

**PRESENT:**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Stuart Carlton (Chair)	Corporate Director – Children & Young People's Service (NYCC)
Natalie Baxter	NYPACT
Richard Chillery	Harrogate & District Foundation Trust
Julie Firth	Head of Prevention/YJS (NYCC CYPS)
Professor Nick Frost	Independent Chair of Local Safeguarding Children Board
Judith Hay	Assistant Director, Children & Families (NYCC CYPS) (interim Chair)
Angela North	FE Principals Group (Henshaws)
Janet Probert	Chief Operating Officer, Hambleton, Richmondshire & Whitby CCG
Helen Seth	NYPACT
David Sharp	Chief Executive, North Yorkshire Youth

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Tom Bryant	Strategic Support Service (NYCC)
Sue Wharam	Strategic Support Service (NYCC)
Carly Walker	Public Health (sub for Katie Needham) (NYCC)
Kathy Peacock	Young People's Engagement Service (NYCC CYPS)
Kevin Jeffrey	Young People's Engagement Service (NYCC CYPS)
Emma Lonsdale	Commissioning Manager Health (NYCC CYPS)
Marion Sadler	Business Support Manager (NYCC CYPS - Notes)

**ACTION**

**Judith Hay indicated she would act as Chair as Stuart Carlton had been delayed in other meetings.**

**1.0 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Janet Sanderson, Stuart Mason, Julia Priestnall, Nigel Costello and Katie Needham

**ACTION: SC to write to North Yorkshire Police regarding lack of representation over the last three meetings.**

**SC**

**2.0 BOARD REPRESENTATION**

It was noted that vacancies remained for Academies and children and young people's voice.

**3.0 NOTES OF MEETING OF 27 SEPTEMBER 2017**

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

- 4.2 – Tom Bryant reported that Selby College was the highest performing college within the North Yorkshire footprint.
- 4.2 – Tom Bryant/Sue Wharam confirmed this feedback had been taken into account.

#### 4.0 PRIORITY SETTING 2018

NOTED: report, presented by Tom Bryant, proposing three priority areas for the Board to focus on in 2018 as follows:

- child poverty and social mobility
- social emotional and mental health
- school readiness

with a further cross cutting theme of community engagement.

Board Members were asked whether these were the right priorities on which to focus and, if so, to identify a sponsor for each priority to work alongside the Council's Strategy and Performance Team on the reviews and to scope the focus further.

There was discussion around

- contributory factors to school readiness and whether there was any correlation with high deprivation areas
- what would constitute an appropriate intervention at a sufficiently early age in relation to children's mental health problems.

It was suggested that priorities should be a collective responsibility for the Board and that sponsors should not necessarily be the most obvious candidates. There was consensus that there should be joint sponsors for each priority and that existing governance arrangements for relevant groups be mapped and utilised for this work.

AGREED:

1. That the proposed priorities should be the focus for the Board in 2018.
2. That the following sponsors be nominated:
  - child poverty and social mobility – Katie Needham
  - social emotional and mental health – Nick Frost/Janet Probert
  - school readiness – Julie Firth/Richard Chillery

**ACTION: TB/SW to set up individual sessions with sponsors to agree next steps.**

Stuart Carlton joined the meeting at this point and assumed the Chairmanship.

#### 5.0 QUARTER 2 PERFORMANCE REPORT

NOTED: report, presented by Tom Bryant, reporting performance against the Board's performance dataset for the period July to September 2017. Highlights included strong performance in Key Stage 4 outcomes, and continued low numbers of children in care. Challenges remained around school inspections which was a reflection of the national trend under a new inspection regime and around exclusions. Board members discussed the following issues:

- reduced performance in terms of health and dental checks for children in care – Sue Wharam reported that further analysis had been undertaken showing improvement since that date and over 50% of the cohort were aged 15-19 who were less inclined to attend such checks.
- first time entrants into criminal justice system – Julie Firth reported that a new Panel had been established and this had enabled a significant

Tom  
Bryant  
Sue  
Wharam

reduction in the number of young people entering the criminal justice system with performance now ahead of national benchmarks for the first time in 15 years;

- the visibility and sharing of data from the frontline practitioners where multiple agencies and data points are involved – Sue Wharam confirmed that mapping work was ongoing to identify those young people open to various NYCC services which could be extended to incorporate other agencies' data
- increasing number of EHCP assessments and need for deeper analysis of primary need – Angela North asked that further analysis be undertaken as to the number of young people with SEND who were now home educated and in relation to those Not In Education, Employment or Training.

## **6.0 PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE: BREASTFEEDING**

NOTED: report, presented by Carly Walker, providing an update on progress around improving the initiation and duration of breastfeeding amongst mothers in North Yorkshire. Carly reported on the benefits offered, the latest data and the establishment of a Breastfeeding Strategy Group to drive forward improvement work. North Yorkshire was now almost in line with national average although there were pockets of inequality and a wider need for “normalisation” with further compliance with “baby friendly” standards. The appointment of an Infant Feeding Coordinator as part of the Healthy Child Programme had been instrumental in taking forward improvement initiatives. The Board were asked to identify ways in which respective agencies can contribute to the delivery of the strategy through the promotion of breastfeeding as opposed to advertisements for alternatives.

Judith Hay enquired as to the approach adopted there breastfeeding was not the most appropriate way forward due to substance misuse. Helen Seth enquired about the support provided to mothers of children with disabilities and asked that colleagues be aware that Craven area data would incorporate all users of their services rather than solely North Yorkshire residents. Carly Walker confirmed that the group were mindful of these issues. Janet Probert thanked Carly for her work in keeping this important issue on the agenda and asked how mothers in rural areas where there were limited facilities could be supported alongside those who were most vulnerable. The Chair asked that the Strategy Group focus on further improvements in deprived and/or vulnerable communities.

AGREED: That progress made to date be noted

## **7.0 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17**

NOTED: annual report, presented by Nick Frost, Independent Chair of the Board. Nick highlighted the main points of the report and confirmed that there was currently a serious case review ongoing. Nick reiterated that the Board needed to be forward looking and aware of the whole range of safeguarding and child protection issues including increasing threats of cyber/online safety.

Nick reflected on the recently published government response to the Wood Review on LSCBs and on the consultation on Working Together to Safeguard Children. There would be a year from April 2018 to April 2019 to reconfigure safeguarding arrangements. Nick indicated that he would stand down from his independent chair role at the end of his contract but was

mindful that the LSCB would be entering into a period of significant national change.

Judith Hay reflected on the positive feedback around the impact of multi agency attendance on LSCB training courses. Natalie Baxter reported that the annual Safeguarding Conference had been excellent with engaging guest speakers providing thought provoking challenge.

Janet Probert welcomed an excellent report which had been shared with the CCG's governing body and would be cascaded down through other governance arrangements. Janet asked whether there was good workforce and succession planning arrangements in place in a time of significant change. The Chair confirmed that there would be consideration of the requirements of future arrangements and appropriate planning and sharing of learning would be prioritised.

## **8.0 CQC REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Janet Probert briefed the Board on emerging themes from the recent thematic review including:

- positive energy and commitment to work in North Yorkshire although some variability across the footprint
- service user feedback about services was good with good understanding of the issues by system leaders
- need for improved coordination across services from a service user's point of view with need for greater clarity around how to access services
- school staff identifying further training need in order that they have skills to support pupils with mental health needs
- engagement with young people and parent/carers good through Youth Executive and Parent/Carer forums
- ensuring parental expectations are realistic of the whole spectrum of support rather than solely around referral to CAMHS

A national thematic report would be produced in the new year.

Natalie Baxter confirmed that this reflected the issues raised with her by parents in her day to day role and the new improved referral pathway in the Craven area was working well. Janet Probert reflected that there was a need for a more collective vision and understanding across the spectrum as to what good looks like and what makes a real difference. Angela North said that there was a need to agree a mental health framework with benchmarks for positive behaviours which was coordinated through whole school approaches.

Emma Lonsdale raised the Board's awareness of the Green Paper on Children's Mental Health published on 4 December. This focused on

- having an identified and incentivised mental health lead within school
- having school mental health teams (similar to Compass Buzz service who were bidding to become a pilot trailblazer)
- introduction of a four week wait – there was local preference for this to be access to support within four weeks rather than entry into CAMHS services.

Angela North asked whether there was an accessible consultation survey for young people requiring such and indicated their willingness to contribute to enabling completion of the survey. **ACTION: Emma Thomas/Angela North to take forward.**

**Emma  
Thomas/  
Angela  
North**

The Chair reflected that an approach which maximised the use of the financial resource available to deliver improvement which would provide maximum benefit would be necessary and indicated his frustration at the timescales indicated. Janet Probert echoed her frustration about how within finite funding improved support can be delivered across the system in a better way.

Emma Thomas reflected on the need for the professional workforce to have an understanding of each other's roles and to communicate well between agencies including education.

David Sharp posed the question that the one stop shop approach could be adopted across all children's services to enable a better coordinated response to individual children, young people and their families.

AGREED: that individual agencies take time to respond to the consultation but that locally, opportunity be taken to keep key points in focus.

## **9.0 DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW EARLY HELP STRATEGY**

NOTED: report, presented by Julie Firth, briefing colleagues on the proposed development of a new Early Help Strategy and consequent opportunities for closer cooperation and coordination between services and agencies via a joined up service delivery model involving Lead Practitioner roles and early help assessments and planning.

There was discussion about the opportunity to refocus energies to ensure a more coordinated approach by removing or redirection of referrals between agencies. Nick Frost confirmed that the Local Safeguarding Children Board would be fully supportive of this work. David Sharp welcomed the proposed approach to develop a consistent structure of arrangements to access support which would also enable prevention of cost escalation through earlier resolution/support to meet needs. Greater levels of support at an earlier stage would also improve life chances and improved outcomes for children and young people and the Chair reflected that this would be the driver rather than any consequent financial savings. It was about ensuring the "glue" was in place between different aspects of the wider children's system and to make access to services simpler for parents.

AGREED: the Board authorise officers to establish a cross agency working group to develop the Early Help Strategy with regular reports on progress to the Board and to the LSCB via the Independent Chair. The Strategy would be then need to be endorsed by all Children's Trust Board agencies as a North Yorkshire approach including within schools, colleges and settings.

## **10.0 FUTURE IN MIND LOCAL TRANSFORMATION PLAN**

NOTED: presentation by Janet Probert providing an update on the Plan refresh process which had involved all CCGs and the Health and Wellbeing Board. The presentation outlined:

- the principles behind the plan and the numbers of young people with a mental health disorder
- wellbeing in North Yorkshire better than the national average although mindful that the numbers are all individual young people
- scale of the problem which is wider than a health issue involving wellbeing, changes in culture and modern society and the lack of understanding of what is driving the increased level of need
- refresh of local ambitions, progress made since 2015 and areas of focus

where there was still further work to do

The Board noted that whilst some great outcomes and services were being delivered for children in North Yorkshire, there remained pockets of inequality and inconsistency in services.

## 11.0 VOICE, INFLUENCE AND PARTICIPATION UPDATE

NOTED: report, presented by Kathy Peacock and Kevin Jeffrey, providing an update on arrangements to capture the voice of children and young people within North Yorkshire. Developments had included the establishment of the Youth Voice Executive with representatives of young people in various groups with the first meetings held with key decision makers and the setting of three key priority areas. A series of questions were posed to the Board as to:

- how the Board engages with young people in North Yorkshire
- whether there needed to be more meaningful engagement with young people
- whether there was a strategy in place to actively engage with young people
- should young people be invited to be part of the Board.

Janet Probert asked whether young people had indicated whether they wished to be part of the Board and the Chair said, in support, that the Board would welcome young people's suggestions as to how they wished to engage given the establishment of the Youth Voice Executive. Kevin Jeffrey outlined discussions at the Youth Voice Executive where young people had suggested they actively become part of the LSCB and Board arrangements and that young people's views be incorporated within reports as normal practice. The Executive had also asked that agencies report back to the YPE on at least an annual basis.

There was consensus that individual agencies engaged with young people within their respective arrangements but there was no single coordinated engagement via the Children's Trust itself. There was a view that attendance at the Board may dilute the impact of the young people's voice.

The Chair suggested that a joint Trust Board/LSCB/Young People's Executive on a six monthly basis where matters of joint interest were discussed could be put forward. Richard Chillery highlighted the ongoing work within HDFT to develop a set of engagement principles against which services and strategies could be judged. Angela North suggested possible use of the Apprenticeship Levy or university partners to enable a channel through which young people could influence and communicate with decision makers. There was potential to refresh participation in Takeover Day.

Angela North asked whether training was provided to YPE members and it was confirmed this was in train. Angela recommended a recent training package by York University.

Kathy Peacock drew attention to the Board's publication "The Promise" and the intention to revisit and refresh the document and assess progress against the principles contained within seeking views from children and young people as to whether the document remained relevant in terms of purpose.

AGREED: that the Board's willingness to join a joint session between key decision makers on the Children's Trust and LSCB and Youth Executive be progressed.

**Kevin  
Jeffrey**

## **12.0 FORWARD PLAN**

NOTED: the forward plan would be updated to reflect the agreed priorities for 2018. Opportunity needed also to be taken to reflect further opportunities to join up strategies and plans to ensure there was a single coordinated approach albeit through separate organisations. The Chair confirmed that proposals were being developed to establish a Young Inspectors Programme which could incorporate other agencies as appropriate.

## **13.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no further business raised.

## **14.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Proposed dates for 2018 meetings:

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

12.45 pm for 1.00 pm at County Hall, Northallerton.