



MINUTES

Date: 2 July 2014
 Time: 10.05am – 12.30pm
 Place: Sackville House, Cambourne

| Membership Board: | | Attendance | Apologies |
|--|---|------------|-----------|
| Statutory Members | | | |
| Councillor J Whitehead (Chairwoman) | Lead Councillor for Children's Services | Yes | |
| Adrian Loades | Executive Director: Children, Families and Adults (CFA) | Yes | |
| Dan Horn | District Councils' Officer | Yes | |
| Fiona Mortlock | Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) | No | Yes |
| DCI Mike Branston | Police | Yes | |
| John Budd | Probation | No | Yes |
| Annette Pottinger | Jobcentre Plus | No | |
| Other Partners | | | |
| Felicity Schofield | Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) | No | Yes |
| Ana Rita Nunes | Healthwatch | No | |
| Liz O'Donnell | CATCH and Cam Health Local Commissioning Group (LCG) | Yes | |
| Karen Parsons | Voluntary & Community Sector | Yes | |
| Jonathan Martin | Voluntary & Community Sector | Yes | |
| Caroline Derbyshire | Chair of Cambridgeshire Secondary Heads | No | Yes |
| Jenny Russon | Chair of Cambridgeshire Primary Heads | No | |
| Kim Taylor | Special Schools | Yes | |
| Susanne Stent | Further Education & Sixth Form College (rotating member) | Yes | |
| <i>To be confirmed</i> | Early Years Private, Voluntary & Independent sector | - | - |
| Carin Taylor | Area Partnership – East Cambs & Fenland | No | Yes |
| Mike Hill | Area Partnership – South Cambs & City | No | Yes |
| <i>To be confirmed</i> | Area Partnership – Huntingdonshire | - | - |
| Associated Members | | | |
| John Peberdy | Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (CCS) | No | Yes |
| Rachel Gomm | Cambridgeshire & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT) | No | Yes |
| Rachel Coyne | Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (Addenbrooke's) | | |
| Catherine Morgan | The Queen Elizabeth, Kings Lynn NHS Foundation Trust | | |
| Councillor B Chapman | Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority | | |
| Rick Hylton | Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service | | |
| Tracey Cogan | NHS England | | |

| Membership Board: | | Attendance | Apologies |
|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Substitute Members | | | |
| Jo Rooney | CCG | Yes | |
| Roz Morrison | Probation | Yes | |
| Neil Nineham | Jobcentre Plus | No | Yes |
| Josie Collier | LSCB | Yes | |

Officers: E de Zoete, S Ferguson, D Revens, A Smith, M Soper, M Teasdale, R Yule

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION

The Chairwoman, Councillor Whitehead, welcomed everyone to the meeting and all present introduced themselves. It was noted that Susanne Stent was representing the Huntingdonshire Area Partnership as well as FE colleges.

2. MINUTES – 30 April 2014

Agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairwoman.

3. ACTION LOG FROM 30 APRIL BOARD MEETING

Noted.

4. LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB) UPDATE

Received a report updating the Board on LSCB developments. Members noted that

- the recent Ofsted inspection of the Local Authority had included a review of the LSCB; the inspection report would be published on 1st August 2014
- the LSCB was participating in a pilot with the NSPCC and Tavistock Consulting, focussed on embedding the learning from local Serious Case Reviews and other multi-agency reviews. An outline of the pilot and a timetable of meetings for Local Practice Groups were circulated (attached as Appendix A and Appendix B); Board members were asked to promote attendance at Local Practice Group events.

Discussing the report, members

- asked that the Barnardo's domestic abuse risk assessment matrix be supplied by email with a covering summary, so that it could be more readily disseminated to colleagues in partner organisations [risk assessment available online at http://www.cambslscb.org.uk/user_controlled_lcms_area/uploaded_files/safeguarding_children_abused_through_domestic_violence_appendix_1_risk_assessment_matrix1.pdf]
- reported that a task and finish group, chaired by Richard Holland, Head of Children's Disability Services, was looking at the safeguarding of disabled children
- noted that there had recently been three apparently unrelated suicides of young women in a five-week period (there had been one such suicide last year, and none in the previous year) and reported that Public Health was undertaking work on training around suicide and self-harm
- noted that the LSCB proposed to conduct a themed review, drawing together CAMH (Child and Adolescent Mental Health), Public Health and LSCB work on suicide and self-harm; the review would include children and young people's views, and input from user groups
- urged that the further education colleges and VoiceAbility be included in the user groups contributing to the suicide and self-harm review.

Action

All

JC/FS

5. NATIONAL AND LOCAL UPDATE

Received a briefing note updating the Board on national and local developments, and received a local discussion paper and Department of Education and Department of Health presentation on implementing the SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) reforms.

Noted that

- steps were being taken to ensure that updates from the Area Partnerships would be available for Board meetings
- rather than just seeking to identify efficiencies, the Business Planning process for the coming years would need to consider how the Children's Trust collectively oversaw the making of savings, to ensure that the system as a whole continued to flourish and that savings neither created an unfilled gap in provision nor shunted costs from one agency to another
- under the Children and Families Act 2014, local authorities would be required to carry out a needs assessment for each young carer, and would also need to offer support; the Health and Wellbeing Board was due to receive a report on young carers at its meeting on 10 July 2014.

MT

Commenting on the update, members

- cautioned that many parents would expect all the SEND provisions to be fully implemented from the start; it was suggested that the Executive Director should write to schools explaining what the position was
- reported that further education colleges were still getting the names of pupils with SEND coming to them in September without any funding in place
- commented that the authority was again being expected to do more with consistently less funding
- noted that extensive staff training in the new SEND arrangements was taking place.

6. CAMBRIDGESHIRE DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND GROWTH

Received a presentation on the demographic change and growth occurring in Cambridgeshire, noting that slide 3 figures required updating for 2015/16 business planning, and that Cambridgeshire in recent years had received a lower reduction in spending power per head than urban authorities with a high level of deprivation [see www.cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk for demographic information on Cambridgeshire].

Discussing the presentation, members

- noted that the presentation assumed that thresholds for accessing services remained unchanged
- stressed the importance of working together to learn lessons from new developments in the county (Cambourne, Orchard Park and Loves Farm) to inform and improve how new communities were planned and supported
- drew attention to the need sometimes to invest to save, because investment in e.g. early years and primary schools work could have long-term benefits, and cited an example from youth offending, where an intervention had resulted in a reduction in offending, and a rise in offending when the intervention ceased
- commented that it was an inequality that more deprived communities were experiencing greater cuts in funding, thus increasing their deprivation.

The Board noted that work was being undertaken in the context of business planning to develop a strategic approach to tackling the consequences of demographic growth; the Board would receive a further report on the subject.

7. EARLY HELP PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

Received a report and presentation seeking the Board's input into the development of a joint early help strategy for Cambridgeshire, noting that it was a question of renegotiating the contract between communities and universal providers, and asking what the expectations should be across the early years sector. The Board was asked to consider where and how the strategy should be owned.

Discussing the strategy, members

- welcomed the approach, commenting that the amount of activity at the lowest of the four tiers varied widely across the county
- suggested that ownership of the strategy should not sit with the Children's Trust because there were fundamental questions involved that went beyond children's services, such as planning, housing and employment. The risk was that if it sat with the Children's Trust, the focus would be on children's issues, and the associated fundamental matters would not be addressed
- noted that the issues in the strategy were also the concern of the Public Service Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board; it would be helpful to have one strategic group as a champion of the whole strategy as a means of ensuring that the interfaces between different groups were working well
- pointed out that the strategy would also be going to the Children and Young People Committee and the Safeguarding Board, and that adults', children's and public health work all had a similar agenda of early intervention; just because one group was being suggested as champion of the strategy did not mean that other groups could not consider and contribute to it
- stressed the crucial role of nursery schools and children's centres in early intervention, particularly as many families were often living isolated away from their extended family, and the importance of helping communities to grow without always being dependent on external support
- commented that there was a balance to be struck between encouraging greater independence and providing sufficient support to prevent tragedies from occurring
- observing that the outcomes identified were largely education-orientated, suggested that it was also important to work to support young people's mental health
- pointed out that realistically, it was sometimes necessary to increase the amount of time spent working with people at the lowest of the four tiers, and to offer support beyond the period of immediate need
- reminded partners that it was necessary to work out how to learn from each other's collective experience of successful and unsuccessful working.

It was agreed

- a) that the Early Help Partnership Strategy would report to the Children's Trust Board in the interim
- b) to explore outside the meeting
 - i. the suggestion of holding a Board development day or half day, similar in structure and purpose to the Health and Wellbeing Board's development

days; a wider circle of participants could be invited and members would have the opportunity to discuss matters informally with each other

- ii. the covering report's suggestion of convening a task and finish group of representatives from partners to develop the discussion paper and initial ideas into a firmer set of proposals; this group could be convened in addition to or instead of a development day.

8. TOGETHER FOR FAMILIES UPDATE

Received an update report on the Together for Families (TFF) programme. Members noted that the Troubled Families Programme would be extended for a further five years from 2015; this second phase would, like the first, operate as a Payment By Results initiative, though it was not yet clear how targets would be set by local authority area.

Discussing the report, members

- queried how helpful the widening of categories of eligibility for the Troubled Families Programme would be; they were advised that colleagues in other authorities had found the original three categories very frustrating, because they ruled out families that professionals considered were troubled
- noted that nationally there was still lack of clarity about the measures to be used for payment by results; a range of indicators was being consulted on and could be circulated to members for information
- reported that the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) was developing work on datasets for vulnerable families, but that the Government was not joining up data between different public services. There was access to Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) data through Troubled Families, but Public Health had no access to the DWP, which meant that e.g. data on parental mental health – an important determinant for a family – was not available. It was pointed out that the DWP had overcome considerable obstacles to enable it to share data with Troubled Families. The Consultant in Public Health offered to pass on any comments about access to data to the relevant Department of Health lead
- commented that probation work often involved offenders with families who were affected by the offending; although information was passed to the relevant agency, it seemed that it was not always acted on because the family did not meet the criteria for intervention, and it often seemed difficult to get a response from the agency, except in cases raising obvious issues of child protection
- noted that TFF had been working with the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) and the Probation Service to develop clearer routes by which their staff could refer families. Probation was not the only area of work with adults to raise the question of how to access services for children; TFF was looking at how to improve advice and co-ordination between agencies, perhaps including use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF)
- pointed out that schools played an important part in supporting children in troubled situations; they received a lot of intelligence from the public and from voluntary agencies, and headteachers were always willing to take calls from anybody with concerns about their pupils' welfare
- commented that the Board was charged with ensuring that people and agencies shared information. However, there was great public suspicion about electronic databases, although what was usually sought – as in the recent case of a national health database – was information about trends, not about individuals.

AS

EdZ

9. CHILDREN'S TRUST FORWARD PLAN 2014

Noted the agenda plan to November 2014, with the addition of Business Planning to the agendas for September and November. It was suggested that the delivery of children's health services could be an appropriate topic for a development day.

It was agreed to explore arrangements for a development day, either by extending the time on 10th September or by seeking another date, taking into account the conference in early November and the Board meeting already planned for 26th November 2014.

**MT/
DR**

10. FOR INFORMATION PAPERS

Area Partnership minutes to follow:

- East Cambridgeshire & Fenland – 25 June 14 (Appendix C)
- Huntingdonshire – 18 June 14 (Appendix D)
- South Cambridgeshire & Cambridge City – 3 July 14 (Appendix E).

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Noted that the Board's next meetings were planned for 10am on Wednesdays 10th September and 26th November 2014, venues to be arranged.

Chairwoman