

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES of the meeting held at Loxley House on **27 NOVEMBER 2013** from 4.04 pm to 6.01 pm.

✓ Councillor David Mellen	- Chair of the Board and Portfolio Holder for Children's Services)	
Ian Curryer	- Chief Executive)	
✓ Chris Wallbanks	- Programme Manager Early Intervention and Partnerships)	Nottingham City Council
✓ Jon Rea	- Engagement and Participation Lead Officer)	
✓ Alison Michalska	- Corporate Director Children and Families)	
Dawn Smith	- Chief Operating Officer	-	NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group
Angela Horsley	- Clinical Lead,	-	Nottingham Children's Hospital
✓ Michelle Battlemuch	- Small Steps Big Changes Co-ordinator	-	Nottingham CityCare Partnership
Paula Webber	- Senior Advisor	-	Young People's Learning Agency
Simon Nickless	- Chief Superintendent CONGA (City of Nottingham)	-	Nottinghamshire Police
Wendy Smith	- Governors' Association Representative)	
✓ Andy Sloan	- Head Teacher, Rosehill School (Special School representation))	
Jill Robey	- Head Teacher, Nottingham Nursery School and Training Centre)	Nottingham Schools
Karen Slack	- Head Teacher, Rise Park Primary School)	
Gareth Owen	- Head Teacher, Hadden Park High School)	
✓ Paul Burnett	- Independent Chair of	-	Local Safeguarding Children Board
Anne Danvers	- District Operations Manager	-	JobCentre Plus
✓ Stephen McLaren	- Urban Angel Project Manager	-	On behalf of the Community and Voluntary Sector
✓ Malcolm Cowgill	- Principal, Central Nottingham College	-	Further Education
John Yarman	-	-	Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Futures

Nigel Hill	- Director	- Nottinghamshire Probation Trust
✓ Holly White))
✓ Uzair Hashmi) Youth Cabinet) Youth Council
✓ Natalie Robinson))
✓ Robert Ghahremani))
Darrell Redmond	- Nottingham Equal	

✓ Indicates present at meeting

Also in attendance

Kamala Atwal	- Strategy and Commissioning Officer)	
	School Access and Improvement Service)	
Jonny Kirk	- Improvement Service Manager)	
Viv McCrossen	- Head of Family Community Teams Central)	Nottingham City Council
Lynne McNiven	- Consultant in Public Health)	
Noel McMenamin	- Constitutional Services Officer)	
Lynne McNiven	- Consultant in Public Health)	
Sean Scannell	- Change and Innovation Manager)	

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Katy Ball
 Ian Curryer (on Other Council Business)
 Anne Danvers
 Chief Superintendent Simon Nickless
 Karen Slack

28 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

29 MINUTES

The Board confirmed the minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2013 as a correct record and they were signed by the Chair.

30 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN PERFORMANCE REVIEW QUARTER 2 2013/14

Alison Michalska, Corporate Director Children and Families presented the report outlining successes and challenges of performance measures linked to the Children and Young

Person's Plan strategic and operational objectives up to end September 2013 (Quarter 2). Ms Michalska made the following points:

- (a) the Family Support Strategy and Pathway continues to be implemented and embedded, and key measures within Safeguarding services, including re-referral rates, show positive performance;
- (b) teenage pregnancy rates continue to fall and are ahead of the 2020 target;
- (c) youth-related crime rates continue to fall, with restorative justice working well. There is a small increase in numbers of custodial sentences, but this is symptomatic of success in addressing lower level offences;
- (d) educational attainment continues to improve across key stages, and numbers of young people not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs) continue to fall;
- (e) demand for social care and safeguarding services remain high, with higher numbers of children in care. Further buy-in from partner organisations to the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is also needed;
- (f) an above average percentage of Nottingham children and young people are classed as obese, with both health and bullying implications for children;
- (g) school absence figures for both primary and secondary level remain unacceptably high;
- (h) the local authority's ability to influence schools under the current education system is diminished, especially with the growth of academies.

The Board noted that it received twice-yearly updates on performance, and made the following comments:

- (i) Board members were concerned about child obesity levels and asked what was being done to address the issue. The Board was informed that childhood obesity was a national problem, and that there was no single 'silver bullet' solution.
- (j) there was increasing evidence of obesity among Reception and pre-school age children, so long-term early intervention was necessary. There were also plans to appoint a Health Weight Co-ordinator to liaise with schools, parents and partner organisations;
- (k) it was explained that the increase in re-offending rates was because overall offending rates were falling, meaning that the smaller number of more 'hardened' young offenders had a disproportionate effect on the statistics.

RESOLVED to note the report and the Board's comments, and in particular to maintain focus on childhood obesity issues in future reports.

31 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN HEALTHY LIVING: ORAL HEALTH PROMOTION IN NOTTINGHAM CITY

Lynne McNiven, Consultant in Public Health, presented the report on oral health promotion in Nottingham City, highlighting the following points:

- (a) the national 2012 Oral Health Survey of 5 year-old children found that almost 28% of children showed signs of dental decay - in Nottingham City the figure was 38%;
- (b) the Survey also measured the average number of decayed, missing or filled teeth (DMFT). The national average was 0.94, while the Nottingham City figure was 1.32, which was higher than elsewhere in the East Midlands except Leicester;
- (c) while DMFT rates in Nottingham City were high, dental health had improved across the City since 2005/06, when the figure was 3.10 against a national figure of 1.7;
- (d) a lot of work is ongoing across the City to raise awareness and to embed good practice. The City Smiles initiative involves targeted intervention to apply fluoride varnish to schoolchildren's teeth, Teeth Tools for Schools packs are distributed to primary schools, oral health promotion work is delivered in Children's Centres and a mobile dental unit will be working over the Summer of 2014 to support the extension of the fluoride varnish programme;
- (e) continued action is needed to promote regular tooth brushing using fluoride toothpaste, reducing sugary snacks and fizzy drinks and increasing dental access;
- (f) the Oral Health Promotion Service is currently under review, with the intention to develop a joint Nottingham City/Nottinghamshire County Dental Health Promotion Service.

Board members made the following comments:

- (g) it was important to have consistent messages about oral health so that parents understood clearly what to do and what to avoid for the sake of their children's oral health;
- (h) good practice needed introducing from a very early age to ensure parents helped children to keep baby teeth clean and embed future oral health behaviours, such as regularly buying toothbrushes and toothpaste for very young children and avoiding drinking sugary drinks from 'sucky cups';
- (i) fluoridation of water was a very contentious issue with a strong lobby against the introduction of fluoride to the general water supply. The Board was unclear about where responsibility for fluoridation lay, and suggested that it could be an issue to consider at a future meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the report, including the most recent results of the national Oral Health Survey of 5-year old Children in 2012;**
- (2) to note the current review of the Oral Health Promotion Service;**

- (3) to support continued work by Public Health Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Public Health with partner organisations to promote good oral health practices;**
- (4) to ask the Director of Public Health, Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County to consider the steps required for fluoridation of the general water supply in Nottingham City, for possible consideration at a future meeting of Nottingham City's Health and Wellbeing Board.**

32 YOUTH CABINET REPORT

Jon Rea, Engagement and Participation Lead Officer, introduced the report and presentation, highlighting the achievements of the Youth cabinet in 2013 and the priority areas identified for 2014. Mr Rea invited Robert Ghahremani, Uzair Hashmi, Natalie Robinson and Holly White of the Youth Cabinet to comment on specific elements of the report and presentation.

The following points were highlighted:

- (a) the Youth Cabinet is involved in overseeing the Children and Young People Participation in Governance programme, supporting strategic partnerships, delivering operational work and carrying out civic and ambassadorial roles. The Youth Cabinet's major achievements in 2013 are listed at (b) to (f) below;
- (b) co-production of the Child Development 0-18 Strategic Commissioning Review (SCR), including work on review governance, conducting peer-to-peer focus group interviews with over 350 children and young people and work on analysis and next steps actions;
- (c) designing and delivering workshops in skills for delivering social action projects to over 200 young people as part of the National Citizenship Service;
- (d) involvement in the UK Youth Parliament Curriculum 4 Life campaign, including a Parliament session on the overhaul of Personal, Social and Health Education delivery, particularly relating to sex education and personal finance topics;
- (e) involvement in developing the British Youth Council's social inclusion review through running lots of workshops with those not in Education, Employment and Training (NEETs) and preparing recommendations to present to European Union Youth Ministers;
- (f) participation in a Conference of youth ambassadors in Lithuania, and succeeding in including a UK recommendation on alternative education provision delivered by grass roots organisations in the 'Top 3' outcomes arising from the Conference;
- (g) going forward, the Youth Cabinet will look at entrepreneurship, and hope to improve work experience provision for young people.

The Board commended the excellent achievements of the Youth Cabinet in 2013, and made several points in the discussion which followed:

- (h) in response to a Board member question, it was explained that the focus groups for the Child Development SCR revealed particular concerns for young people on health, safety, education and community related issues;
- (i) Youth Cabinet members accepted an invite from Malcolm Cowgill, New College Nottingham (NCN), to address the NCN Board and/or NCN Student Council to promote engagement. However, Youth Cabinet members advised that young people needed to understand the benefits to them of involvement. Young people enjoyed the 'journey' of meeting new people, sharing ideas and working to a common goal;
- (j) Youth cabinet members also accepted an invite to be involved in a refresh of mental health provision for young people, particularly around the issue of self-harming;
- (k) Mr Rea advised that the National Citizenship Service had expanded rapidly, and that it could usefully support both peer-led reviews, such as the current substance misuse review, and instil positive active citizenship.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note and commend the achievements of the Youth Cabinet in 2013;**
- (2) to agree to continue to provide resources to support the work of the Youth Cabinet and its associated children and young people's (CYP) participation forums under the CYP Participation in Governance programme;**
- (3) to provide a standing item slot for Youth Cabinet at future Children's Partnership Board meetings;**
- (4) to recognise the National Citizenship Service as a driver of young people's participation;**
- (5) to promote more opportunities for children and young people to take part in leadership activities and decision-making across the City Council.**

33 REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF NOTTINGHAM CITY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

Paul Burnett, Independent Chair of the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board (NCSCB), introduced the report, presenting the NCSCB Annual Report 2012/13, and identifying key work developments in relation to inspections, national legislative and policy developments, serious case reviews and changes to local safeguarding governance arrangements. Mr Burnett highlighted the following points:

- (a) over the previous 12 months a lot of work had gone into processes and procedures, such as the establishment of the Domestic Abuse Referral Team, significant work to address children missing and those at risk of child sexual exploitation, and strengthening of quality assurance and performance management arrangements, extending beyond quantitative data;
- (b) the Children and Young People's Plan Quarter 2 performance report showed improvement in performance, with regular cross-reporting and feedthrough practices now firmly embedded;

- (c) current trends indicate an increase in the number of children with child protection plans, increasing referral rates and numbers of children in care and ongoing concerns about the extent of drug and alcohol-related issues;
- (d) for 2013/14, the Board's focus will be on becoming stronger in identifying its impact on service quality and outcomes for children and young people, including testing to see if early intervention was being targeted in the right way;
- (e) under the new OFSTED Inspection Framework, the measurement of the Board's effectiveness will be heavily weighted on front-line outcomes, so the Board will want to see better engagement with front-line colleagues;
- (f) the Board also want to see involvement of children and young people in shaping future business planning;
- (g) a further Serious Case Review (Child G) was completed in May 2013 but has yet to be published, pending criminal and coronial proceedings.

The Board welcomed the report, and Mr Burnett responded to several points made by Board members in the discussion which followed:

- (h) Mr Burnett explained that the Board needed to know levels of CAFs (Common Assessment Framework), the extent of multi-agency involvement, whether CAFs provided a coherent story, whether those entering the protection had a CAF, and if not, why not;
- (i) although there had been recent criticism nationally that a number of Local Safeguarding Children Boards had not taken proper responsibility for child sexual exploitation issues, this was not the case in Nottingham City. While there was no room for complacency, the Strategy and Plan had been rated 'good' by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

RESOLVED

- (1) to note the NCSCB Annual Report 2012/13 and Board members' comments;**
- (2) to note key developments since May 2013 in relation to national legislative and policy developments, serious case reviews and changes to local safeguarding governance arrangements;**
- (3) to have a standing item on the work of the NCSCB twice-yearly on the Children's Partnership Board Forward Plan.**

34 COMMON ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK AND FAMILY SUPPORT STRATEGY

Viv McCrossen, Head of Family Community Teams Central, introduced the report, updating the Board on recommendations and actions agreed at its meeting on 26 June 2013 on the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) – minute 9 refers. Ms McCrossen highlighted the following points:

- (a) the Family Support Strategy Self Assessment Review (SAR) has been completed, with 46 responses received. The SAR indicates widespread use of the CAF, with 80% of respondents confident or very confident that they are using CAF as the main tool for intervening early and preventing problems. A similar percentage of respondents are confident or very confident that the CAF is effective in equipping their workforce to better integrate services with partners ;
- (b) while over 90% of respondents believed they had an understanding of the Family Support Strategy aims and ambitions, fewer than 16% understood these really well;
- (c) a CAF data cleansing exercise has been undertaken to ensure that data held on the CAF Central Records is accurate and up to date. Of the 1,200 records 'cleansed' to date, over 600 have been able to be closed. A More sustainable and efficient process needs putting in place to ensure the ongoing maintenance of accurate information, with school transition a recurring point where changing circumstances are not being updated;
- (d) at its June 2013 meeting, the Board agreed on the need to re-establish CAF performance reporting and to develop new reports with a focus on outcomes and impact. There are 40 initiation reasons to choose for a CAF on Central Records, but currently one reason is put on the system. Recording more than one reason will help provide a more comprehensive understanding of need by agency and demographic, and how this relates to outcome;
- (e) a scoping meeting involving Health, Schools and City Council partners took place in early November 2013 to consider developing an 'e-CAF' solution. Partners wanted to see an accessible online single live system, incorporating the physical CAF form and an updating facility for practitioners.

The Board welcomed the progress made since its June 2013 meeting. Ms McCrossen welcomed the offer of input from voluntary sector to the development of the e-CAF.

RESOLVED

- (1) to approve incorporating the qualitative and quantitative findings of the Self Assessment Review into the review and action planning of the Family Support Strategy and Pathway;**
- (2) to support promoting the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) Quality Assurance toolkit across the partnership for use;**
- (3) to approve producing quarterly reports for individual agencies to monitor their engagement with CAF Central Records;**
- (4) to report to the Board on CAF reporting performance, using new performance measures;**
- (5) to agree to change CAF reporting initiation reasons to correspond to the Family Support Strategy and Pathway areas of need and to supplement these with the Family Support Pathway need indicators;**

- (6) to ask the Partnership Working Group to scope an e-CAF solution, develop a high specification and present recommendations to a future meeting of the Board.**

35 SCHOOL PLACES

Jonny Kirk, School Access and Improvement Manager, gave a presentation on school place pressures in Nottingham, providing demographic context, the impact on schools and communities and the actions being taken in Nottingham to address the issue. Mr Kirk made the following points:

- (a) parts of Nottingham were experiencing population growth which in turn had led to pressures on school places. Current projections showed that by 2016/17 over 280 additional places will be needed;
- (b) the issue was not unique to Nottingham, with almost half of England's school districts expected to have more primary pupils than places by 2015/16, especially at Key Stage 1;
- (c) the distribution of available places was not necessarily where demand was highest;
- (d) it was not always possible to offer places to siblings in the same school, and this led to additional difficulties for family life, and negative impacts on attendance and punctuality;
- (e) ongoing pressure on school places meant greater pressure on non-teaching space in schools, with communal space being used as teaching space, impacting on pastoral and behavioural support;
- (f) a second phase of the Primary Place Expansion Programme was being rolled out providing, initially, an additional 1,230 school places
- (g) it was increasingly difficult to co-ordinate school place availability under the current education system. For example, a Free School being developed in a place of need did not proceed, meaning that local authority had to find additional resource late in the process to provide places.

The Board welcomed the action being taken to address the issue of school places in Nottingham City.

RESOLVED to note the presentation.

36 SMALL STEPS BIG CHANGES BIG LOTTERY FUND

Michelle Battlemuch, Small Steps Big Changes Co-ordinator, gave a presentation updating the Board on Small Steps Big Changes Big Lottery Fund. The Board previously considered this issue at its meeting on 25 September 2013 - minute 22. Ms Battlemuch highlighted the following points:

- (a) Nottingham was on the shortlist of 15 areas in England each looking to receive £30-50 million in BIG Lottery grant money to fund a 10-year preventative programme, covering pregnancy and the first 3 years of life. 3 to 5 areas will be successful;

- (b) 4 City wards – St Ann's, Arboretum, Bulwell and Aspley – would benefit from a successful bid. The bid submission deadline was 28 February 2014, and following assessment the successful bids would be known by June 2014;
- (c) the programme will deliver outcomes in social and emotional development, communication and language development and diet and nutrition, which in the long term will lead to healthier, more affluent and safer communities;
- (d) the bid was strategically linked to major changes to Children's Services, health visitor and midwifery provision, Priority Families and the Mental Health Strategy.
- (e) the preparatory work for the bid had been very valuable in encouraging partnership working and identifying gaps and duplication, and had been a worthwhile exercise, regardless of the bid outcome.

The Board welcomed the progress to date.

RESOLVED to note the report.

37 KEY MESSAGES AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

None.

38 FORWARD PLAN

Any partner organisations which have topics which they would like the Board to consider, should contact Dot Veitch, Partnership Support Officer at dot.veitch@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

RESOLVED to note the Forward Plan of items to be scheduled as follows:

Early Intervention Update
Small Steps Big Changes Big Lottery Update
CYPP Priority: Attainment
CYPP Priority: Attendance
CYPP Priority: Reducing Substance Misuse
CYPP Priority: Healthy Living
CYPP Priority: Stronger Safeguarding
Partner Update: Voluntary Sector and Secondary Education