



Future arrangements of the Children's Trust – Revised paper Following the Children's Trust Board meeting held on 8 July 2015

Item 4 (a)

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1. Purpose / recommendation

This paper has been updated to reflect the agreed changes made by the Children's Trust Executive Partnership members present at the meeting held on 8th July 2015

2. Background

To comply with the Children's Act 2004 the Children's Trust have to evidence that they are improving the wellbeing of children in relation to:

- Physical, mental and emotional wellbeing
- Protection from harm and neglect
- Education, training and recreation
- Contribution by them to society
- Social and economic wellbeing

Work must have regard for the importance of parents and others caring for children.

Whilst the County Council has responsibility for reporting on this, other statutory organisations have a duty to work in partnership to achieve positive outcomes.

As of 1 June 2015, Cambridgeshire County Council will cease the funding (currently £34k per annum) for the Children's Trust, which includes:

- Children's Trust Manager (0.65FTE) post
- Funding for the annual conference
- Annual funding support to Area Partnerships
- Resourcing costs associated to the Board meetings and development days eg: venues

In addition, Cambridgeshire County Council currently funds the Area Partnership Manager post which is due to end on 31 March 2016. This proposal refers to the changes to the current Children's Trust Board arrangements. It is proposed that the Area Partnerships will continue.

Following the meeting in November 2014, the Children's Trust Board agreed that a working group should be established to discuss possible options for the future of the Children's Trust. The working group met twice and draft proposals were discussed at the Board meeting on 29 April. Further consideration was given at the inaugural meeting of the revised Children's Trust Executive Group (now renamed Executive Partnership). The



model proposed at this meeting is outlined below

3. Future model

The future model will consist of:

- A small Executive Partnership
- Annual meeting
- All three Area Partnerships

The current Children's Trust Board should be disbanded in its current form. The following structure and functions will be established, which are shown in Appendix 1:

Children's Trust Executive Partnership (CTEP)

The Executive Partnership will meet twice a year to oversee the work of the Area Partnerships, work it co-ordinates and to provide some synergy between common work areas.

Membership: Five members comprising the Chair of each Area Partnership (3), Executive Director, Children, Families and Adults Services, Cambs County Council and Lead Member for Children's Services, Cambs County Council. Other partners may attend by invitation as the work programme dictates.

Support Required:

- Democratic support to arrange and minute these meetings (Democratic Services, CCC)
- Additional support for organising annual event (CCC to identify)

Role / function:

- Share learning and good practice
- Support the Area Partnership work areas in developing priorities
- Identifying needs, issues and opportunities for further partnership work
- Report annual progress of the Area Partnerships to the Health and Wellbeing Board .
- Receive an annual report on how Priority 1 of the Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2012-17 is being delivered by partners.
- Hosting the Children's Trust Annual event for all statutory organisations to attend

Reporting Line: Health and Wellbeing Board and Area Partnership Groups



Area Partnerships:

The Area Partnerships will develop initiatives to be delivered locally to benefit children, young people and families within that geographical area.

Attendance: to remain the same in its current form with local representatives from various organisations

Support Required:

- Administrative support for meetings (individual partnerships to make arrangements)
- Area Partnership Manager - developing projects (funded to 31 March 2016 – the need for continued dedicated support to the Area Partnerships under this model has been identified and it will be necessary to review how this provision might be resourced)
- Cambridgeshire County Council will coordinate the annual report to the Health and Wellbeing Board

Role / function:

- Develop partnership work that enhances opportunities for children, young people and their families living within that area
- Develop and support key projects to be delivered locally
- Monitor progress and provide an annual report on progress and gaps to the Executive Partnership
- Escalate issues and barriers for resolution
- Highlight local trends and gaps within existing service provision
- Facilitate networking and collaborative working within a local context
- Identify any areas needing further support or action
- Review its work to see how it contributes to Priority 1 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy

Reporting Line: Children's Trust Executive Partnership



Children's Trust Executive Partnership Relationship with the Health and Wellbeing Board:

The Children's Trust Executive Partnership will oversee the co-ordination of the key work areas which contribute to Priority 1 of the Health and Wellbeing Board, 'Ensuring a positive start to life for children, young people and their families', including:

- Reporting annual progress of the Area Partnerships work in relation to priority 1 of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Undertaking to report back to the Area Partnerships on the Health and Wellbeing Board's response to the report on the Partnerships' work in relation to Priority 1. Delegated responsibility to respond to items, within the Priority 1 remit, as directed by the Health and Wellbeing Board

Children's Trust Executive Partnership relationship with the LSCB

This will be fulfilled by the Lead Councillor for Children's Services and the Executive Director: Children, Families and Adults Services who sit on both the LSCB and Children's Trust Executive Partnership.

4. Implications for partners

CCC contributions to the functioning of the Children's Trust Executive Partnership will be reduced but some limited funding and support will continue.

CCC will provide

- democratic officer support to the Children's Trust Executive Partnership;
- additional support for the annual event; and
- an annual report on progress towards Priority 1 of the Health and Well Being Board Action Plan.

Emphasis will need to focus on partners working together to lead or undertake work on behalf of the Area Partnerships.



5. Decisions:

At the Children's Trust Board meeting held on 29 April 2015, the following decisions were made.

- The proposed model was agreed, subject to an updated paper being reissued to all Board members electronically (CCC)
- A briefing note should be developed for the Health and Wellbeing Board (CCC)
- The first meeting of the Children's Trust Executive Partnership took place on 8 July 2015 to discuss:
 - Terms of reference
 - Detailed working arrangements

The changes recommended at the meeting held on 8 July have now been incorporated into this revised paper.

Appendix 1 – Governance Arrangements for the Children’s Trust

