

Minutes of a meeting held on 21 March 2018

PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Stuart Carlton (Chair)	Corporate Director – Children & Young People's Service (NYCC)
Wendy Collins	Dept of Work & Pensions (Sub Julia Priestnell)
Richard Chillery	Harrogate & District Foundation Trust
Julie Firth	Head of Partners in Practice/YJS (NYCC CYPS)
Professor Nick Frost	Independent Chair of Local Safeguarding Children Board
Alan Harder	Temp Chief Superintendent, North Yorkshire Police
Martin Kelly	Assistant Director, Children & Families (NYCC CYPS)
Janet Probert	Chief Operating Officer, Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby CCG
Katie Needham	Public Health Consultant (NYCC)
Helen Seth	NYPACT
David Sharp	Chief Executive, North Yorkshire Youth

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Tom Bryant	Strategic Support Service (NYCC)
Emma Davies	Public Health (NYCC)
Emma Lonsdale	Commissioning Manager Health (NYCC CYPS)
Barbara Merrygold	Head of Early Years (NYCC)
Antony Ruddy	Strategic Support Service
Claire Snodgrass	Head Clinical Psychologist (Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust)
Sue Wharam	Strategic Support Service (NYCC)
Marion Sadler	Business Support Manager (NYCC CYPS - Notes)

ACTION

1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Stuart Mason, Tammy Cooper, Angela North, Natalie Baxter.

2.0 BOARD REPRESENTATION

It was noted that Stuart Mason had resigned as secondary school representative due to his appointment to a Headship outside North Yorkshire.

ACTION: message of thanks be conveyed to Stuart for his contribution to the work of the Trust.

SC

3.0 NOTES OF MEETING OF 6 DECEMBER 2017

AGREED: as an accurate record. The following matters arising were discussed:

- Joint session to be suggested between key decision makers on the Children's Trust and LSCB with Youth Voice Executive members (p6)

Kevin Jeffrey

4.0 Q3 PERFORMANCE REPORT

CONSIDERED: report, presented by Tom Bryant and Sue Wharam, reporting progress against the priorities in quarter 3 in particular:

- very strong performance at GCSE and A level but key stage 2 remained a challenge
- increasing rate in exclusions and LA working with schools to address this
- increasing demand for SEND support including Education, Health & Care Plan assessments possibly linked in part to SEN and school funding reforms
- number of first time entrants into Youth Justice decreased by 40%
- continued increase in demand for children and families' services but repeat/re-referrals remained low
- increase in number of children on child protection plans – highest number for almost seven years – and capacity had been increased to deal with this reflecting national trends. Further analysis was ongoing to assess how contacts could be handled in a different way.
- childhood obesity – performance remained good when compared with national and regional benchmarks. **ACTION: report to next Board meeting.**

Katie
Needham

David Sharp reflected on the continued increasing trend of contacts and requests for support and asked whether analysis had identified causal factors. It was felt this may be due to the cuts in relation to available sources of support within the voluntary and public sector. The Chair responded that it was timely to reflect as partners on opportunities to coordinate early help arrangements in a smarter way and enable service users to be signposted through a single contact. David highlighted the lack of a national youth policy which had created a landscape where you had multiple people supporting small areas of work and the Chair responded that it may be less about having an overarching national policy but more about ensuring partners were well coordinated and sharing joint resources effectively so there was no duplication.

There was discussion about the implications of SEN reform, implications of school funding changes and the difficulties experienced particularly by small schools.

5.0 SMOKING IN PREGNANCY

NOTED: report, presented by Emma Davis, setting out recent activity and progress made to reduce smoking during pregnancy in North Yorkshire. Emma highlighted the following points:

- need for further work to improve performance to ensure consistency across the different CCG areas and remove the wide variations
- all midwives now receiving a mandatory/statutory annual update on stop smoking training
- independent review in Scarborough and Ryedale area reflecting local challenges.
- proposal to widen training and processes across other workers coming into contact with pregnant women

Emma Lonsdale enquired about the approach to e-cigarettes and Emma Davis responded that e-cigarettes were regarded as a safer option for smokers however risks around nicotine remained during pregnancy therefore users were still encouraged to stop smoking entirely.

Katie Needham gave assurance that the issues were understood and good work had been undertaken with key leaders within other services to spread the message wider. David Sharp responded to a question from Emma Lonsdale that there still remained a number of young people who smoked and asked how a strategy could be taken forward in relation to young female smokers. Julie Firth asked whether there was an opportunity for children's centres to be involved in CO2 monitoring process and there was agreement that this was worthy of further exploration.

The Chair enquired about percentages within the table at 4.1 and Emma responded that these should be treated with caution as they related to small numbers in some instances.

Janet Probert asked that a briefing be provided at health contract quality meetings on a regular basis in order to build awareness into major provider contracts.

The Chair invited Public Health colleagues to bring further information to the attention of the Board

Emma Davis

Katie Needham

6.0 BOARD PRIORITIES

6.1 Child poverty and social mobility

NOTED: Katie Needham introduced a report, presented by Tom Bryant and Antony Ruddy proposing a number of key topics for focus by the Board throughout the year namely:

- challenges around social mobility
- understanding food and fuel poverty
- impact of welfare reforms
- understanding housing costs and quality

The following points were highlighted:

- variances in the prevalence of child poverty across North Yorkshire
- links between poverty and educational outcomes particularly for those on Free School Meals

Martin Kelly suggested that the incidence of child neglect and poverty be mapped and correlated. The Chair asked that the focus be on what the Board can do to influence elements to reduce child poverty and improve social mobility. Colleagues felt that agencies could provide support for example by initiatives relating to food and nutrition, the work through the Opportunities Area, making connections with other organisations who could offer employment skills, the Council's housing initiative work etc. Cllr Sanderson reflected on the lack of youth services and support to young people in the rural villages in Ryedale. David Sharp suggested Community First Yorkshire may be a good source of support and influence on a wider basis.

ACTION: that Stronger Communities be asked to bring a report to the next meeting of the Board.

Tom Bryant

Antony Ruddy presented a further sub-report on social mobility in North Yorkshire using data from the 2017 index. Scarborough, Richmondshire,

Ryedale and Selby remained below national benchmarks overall with Craven being the highest performing for social mobility in North Yorkshire.

The Chair reflected on the rankings contained within the table on page 2 of the report which, taking Scarborough as an example, did not correlate with poor school outcomes then becoming strong youth outcomes which was difficult to understand. David Sharp reported on his work with Higher York who were working with North Yorkshire Youth to raise young people's aspirations. It may be worthwhile to make links with Higher York on this work.

AGREED: that the Board note the report and support further analysis to understand the issues more deeply.

6.2 Social, Emotional and Mental Health

NOTED: report, presented by Nick Frost and Janet Probert outlining proposed work under this theme. There had been interesting discussions about what the wide range of data told us about young people's experiences.

6.3 School Readiness

NOTED: report, presented by Richard Chillery, on this theme. Initial discussions had taken place about an evidence based approach to developing new innovative ways to support early development. Barbara Merrygold reflected on the "incredible years" programme which was already being delivered within North Yorkshire. There was some recognition that the next stage was to identify a possible multi-systems response. Colleagues' attention was drawn to the School Readiness conference on 20/21 April. There was discussion about the definition of "school readiness", impact of speech, language and communication strategies and its potential to improve outcomes and need to explore impact of two year old funding on improving early years outcomes and closing the gap.

ACTION: data to be distributed with the notes of the meeting.

Thanks were expressed to Tom Bryant for his work on these reports.

**Tom
Bryant**

7.0 DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW EARLY HELP STRATEGY

Noted: Julie Firth updated the Board on work to develop a new Early Help strategy. Visits had been planned to two local authorities to look at their systems and data analysis had begun. Discussions would be initiated through health integration meetings and a group of Headteachers established to gain their views. Engagement would also be held with Police, internal stakeholders and families to inform the strategy as it developed. Julie hoped that it would be possible to present the draft Strategy to the June meeting of the Board.

Katie asked that opportunity be taken to align with the recommissioning of the Healthy Child Programme. Janet Probert stressed the need to look at the offer to children from a family's point of view and take brave steps to ensure services were better integrated in times of financial challenge. Helen Seth expressed her support for a more integrated approach to prevent children, young people and families falling between the gaps. Richard Chillery suggested that the school readiness work could be linked to this strategy and the Chair responded that the strategy should be about how partners would work together providing the glue to a systemic approach.

8.0 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SEND PROVISION

NOTED: presentation by Jane Harvey outlining the work to develop a strategic plan for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities provision for 0-

25 year olds in the County, as required by DfE. The proposals were shortly become the subject of public consultation and followed a wide engagement exercise with key stakeholders. The plan for use of the Special Provision Capital Funding to increase capacity and/or improve facilities had been published following Executive approval on 13 March.

The strategy's principles had been identified as

- inclusive culture and ethos
- joint commitment and accountability to children and young people
- the right support at the right time in the right place.

Disappointment was expressed at the level of capital funding allocated. Helen Seth welcomed the approach proposed to develop more locally based solutions and support to children and young people with SEND.

9.0 EDUCATION AS OUR GREATEST LIBERATOR

NOTED: report, presented by Tom Bryant, setting out the 2017 attainment outcomes which showed a strong picture at KS4 and 5 and challenges at Key Stage 2 and in specific areas of inequality in relation to attainment and in closing the gap in a county with widely dispersed small pockets of deprivation and low attainment. The Achievement Unlocked initiative was highlighted along with the impact of strong leadership in driving improved outcomes.

Janet Probert questioned whether the ambition was strong enough when statistical neighbours appeared to do better in early years and Key Stage 2.

10.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business raised.

11.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Dates for 2018 meetings:

- 13 June 2018
- 26 September 2018
- 5 December 2018

12.45 pm for 1.00 pm at County Hall, Northallerton.