



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

STAFFORDSHIRE CHILDREN'S TRUST BRIEFING JANUARY 2010

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The aim of this briefing is for the County Children's Trust and standing groups to communicate progress and any key actions or decisions that the District Trust Boards (DTBs) are required to make or take note of.

Children's Trust Issues (From the County Board & other sources)

Chair: County Councillor Ian Parry, Deputy Leader Staffordshire County Council, Cabinet Lead Member Children & Young People

Lead Officer: Georgina Davies, Children's Trust Manager, georgina.davies@staffordshire.gov.uk, 01785 27 7116

Date of Next Meeting: 25.01.10

Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (ASCL): Statutory guidance to support the new legislation is now out for consultation:

<http://www.staffordshirechildrenstrust.org.uk/resources/statutoryguidance/>

Children & Young People's Plan: current Children & Young People's Plans ends March 2010. The new 2010 Plan is due out at the latest mid May, and will be a 1 year plan, but the 5 Strategic Objectives agreed at the Children's Trust Board may run longer in order to achieve them. Draft Delivery Plans have now been written by each Strategic Objective and will be published with the final CYPP.

Financial Guidance: Audit Commission and Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy briefing papers on financial management in Children Trusts is now available at: <http://www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nationalstudies/localgov/arewethereyet/Pages/childrenstrusts.aspx> The briefing provides practical guidance on improving financial management in children's trusts, and supports the national report 'Are we there yet?', presenting the findings of research into the progress local councils and their partners are making in developing children's trusts.

The One Place Website: The results of the comprehensive Area Assessment(CAA) have now been published through the Oneplace website, the Audit Commissions new approach to communicating inspections through an interactive website. The web address is: <http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/>

County Trust Executive

Chair: Sally Rees

Lead Officer: Georgina Davies, Children's Trust Manager, georgina.davies@staffordshire.gov.uk, 01785 27 7116

Date of Next Meeting: 21.01.10

Healthy Weight Update: This year's data has been collected and is in the process of being analysed, with the full report due in January 2010. The coverage rate has increased from 60% to 85% and it is believed there is a reduction in the obesity trend, inline with the UK average.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS): paper circulated demonstrating the scoring of achievement by the delivery of CAMHS by Primary Care Trusts.. Key areas for development for CAMHS are: (i) developing improved access to services within Staffordshire as opposed to going out of the county by 2011 and (ii) 24 hour cover.

Anti Bullying Strategy: the Anti Bullying Strategy is in its final draft stage with principles that all organisations could sign up to and include it in their service commissioning process. Key priorities for the Children's Trust to address are:

1. Appointment of Anti Bullying Manager (Local Authority responsibility)
2. Anti bullying data collection system (Local Authority responsibility) - would like wider than just schools
3. All Staffordshire schools to sign up to Anti Bullying pledge (Children's Trust) - and roll out plan
4. Develop Anti Bullying pledge scheme (Children's Trust)

Integrated Service Delivery Update: Working with established teams and other emerging teams to inform development, rather than start a new. CAF and ContactPoint are a key focus for emerging teams.

Families First: This is a review of service provision in the local authorities Children & Lifelong Learning Directorate with 2 elements: Early Intervention and prevention; Specialist services (3 and 4 tiers). The aim of the review is to ensure good communication mechanisms and improve efficiencies around Team Around the Child..

Children's Trust Standing Groups

Joint Commissioning

Chair: Sally Rowe

Lead Officer: Martyn Baggaley, Joint Commissioning Unit Manager,
martyn.baggaley@staffordshire.gov.uk, 01785 278710

Date of Next Meeting

Update:

The proposed plan for the staffing structure and governance of the Children & Young People's Joint Commissioning Unit, previously endorsed by the Children Trust Board was approved by Local Authority Cabinet on December 16th. Work can now continue apace to develop the work of the new team, particularly with regard to developing cohesive commissioning relationships and processes between central (county) commissioning activity and locality commissioning, to help support Districts to both commission evidence informed, complimentary services to fill current service gaps and therefore maximise value for money by cutting out duplication. The importance of retaining sufficient local autonomy to plan based on the unique local knowledge of their communities the Districts possess is of course of paramount importance.

The JCU Manager (Martyn Baggaley) has now scheduled attendance at most of the District Children's Trust Boards between mid January and the end of March 2010 to explain and discuss the future plans for Joint Commissioning further with colleagues working at District level.

Actions/decisions to be taken by Districts: If you have not already done so, please contact Claire Trenfield (Claire.trenfield@staffordshire.gov.uk) to arrange for Martyn Baggaley to attend your District Children's Trust Board in the spring, should you wish to know more.

Aiming High**Project Manager:** Tina Wigfall, Tina.wigfall@staffordshire.gov.uk, 01785 277392Update

The results of National Indicator 54 and Vital Signs Indicator 33: **Parental Experiences of Services provided to Disabled Children** have now been published for the first time on a national basis - it can be accessed from the Research and Statistics Gateway at this link:

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/rsgateway/DB/STR/d000902/index.shtml>.

- The framework for the questionnaire is the Aiming High for Disabled Children core offer standards on information, transparency, assessment, participation and feedback.
- This survey also provides, for the first time, figures for 145 local authorities and 150 Primary Care Trusts. The overall scores ranged from 55 to 68 points across LAs and from 55 to 68 points across PCTs.
- Published national and local level data provide a breakdown by the 15 sub-indicators (i.e. each of the five core offer standards as they apply to each of the three broad service areas of health, education and care and family support)

For the overall Indicator Staffordshire County Council **scored 62** against a national average score of 61. Within the West Midlands the highest score was 64 (Wolverhampton) and the lowest 57 (Birmingham).

North Staffordshire PCT **scored 65** and South Staffordshire PCT **scored 63** the range for West Midlands SHA was 57 (Heart of Birmingham PCT) and 65 North Staffordshire PCT.

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