young Peoples Participation Sub Group

Tuesday 29th July 2008

Present:

Gill Stanford	-	Commissioner for Children (Chair)
Sue Bond	-	Lead Participation Officer, Participation Team
Georgina Davies	-	Children's Trust Manager
Karen Hansford	-	School Nurse, South Staffordshire PCT
Sukey Bek	-	Children's Lead, South Staffordshire PCT
Liz Kelay	-	Children's Services Manager, Family Support & Disability
Darren Foley	-	Senior Youth Worker, Youth Service
Judy Goodson	-	Staffordshire Libraries & Information Service
Darryl Gough	-	Senior Youth Worker, Through Care
Sue Fox	-	Senior Youth Worker, SCVYS
Laura Hilton	-	Staffordshire Arts & Museums
Leanne Phillips	-	Project Worker, Children's Voice Project
Michelle Evans	-	Communications & Marketing Officer, Building Schools for the Future
Emma Beaman	-	Assistant Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Officer, Cannock Chase
Rachel Taylor	-	South Staffordshire District Council
Mark Kosack	-	Senior Youth Worker, SCVYS (Part of Time)
Kathryn Lowe	-	Support Officer to Children's Commissioner (Minutes)

		ACTION
1.	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Apologies received from Katy Warren, Pauline Robbins, Les Simmons, Machita Denny, Liz Peacock, Jan Wakefield, Martin Latham, Liz Rouse, Nicky Elmore and Jo Williams.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Welcome & Introductions</u></p> <p>Gill welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. A special welcome was made to Emma Beaman from the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Team.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Minutes & Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Minutes were recorded as accurate with the following matters arising:-</p> <p><u>Page 1</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C & YP Plans ready to go to print - any ideas that are compatible with the 5 outcomes please forward to Sue Bond. <p><u>Page 3</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation Framework - Gill to bring to September meeting. This meeting will concentrate on Hear by Right mapping tool. 	<p>Gill/Sue B</p> <p>Gill</p>

		ACTION
	<p><u>Page 4</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consent Issues - Legal Department have been chased - no response received as yet. • Faith Groups - The Saltbox have been contacted. <p>Unfortunately, too late to send a rep to this meeting but will contact Gill/Kathryn next week to discuss membership.</p>	Gill
4.	<p><u>National Year of Reading - Judy Goodson</u> (Copy of Presentation attached)</p> <p>2008 is a National Year of Reading. The last one was in 1998. It is sponsored by the Department of Children, Schools and Families and the aim is to encourage and improve reading for all ages.</p> <p>Target audiences are :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children pre-school to secondary with particular focus on Early Years, Boys, Teenagers (KS3), Looked After Children, Black and Minority Ethnic Communities and Disabled Children (and parents). • Parents and Carers of younger children, especially working class fathers. • Adult Learners. <p>Each Local Authority has a Co-ordinator. Judy is the Co-ordinator for Staffordshire.</p> <p>There are two National Campaigns. One is to encourage more members at local libraries. The target figure was 350,000 but Staffordshire has exceeded that and at the end of June reached 500,000. The other is to encourage more volunteers around reading in Schools and Libraries.</p> <p>A multi-agency steering group has been set up with representatives from all different organisations.</p> <p>Lots of events and competitions are going ahead throughout the summer holidays and into the Autumn term.</p> <p>Anyone wanting any other information contact Judy at judy.goodson@staffordshire.gov.uk or 01785 278320.</p>	
5,	<p><u>BSF Conference Feedback - Michelle Evans</u></p> <p>The aim of the Building Schools for the Future Conference was a consultation exercise to involve children and young people from the start. It was a chance for them to have their say and was a genuine consultation and feedback will be included in a report that will go to Cabinet.</p> <p>105 secondary school children attended the first day. 86% said the day was excellent or very good.</p> <p>68 primary school children attended the second day. 98% said</p>	

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	<p>it was good with one child saying they 'weren't sure'. The overall feedback has been brilliant. The day consisted of 6 workshops. 5 of them were around the 'School Day', the other one was a MiPOD session where questions were asked relating to the IYSS. Gill thanked all facilitators and helpers and letters have gone out to all who facilitated on the day and helped to plan the event. Liz Kelay asked if any special schools had been invited. Michelle confirmed they had but had not taken up the offer.</p> <p>There is a feedback meeting for all facilitators arranged for the <u>11th August - 1pm in Rooms 9 & 10 (Lunch included).</u></p>	<p>Gill to talk to Liz</p>
6.	<p><u>Drop In Surgeries</u></p> <p>Gill explained that this is something she has been intending to do since she has been in post and as there is so much going on in the Tamworth area, Gill thought this might be a good starting point.</p> <p>The aim is to be available at Tam Youth from 3.30pm to 9.00pm on 11th August so that young people can come and meet Gill and have their say about what they want. Gill opened this up to the group for comments as to the venue, ways to advertise?</p> <p>Some of the group expressed concern that this is very short notice and that this sort of things has been done before with local MP's and has not been very well attended.</p> <p>Other points raised were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of the County Council Mobile Unit at organised events throughout the County. • Youth Centres are going to attract the same young people, not a broad range. • Sue B suggested the Play Centre at Glascote. • Young people need to feel confident that their views will be taken seriously. • To link surgeries to other events that are going on the area, involving children and young people. <p>Overall the group decided it was a good idea, as long as the venue and target audience was right.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Big Lottery Funding</u></p> <p>Gill tabled a paper regarding Young People's Fund 2: Local</p>	

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	<p>Grants. The programme is focussed on changing the lives of young people aged 10 - 18. Projects working with young people up to the age of 25 will also be supported if they are finding the change to independent living difficult.</p> <p>A 1/2 day workshop has been arranged for the 22nd August at 2.00pm at the Kingston Centre to obtain the views of young people and offer them the chance to bid for what they want.</p> <p>Concern was expressed that this bid is only open to Voluntary and Community Organisations like charities and social businesses.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed that we work with young people to ascertain a Countywide theme that will impact across all areas.</p> <p>Volunteers need to bring at least one young person. Please contact Kathryn Lowe or Gill Stanford by Monday 4th August 2008 as soon as possible in order for refreshments to be arranged.</p> <p>More information can be found by logging on to:- www.biglotteryfund.org.uk</p>	All
8.	<p><u>Annual Performance Assessment</u></p> <p>Gill referred to the recent submission of the APA. Positive contribution has been self assessed as a 4.</p> <p>This is a document that the County Council have self assessed themselves. If the assessment is accepted then Staffordshire could become a 3 Star Authority. The inspectors will be coming to Staffordshire in the first week in November.</p> <p>Kathryn will be e-mailing out to all members asking for good practice examples. Gill explained that although she has asked for this before, she does not want to miss anything that could be included.</p> <p>Darren Foley pointed out that paragraph 4.1.5 is wrong. Darren to send right information to Gill so that this can be sent on to Pat Shargool for correction.</p>	Gill/Kathryn Darren/Gill
9.	<p><u>Sharing Good Practice</u></p> <p><u>Georgina Davies</u></p> <p>Georgina is the Children's Trust Manager and was permanently appointed in March of this year. The role of the Trust Manager is to manage the Children's Trust Board and assist Board Members and Executive Members. She has input in the children and young peoples plan and her role is very much outcome focused.</p>	

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<p><u>Sue Bond - Participation Team</u></p> <p>Children's Fund have now split into two teams, Monitoring and Evaluation headed up by Margaret Crook and the Participation Team headed up by Sue. Much of Sue's work is undertaken on behalf of the Trust and Gill . Sue is currently in the process of setting up the younger Children in Care Council and along with Les Simmons runs VIA the Shadow Trust Board.</p> <p>Sue needs useful website's to be included in the children and young peoples plans. Please contact Sue urgently with any good sites.</p> <p>Suggestions were: www.ruckas.org, www.wiredforhealth.org, and www.teenagehealthfreak.org</p> <p><u>Leanne Phillips - Children and Young Peoples Voice Project</u></p> <p>Children's Voice work with looked after children age 10 - 17. Preparations are underway for the forthcoming Celebration Evening. 200 nominations have been received this year. This event is always a great success and they always have a 'surprise' celebrity attending.</p> <p>Darryl Gough volunteered to help Leanne out with the celebration event should she so wish.</p> <p>Darryl also commented on the good work that the Children's Voice and Jo Williams do.</p> <p>Leanne undertakes the Consult8 with all looked after children in Staffordshire. This is a computerised system based around the 5 outcomes. Once this has been completed, it is then forwarded to the Social Worker and also Jo Williams who analysis the results. This programme has proved to be very effective and was designed by two care leavers.</p> <p><u>Rachel Taylor - South Staffs Council</u></p> <p>A successful conference was recently held in South Staffs jointly chaired by two young people. A voting session was held and result will be included in the delivery plan.</p> <p>South Staffs have now got a 19 year old Parish Councillor.</p> <p><u>Michelle Evans - BSF</u></p> <p>A stakeholder conference is to be held in November for Chairs, Governors etc. Michelle will be holding a workshop on feedback from the BSF conference in Tamworth.</p> <p><u>Laura Hilton - Staffordshire Arts & Museums</u></p> <p>There will be an exhibition in mid September that will take over the whole of the Shire Hall Gallery for 8 weeks on, showing work produced by 11 - 14 year olds on 'Urban and Rural Landscapes'.</p> <p>Laura recently worked with young people from Codsall</p>	<p>All</p>

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<p>Community High in having work they had produced cast in iron.</p> <p><u>Sue Fox - SCVYS</u></p> <p>Sue working with Alan in the North of the County with the Shadow Trust Boards and Mark working in the South. Sue recently undertook two training programmes into Junior Youth Work that will be rolled out in the Autumn. Child Protection pack level one produced. This will be endorsed by the Safeguarding Children Board and then will be available to the Voluntary Sector. Sue identifying gaps across the County where no youth work being carried out and hoping to support the Voluntary Sector in filling gaps.</p> <p><u>Darryl Gough - Through Care</u></p> <p>Darryl tabled a leaflet on low cost accommodation for groups. Woodlands Outdoor Centre in Betws y Coed, North Wales holds up to 28 people. More information can be found by contacting: www.woodlandscentre.co.uk of 08707873326. The Forum for Care Leavers is being rekindled. Darryl working on the UXPRESS a computerised questionnaire system like Consult8 but for the older age range. Gill suggested having a demonstration of both questionnaires at a future meeting. Darryl attending 'Come and Have your Say - Consultation Day' This event is aimed at providing an opportunity for care leavers and those professionals supporting care leavers to contribute to a discussion that will underpin regional planning activity in support of the development of an emerging participation programme for care leavers.</p> <p><u>Darren Foley</u></p> <p>Darren attended training on School Councils. Concern raised at no middle and special school included. Facilitated at the BSF Conference and commented that the conference was really good. Recently attended five day seminar in Exeter on UK Youth Parliament. Tough five days, lots of work carried out and campaigns set for next year. YAK AGM took place in June attended by Councillor Terry Dix and Councillor Eric Drinkwater. Darren been involved in countywide Youth Opportunities Fund. Darren attended Councillors Question Time in Leek hosted by Bob Warham. Very successful and a member of the youth parliament got a round of applause. Darren been working on a Road Safety Campaign for 17 - 24 year olds. Problems with the slogans. Darren to e-mail information to Gill for her to take up. The Police are introducing a new Stop and Search whereby no record is taken but they are given a 'business card'. Concern expressed as young people can keep getting stopped and no</p>	<p>Darren/Gill</p> <p>Gill/Kathryn</p>

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<p>record is kept. Gill to find out more and take up at meeting with Chief Constable.</p> <p><u>Emma Beaman - Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty</u></p> <p>Emma works as an Assistant Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Officer in Cannock Chase. The aim is to get the community involved and get children and young people to participate more.</p> <p>Emma recently organised a 'Doggy Day' event where 5 - 6000 people turned up.</p> <p>9th August is the Community Fete at the Cannock Chase Visitors Centre, there will be craft stall, local produce stalls, face painting, holistic therapies etc.</p> <p>Emma also administers a small grants budget up to £10k. This grant is open to all and Emma can help with your application.</p> <p><u>Liz Kelay - Children with Disabilities</u></p> <p>Liz has been focussing on renewing all the 'review' documentation. Young people don't always understand the review process and all the documentation. A leaflet is being designed telling young people what it is all about. Work is also being carried out on person centred reviews.</p> <p>Due to the closure of two respite units, work has been carried out with colleagues in the PCT around respite care and helping young people to move away, what to bring etc.</p> <p>Young people who have now left the service are keen to be peer mentors.</p> <p><u>Sukey Bek. - South Staffs PCT</u></p> <p>The Teenage Mothers Experiences of Antenatal Care in South Staffordshire has now been finalised. Special thanks to the Youth Service and Connexions. Some of the findings were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people not given a named midwife throughout their antenatal care. • Antenatal appointments being far away and need to be more easily accessible. • Heavy stigmatisation to young mothers. Professional training also needed. <p>The outcome of this report will be sent to Lesley Gerhardt. Sukey attended Cannock Shadow Trust Board. This was well attended with 7 young people, who were very confident and knowledgeable.</p> <p><u>Karen Hanford - South Staffs PCT</u></p> <p>Karen working on a recruitment policy for interviewing using children's panels. With help from Sue Bond and Les Simmons, Karen producing a policy to ensure all interviews for School Nurses are held with a children's panel.</p> <p>New vaccine for the HPV virus which can cause cervical</p>	

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	<p>cancer will be available from September to all year 8 girls. There will be 3 vaccinations over 12 months. A guide has been issued that has been worked on by young people. Karen to send the website link to Kathryn or Gill to distribute. Karen also attended the recent Mental Health conference which was excellent and the young person who spoke really spoke 'from the heart'.</p> <p><u>Judy Goodson - Staffordshire Libraries & Information Service</u></p> <p>Recently had 'Young Teen Fiction Award'. Presentation took place at County Showground with over 200. Bridging the Gap - this project which is for 16 - 19 year olds with learning difficulties has now come to an end due to lack of funding.</p> <p><u>Mark Kosack - SCVYS</u></p> <p>Recently attended Voluntary Sector Hear by Right Training. This was really good , very clear to follow. There is also a CD Rom and DVD. Mark and Gary Williams working on the Shadow Trust Boards and hoping to target middle schools.</p>	Karen/Kathryn
10.	<u>Any other Business</u>	
a)	Georgina commented that after hearing all the good practice that is taking place, this needs to be celebrated and asked that members send any news etc into Cate Crawford for the ACORN Newsletter which is the Children's Trust Newsletter. Cate can be contacted on cate.crawford@staffordshire.gov.uk .	
b)	Rachel Taylor recently attended a Good Practice Seminar in London. She found this really useful and will send copy of the notes to Kathryn for distribution.	
c)	Michelle Evans tabled a briefing paper on 'Communications Proposals'. The proposal is to produce a bi-monthly newsletter to promote work that has been carried out, share best practice and publicise forthcoming events. Sue Bond raised the point that the Children's Fund Newsletter that has been produced and highly commented on would now be the 'Trust Participation Newsletter'. Comments were made that we need to be careful not to cross-over and duplicate things. Gill thanked Michelle for this proposal and they would discuss at their forthcoming meeting.	Rachel/Kathryn Gill/Michelle
d)	New Website Development - Having met with Sander Kristel and others, it has been agreed that a new independent website is set up, completely separate from the County Council. A meeting has been set up on 14th August from 2.00pm - 4.00pm at the IT Suite at the Kingston Centre . Anyone wishing to be involved and bring some young people, please contact Gill or Kathryn by Monday 4th August 2008 .	All

		ACTION
e)	Modern Apprentiships - Gill planning to recruit 2 young people for a year on the modern apprenticeships route.	All
f)	Darryl Gough mentioned the My Place Grant and a bid to completely refurbish the Chesterton Youth Centre has been put in. Gill also mentioned that a bid for a Youth Café in Stone has also been submitted.	
g)	Stafford College Open Evening - Friday 29 th August 2008.	
h)	Youth Volunteering & The Youth Achievement Awards - More information can be found on www.ukyouth.org	
i)	The Philip Lawrence Awards - More information can be found at www.philiplawrenceawards.org.uk .	
j)	Get Involved - A Strategy to help you make the most of your leisure time. More information can be found on www.need2know.co.uk/getinvolved .	
k)	11 Million Takeover Day - 7 th November 2008. Gill pressed the group to take advantage of this opportunity. (<i>Information attached</i>).	
l)	Database - Gill working on setting up a Participation Database purely for the Trust. Kathryn to meet with Wendy Bailey who administers the County Council Database and Gill and Kathryn to meet with Chris Hilditch to discuss our own.	
m)	Gill recently attended a 3 day awayday to discuss the IYSS (Integrated Youth Support Service). One of the suggestions for the new name is 'Staffordshire Young People's Service' . Young People are asked if they can think of anything better. 2 x £20 High Street Vouchers are up to grabs. Closing Date for entries is Friday 22nd August . (<i>Flyer attached to minutes - can this be distributed as widely as possible</i>).	
n)	End Child Poverty Event - Saturday October 4 th - London - More information can be found on www.endchildpoverty.org.uk/promise .	
o)	CYP - 4.1.1 Updated	
p)	Gill to look at Hear by Right training. Members commented that it would be useful to actually use the book and fill in as a group.	
11.	<u>Date of Next Meeting</u> Date: Tuesday 23 rd September 2008 Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm Venue: Rooms 9 & 10 Corporate Reception, St Chads Place, Stafford	