

NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES

of meeting held on **27 MARCH 2013** at

Loxley House from 4.02 pm to 5.27pm

✓ indicates present at meeting

✓ Councillor David Mellen	Chair of the Board and - Portfolio Holder for Children's Services)))	
Ian Curryer	- Chief Executive)	
Councillor Jon Collins	- Leader)	
✓ Chris Wallbanks	- Programme Manager Early Intervention and Partnerships	) )	Nottingham City Council
✓ Jon Rea	- Engagement and Participation Lead Officer))	
✓ Candida Brudenell	- Interim Corporate Director Children and Families))	
Dawn Smith	- Chief Operating Officer	)	NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group
Angela Horsley	- Clinical Lead, Assistant Director Children, Young People, Families and Health Improvement	) ) )	Nottingham Children's Hospital Nottingham CityCare Partnership
✓ Phyllis Brackenbury	- Senior Advisor,	)	Young People's Learning Agency
Paula Webber	- Chief Superintendent	)	Nottinghamshire Police
✓ Simon Nickless	Chair, CONGA (City of Nottingham Governors' Association))))	
Wendy Smith	- Head Teacher, Rosehill School (Special School representation))))	
Andy Sloan	- Head Teacher, Nottingham Nursery School and Training Centre	) ) )	Nottingham Schools
Jill Robey	- Head Teacher, Rise Park Primary School))	
✓ Karen Slack	- Head Teacher, Hadden Park High School))	
✓ Gareth Owen	- Independent Chair of	)	Local Safeguarding Children Board
Paul Burnett	- District Operations Manager	)	JobCentre Plus
✓ Anne Danvers (represented by Paul Phillipson))	

✓ Stephen McLaren	- Urban Angel Project Manager	- On behalf of the Community and Voluntary Sector
Mike Butler	- Chief Executive, Djanogly Learning Trust	- Nottingham Academies
Malcolm Cowgill	- Principal, South Nottingham College	- Further Education
Jean Pardoe	- Chief Executive	- Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Futures
✓ Nigel Hill (represented by Claire Balmer)	- Director	- Nottinghamshire Probation Trust
✓ Holly White))
Uzair Hashmi	) Youth Cabinet	) Youth Council
✓ Natalie Robinson))
Darrell Redmond	- Nottingham Equal	

Also in attendance

Lynne McNiven	- Public Health	
Katy Ball	- Head of Early Intervention and Market Development)
Mandy Goodenough	- Systematic Social Work Lead)
Dot Veitch	- Partnership Support Officer	) Nottingham City Council
Zena West	- Constitutional Services Officer)

30 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from:

- Mike Butler
- Councillor Jon Collins
- Teresa Cope
- Ann Danvers
- Nigel Hill
- Peter Moyes
- Jean Pardoe
- Jill Robey
- Wendy Smith

31 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interests were made.

32 MINUTES

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 December be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

33 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN PERFORMANCE REVIEW - QUARTER 3, 2012/13

Candida Brudenell, Corporate Director Children and Families, introduced a presentation and report to the Board, which included the following key points:

- safeguarding services continued to show good performance. The number of children in care continued to increase, but performance against targets was improving and there had been a positive inspection of Nottingham's group home model;
- Family Support Strategy and Pathway continued to be implemented, though there was some discussion as to how young people would enter the system;
- teenage pregnancy rates and youth related crime continued to fall, whilst educational attainment continued to rise across all key stages, and youth NEET (people not in education, employment or training) levels remained comparable with previous years and bucked national trends;
- there was huge demand for support services for children and young people of some kind, an above average number of children in care had an unhealthy weight, and there was a developing issue relating to CAF (Common Assessment Framework) and partnership referrals;
- school absence figures for primary and secondary schools in Nottingham ranked amongst the worst in the country. The Local Authority's ability to influence schools under current educational systems (such as new governance arrangements presented by academies, free schools, studio schools) was becoming diminished.

Arising from discussion, the following issues were raised:

- there had been rumours that CAFs were to be replaced by the new Priority Family Assessments, and as such many organisations were starting to phase them out. It was important that all members of the Partnership re-iterated the message that CAFs and Priority Family Assessments would work together, and the Priority Family Assessment was equivalent to a family-wide CAF;
- although schools often became the lead partner for CAFs they weren't necessarily the most appropriate party to act as lead. Meetings had been arranged with partners to discuss cases, and only the school representative and parents were present at the meetings, so the schools became the lead partner by default even where it was not appropriate. Schools were still keen to work with the Local Authority and be part of a City-wide Partnership.

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Candida Brudenell be recorded, and that the contents of the presentation and report be noted.

34 PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING FOR SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Lynne McNiven, Consultant in Public Health, introduced a report to the Board, which included the following key points:

- the school nursing function, which provided a health service for children aged between 5 and 19 (whether they attended school or not) would be commissioned by Nottingham City Council from Monday 1 April 2013, when Public Health would become its responsibility;
- health profiling of school clusters, including profiling of what services were provided and what opportunities there were for improvement, was almost complete. Staff profiling would take place to achieve value for money and assess skill levels;
- views had been sought from the main stakeholders, including nurses, professionals, children and parents.

Arising from discussion, the following issues were raised:

- vacancy issues were still ongoing, with each vacancy having a high impact with 53 members of staff for a school population of 40,000. Recruiting was problematic due to a national shortage of workers and increased restrictions on who could go into school nursing required by the Department of Health. An absence or change of nurse often resulted in an increase in absences or pregnancy rates amongst the students, and Headteachers felt it was important that nurses be based within schools to have an increased presence;
- the Partnership felt it would be beneficial to commission a larger service, with a nurse for each school, and as the Local Authority would be commissioning the service it was something the Partnership may have some influence over. The workforce was small considering the growing number of children and the nurses increased involvement in CAFs.

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Lynne McNiven be recorded, and that the contents of the report be noted.

35 KEY MESSAGES AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Candida Brudenell, Corporate Director Children and Families, provided further information on the Safeguarding Inspection, which included the following key points:

- a new process was due to be introduced for Safeguarding Inspections from 1 April 2013 as a result of the Monroe review. The new model had a multi-agency approach, rather than a focus purely on social care, and looked at the whole offer of early help even before the point where a child may need social care;

- the new approach would also look at points at which things could have been done differently to change the outcome. Focus Groups would cease to exist and real cases would be analysed from start to finish. Staff knowledge of the pathway would also be assessed;
- the multi-agency aspect of the new inspection regime had proved problematic in trial runs, and a pause had been placed on the new methodology, which was likely to be re-introduced around September 2013. In the meantime the existing regime still applied, with the Local Authority as the lead partner.
- The last inspection of Nottingham City Council was three years ago, and the next inspection was likely to be in the next year, and could take place under the new or the old regime. Representatives would be invited to planning meetings to prepare for an inspection.

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Candida Brudenell be recorded, and that the information provided be noted.

36 A POSITIVE START FOR EVERY FAMILY – TRANSFORMING HEALTH VISITING

Phyllis Brackenbury, Assistant Director Children, Young People, Families and Health Improvement, introduced a presentation to the Board, which included the following key points:

- in response to a national shortage of Health Visitors, in 2010 the Government proposed to expand and modernise the service. The number of Health Visitors increased by 4,300, and the importance of family, parenting and early intervention were emphasised;
- the modernisation programme was based on the evidence of the impact of early brain development (starting during pregnancy) on whole life outcomes, the impact of early years on adult health, and the impact of parenting in early years on life chances;
- the key messages and objectives were on the importance of prevention, early help and intervention, parenting support, improving attachment between parents and children, nutrition advice and guidance, and the Healthy Child Programme 0-5 years;
- the Healthy Child Programme was a four tier family offer, with tiers for a general provision for all families delivered by Health Visitors, community teams and General Practitioners (Universal), a rapid response tier for families needing specific help, i.e. for problems with weaning, sleeping, maternal mental health and attachment concerns (Universal Plus), a tier for working with families with complex issues over time where there may be safeguarding issues or children with complex needs (Universal Partnership Plus), and a tier to help families navigate the system and access other help that may be available to them (Community – Public Health);

- Nottingham City would increase numbers of Health Visitors by 123% and target areas of greatest need. There was currently a high caseload (an average of 396 cases per Health Visitor) and high levels of complex safeguarding caseloads in Nottingham. Every Health Visitor currently had a student attached to them, with 35 in training this year and an additional 35 to be trained next year;

Arising from discussion, the following issues were raised:

- Health Visitors used to have a very prescribed idea of their role, now they were trying to engage in the wider community offer and maximise connections to other programmes and more intensive help where needed, and it was a very positive service;
- the increased support and expansion of the Health Visitor service showed a marked contrast with the School Nursing programme, and hopefully it would raise expectations and help to drive forward improvement in the School Nursing programme as well.

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Phyllis Brackenbery be recorded, and that the contents of the presentation be noted.

37 SIGNS OF SAFETY – A SOLUTION FOCUSED APPROACH

Mandy Goodenough, Systematic Social Work Lead, introduced a presentation to the Board, which included the following key points:

- Signs of Safety was a new approach to working with children and families, based on a publication from Australia. It was a strength based solution focused approach, maintaining a focus on a child's safety, which recognized that all families have signs of safety;
- the approach asked families to offer their opinions on what was working well, what they were worried about and what needed to happen for the child to be safe enough for the case to be closed. It set out clear expectations for the family. It also sought views from the child about their worries, their dreams, and what aspects of their life they considered to be good;
- Signs of Safety was being embedded through all processes and staff were being trained, ready for launch in June 2013.

Arising from discussion, the following issues were raised:

- the Voluntary Sector would be invited to the launch in June;
- it was felt that examining the positives would be beneficial and empowering for families, and that problems and expectations could become clearer under the new system

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Mandy Goodenough be recorded, and that the contents of the presentation be noted.

38 STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING INTENTIONS

Chris Wallbanks, Programme manager, Early Interventions Partnerships, introduced a report to the Board, which included the following key points:

- a set of Strategic Commissioning Reviews were proposed in order to deliver key priorities and Big Ticket programmes from the Health and Well-being Strategy, Public Health, Adult Social Care and Children's Teams;
- the two main reviews revolved around 0-5 Years Early Help and 6-18 Years Child Well-being – Developing Well. Priorities were assessed for financial or other demand pressures, degree of link to Council and wider City priorities, quality of outcomes for citizens currently achieved and which areas needed further scrutiny, and areas yet to be subject of a strategic commissioning review programme;
- after an initial scoping meeting, partners would be invited to an ideas generation workshop, which would produce ideas for a steering group. This in turn would lead to production of a "Dragon's Den" style business case for changes.

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Chris Wallbanks be recorded, and that the contents of the report be noted.

39 BIG LOTTERY: FULFILLING LIVES: A BETTER START

Katy Ball, Head of Early Intervention and Market Development, introduced a report to the Board, which included the following key points:

- a new initiative entitled "Fulfilling Lives: A Better Start" would deliver awards for 3 to 5 areas of between £30 million and £50 million each, lasting for up to ten years, from 2014. This would be a great opportunity for Nottingham as an Early Intervention City;
- a working group had met in January and February 2013 to gather information in support of an application. Data was used to identify specific areas of need which matched the objectives of the Big Lottery. Final geographical areas selected at this point were Aspley, Bulwell, St Anns and the Arboretum, which would expand over the 10 years of the project;
- Nottingham CityCare Partnership presented information on their organisation and were chosen as lead organisation for the bid partnership;
- between 30 and 50 areas would be selected within the next week to prepare a full stage one application.

RESOLVED that the Partnership's thanks to Katy Ball be recorded, and that the contents of the report be noted.

40 OLYMPIC LEGACY: PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE) FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN NOTTINGHAM: THE WORK OF SCHOOL SPORT NOTTINGHAM

The contents of the report were noted with no discussion.

41 FORWARD PLAN

RESOLVED

(1) that any additional items for the forward plan be forwarded to Dot Veitch;

(2) that the following be considered for inclusion at future meetings:

- **Safeguarding Inspection**
- **Big Lottery update: Fulfilling Lives: A Better Start;**
- **CAF wider discussion;**
- **CYPP Priority: Attendance;**
- **Priority Families;**
- **Strategic Commissioning Reviews;**
- **Early Intervention – the next five years.**