

## **Statutory Officers Report for Health and Wellbeing Board**

### **Corporate Director of Children and Adult Services**

**May 2015**

#### **Changes to Adult Social Care Structure**

There have been some changes to our staffing structure within Adult Social Care over the past few months.

- Linda Sellars is now Director for Quality and Change and remains Chief Social Worker for Adults.
- Julie Sanderson is now in the new post of Head of Adult Safeguarding, and will provide leadership within the LA in relation to our Safeguarding Adult Board function as well as the operational duties in this area.
- Gemma Poulter is the Head of Integration and will lead on our integration agenda, particularly where significant transformation is required.
- Wendy Griffiths, our Head of Commercial Services will take on a broader portfolio to include change more widely across the Directorate; her job title is now Head of Commercial Services and Change.
- Oliver Bolam and Paul Haigh retain their roles as Head of Specialist Services and Head of Social Care Provision respectively.

#### **Fostering and Adoption**

Over the past year we have increased the number of adoptions completed. In 2013 – 2014 we completed 43 adoptions to secure permanence for some of our most vulnerable children and young people and in 2014 – 2015 we completed 70. Adoption is the aim for many of our children and young people in care as it provides them with a stable home and gives them a better chance of achieving positive outcomes later in life. It also helps us manage pressure on our budgets as it reduces the cost of residential care and fostering.

During February we worked with other Councils across the region to develop an advert appealing for Foster Carers in the East Midlands. Nine Councils from across the region, including us, worked together on an advertisement looking for people to offer a home to one, or more, of over 4000 children and young people in the East Midlands in need of Foster Care. In Nottingham alone we have almost 600 young people who are currently looked after, whether by Foster Carers, in residential homes or in placements with family members. More information is available on the City Council website [here](#); if you missed the advert you can view it via the link. If you're interested in fostering a child or young person please visit the fostering pages on our website [here](#); you can get information on the different types of fostering role, the young people in need of a home and the support you'll get from us.

#### **Education Improvement Board**

Over the past few months we have had a re-vamp of our Education Improvement Board. The Board is now Chaired by Professor Sir David Greenaway, Vice Chancellor of the University of Nottingham and we have a new Programme Manager for the Board, David Anstead, who's been working with Schools and Academies in Nottingham City for the past year helping to improve attainment and behaviour. The Board are currently developing their

scope, their ways of working and looking at how the Board will operate going forward.

### **Early Help, Safeguarding and Family Support Delivery Plan**

A new Delivery Plan has been produced to help make clear where responsibilities lie for Children's Social Care and Vulnerable Children and Families. The plan is a quick guide to who we are and what we do, outlining our focus, vision, priorities, principles and commitment over the next 12 months. We'll be rolling this out and embedding this across teams in the next few months.

### **Project Evolution**

The Project Evolution team have been working on selecting a new case management system to replace CareFirst and the financial systems linked to it to provide a more joined up view of the families in Nottingham who require social care.

The project aims to capture high quality case records, reduce duplication and ensure it's easier to share and report appropriate information. In the long term we're hoping it will also improve connectivity with partner agencies and their data/recording systems.

Over the next 12 months there'll be a programme of data-cleansing activities across the systems starting with CareFirst and Castle.

### **Independent Chair – Safeguarding Board's**

Paul Burnett our Independent Chair for both our Adult's and Children's Safeguarding Boards is unfortunately leaving us in the summer. Paul has done an amazing job over the past three years and we will be really sad to see him go.

We are currently out to recruitment for separate Board Chairs:

Childrens:

<http://jobs.eastmidlandssharedservices.org/Nottingham/Nottingham/social-care-children-service-independent-chair-nottingham-city-safeguarding-children-board/23432.job>

Adults:

<http://jobs.eastmidlandssharedservices.org/Nottingham/Nottingham/social-care-adult-service-independent-chair-nottingham-city-safeguarding-adults-board/23433.job>

### **Dolly Parton's Imagination Library**

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library was launched by Dolly Parton in 1995 in her hometown of Tennessee. Her vision was to promote a love of reading among her county's pre-school children by providing them with a specially selected book each month from birth until the age of 5. By 2000 the scheme was so popular that the programme was made available for replication to any community that was willing to partner with Dolly to support it in their local area. Statistics and independent reports in the US have shown that the programme improves early childhood literacy for children enrolled in the

programme. Further studies have shown improved scores during early literacy testing. The Dolly Parton Imagination Library aims to promote a love of reading to pre-school children by delivering them a book every month from birth until the age of 5. It has been operating in some parts of Nottingham for three years. The scheme costs £2.04 per child per month.

In June 2014 Nottingham was successful in securing £45m from the Big Lottery for investment in improving lives for children under the age of 3 in the four most deprived areas in the City (Aspley, Arboretum, Bulwell and St Anns). The partnership bid for the Nottingham Programme 'Small Steps Big Changes' (SSBC) is led by the Nottingham City Care Partnership. One of the activities that SSBC will deliver is Enhanced Supported Book-Gifting and the Dolly Parton Imagination Library is an important part of this. This additional funding will help us with expansion of the programme across the City by providing funding for the four SSBC wards. Within these wards, a total of 11,000 children could receive these books over the 10 years of the programme.

The remaining funding needed to reach this goal of full eligibility is being generated by donations from the City Council workforce through a workplace giving scheme and through promoting a one off giving donation scheme externally.

For more information and to donate please visit  
[www.dollybooksnottingham.org](http://www.dollybooksnottingham.org)