





NYCC Partners in Practice (PiP) Programme Newsletter (Edition 3) May 2017

North Yorkshire's Children and Young People's Service was designated as a DfE Partner in Practice (one of eight Local Authorities nationally) in 2016. Through this we will deliver innovation and work towards our ambition to be outstanding. We will also support and work alongside other authorities to share best practice and, as a result, develop more sustainable high performance in children's social care across the country.

North Yorkshire's offer to other authorities includes best practice advice and support in a range of areas; from undertaking a whole system diagnostic / tailored review, to providing more specialised reviews and information on our Front Door (our Multi Agency Assessment and Screening Team (MAST)), Looked after Children (LAC) reductions, Strategic Planning Framework and/or Financial Modelling.

A full list of all the areas within the North Yorkshire offer with detailed information can be found at the following website http://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk



Our work with other local authorities continues to move forward at great pace. Our work with Bradford Council is progressing well and we are providing continuing advice and guidance on their adoption of the NWD methodology as members of their implementation board. On-site diagnostics have been arranged with Walsall, Durham and Middlesbrough where NYCC Senior Managers will spend two days assessing strengths, areas for development and next steps (recommendations). The work will provide advice on how the ambitions of Council could potentially be achieved and provide an objective appraisal of current arrangements, on what further work could potentially be undertaken and what support from us or others may be required. In doing so we anticipate making a real contribution to these local authorities in delivering on their objectives and aspirations and in achieving longer term outcomes.

As well as undertaking diagnostics we are receiving many visits from Councils interested in hearing information and guidance on our areas of best practice. Cheshire East Council attended North Yorkshire to hear information on our successful Signs of Safety (SOS) model implementation during April. Feedback received from the visiting team was excellent "the visit was extremely informative

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and worthwhile ... We were so impressed by the passion and commitment for Signs of Safety that was evident at all levels." Following this successful visit Cheshire East Council have requested that NYCC senior officers have an on-going involvement in their own SOS model implementation in an advisory capacity to ensure its smooth delivery. The formal agreement of this interaction is now being agreed and taken forward.

Interest in our offer of best practice from other local authorities continues to grow — Wakefield Council being the latest to request input into specific areas.



Our NWD Extension projects continue to take shape with the main activity over the past month continuing to be recruitment to key posts. We have undertaken an extensive recruitment programme as part of the Care Leavers NWD Extension project with close to 200 applications being received for the posts advertised! We have been successful in recruiting to the majority of posts and look forward to providing information on the new team when colleagues have started over the coming months. We have also started an extensive recruitment programme as part of the SEMH NWD Extension and again will provide more information when this is complete over the next few months.

The recruitment of clinical psychologists through Tees, Esk and Wear Valley (TEWV) NHS Foundation Trust is progressing well. The first round of interviews has taken place with key appointments being made to the Head Clinician and several of the Life Coach positions which is incredibly positive news. A second round of recruitment is underway and we hope that all positions will be filled from this exercise. Likewise the recruitment of the additional Speech and Language Therapists, through Harrogate and District NHS Foundation Trust, is also progressing well. We hope to hear from these colleagues in future editions about their experiences of working in North Yorkshire.









Being one of the country's Partners in Practice we have been asked to work alongside the Centre for Social Work through the Tri-borough. What this means for us is that we have the opportunity to introduce systemic practice into all parts of our work through enabling our staff to attend a training programme run through the centre for Social Work which is supported by the DfE and Isabelle Trowler.

We have had the opportunity to initially send 20 participants to undertake the Certificate in Systemic Social Work Practice with Children and Families, 9 participants to undertake the Diploma in Systemic Social Work Supervision and Management and 7 participants to undertake the Systemic Leadership Course. The Systemic Leadership Course got underway earlier this month and feedback has been incredibly positive. The other courses start this month and we will be hearing from those who have been receiving the training in future editions, on their learning and how they have found the course, as this develops.

Colleagues from the Department for Education (DfE) continue to attend the Programme's Strategic Board and have stated that North Yorkshire are "ahead of the game" in its PiP Programme implementation.







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