

Time commenced – 6.00pm  
Time finished – 9.02pm

**Children and Young People Board  
28 October 2014**

Present      Councillor Whitby (Chair)  
                 Councillors Care, Eldret and Steve Grundy and Bev Stewart

**17/14    Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hezelgrave, Keith, Nawaz and Williams.

**18/14    Late items introduced by the Chair**

There were none.

**19/14    Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**20/14    Call-in**

There were no items.

**21/14    Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 26 August 2014 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

**22/14    Forward Plan**

The Board considered the Forward Plan published on 23 September 2014. Members wanted an opportunity to consider and comment upon the following item:

- Item 14/14 – Home to School/College Transport Consultation

**Resolved to recommend that Forward Plan Item 14/14 – Home to School/College Transport Consultation be brought to a future meeting of the Children and Young People Board for consideration and comment.**

**23/14    Darley Barn – future delivery of Outdoor Education in Derby City**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Darley Barn – future delivery of Outdoor Education in Derby City.

Members received an update on the future operation of Darley Barn Outdoor Education Centre, the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in the city of Derby and the decision to work in partnership with Derbyshire County Council's Outdoor Education Service, for them to deliver a full service at Darley Barn for city children and young people.

It was reported that the current Derby City Council service was run by the Children and Young People's department from Darley Barn, which was a purpose built National Lottery funded facility on the edge of Darley Park. It was further reported that the service owned equipment, for example to run expeditions and canoeing, and that this required on-going regular essential maintenance to ensure safe operation. Members noted that the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and adventurous activities of this nature were regulated by strict licencing and that there were also substantial Health and Safety requirements.

It was reported that the service had seen year on year budget reductions and it now only had one full-time worker and volunteers. It was further reported that there was no budget for essential equipment maintenance. Members noted that the service had a charging facility for delivery of activities and rental of the barn, however, income generation was not sufficient to cover the cost of operation and there was a forecast budget pressure for 2013/14 of £17k, plus licencing and maintenance costs.

A representative of Voices in Action stated that there should be some acknowledgement in the report that they had been consulted and the outcome of that consultation. Members agreed that reports should evidence active participation of young people across the city and what the result of that consultation was.

Members discussed the costs of caretaking at Darley Barn and suggested that users could access the building/clean up themselves. It was reported that induction training was offered for opening up the building. It was also reported that spare keys for the building were very expensive to obtain. Members suggested that regular users could be charged for a set of keys.

#### **Resolved:**

- 1. to acknowledge the progress made in the development of a partnership arrangement with Derbyshire County Council Outdoor Education Service for the delivery of Outdoor Education and The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Derby City;**
- 2. to agree, as part of the development, that the service achieves a cost neutral position by April 2016, with a proportionate subsidy reduction in 2014/15 and 2015/16;**
- 3. to note the requirement for continued short-term subsidy until the cost neutral position can be achieved;**
- 4. to agree that future reports should evidence any consultation with young people across the city and what the result of that consultation was; and**

**5. to agree that the provision of keys for regular users be explored.**

## **24/14 Infant Free School Meals – impact on school budgets**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Infant Free School Meals – impact on school budgets. The report was presented by the Head of Quality Standards and Performance 0-19.

It was reported that the Pupil Premium was introduced in April 2011 and was extra funding for schools which was allocated to children who were looked after by the local authority, those who have been eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) at any point in the last six years (also known as 'Ever 6' FSM) and for children whose parents were currently serving in the armed forces. It was further reported that the purpose of the funding was to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.

Members noted that in September 2014 the Government introduced the Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) policy which provided free meals for all infant pupils. It was reported that this policy prompted concerns from headteachers and governors that some parents would not complete the eligibility forms which were needed to secure the 2015/16 Pupil Premium funding.

It was further reported that officers from the School Improvement Team had provided schools with a range of resources to ensure that all eligible parents continued to complete the necessary forms. Members noted that this strategy was aimed at preventing a reduction in the Pupil Premium element of school budgets.

It was reported that headteachers, Chairs of Governors and business managers had been made aware of the resources available, through termly meetings and newsletters.

It was further reported that work had taken place between the Council's Benefits Team and the School Improvement Team to make sure that parents were aware of the importance of continued eligibility claiming.

**Resolved to continue to support schools in ensuring that all eligible parents complete FSM applications.**

## **25/14 Update on key commissioning projects**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Update on key commissioning projects. The report was presented by the Director of Commissioning.

Members received an update on progress against the integrated commissioning priorities. It was reported that the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children Family and Learners Board had agreed a set of 8 commissioning intentions and that these were core to an integrated commissioning approach, and central to the

commissioning strategy which was delivered across the local authority including Public Health, and the Southern Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group (SDCCG).

It was further reported that the work was managed through an integrated governance structure reporting to the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children Family and Learners Board and that it was informed by 5 key principles:

1. A focus on outcomes.
2. Involving children and young people and partners in service development.
3. Embedding integrated commissioning.
4. Early intervention and prevention.
5. Ensuring children and young people receive the right service at the right time.

Members noted that key themes across the commissioning priorities included early intervention, ensuring value for money, managing demand and expectation appropriately with parents and carers and creating a culture of innovation and evidence based practice. It was reported that the recommissioning of children's health services interfaced with all the commissioning priorities and that provider forums held between July and September 2014 had reflected the commissioning themes to ensure the market had a complete overview of the local context for children and young people, whilst ensuring a focus on improved outcomes within the specification development.

**Resolved to receive an update from the Director of Commissioning on the progress made on key commissioning projects.**

## 26/14 Summary Report of the delivery of Multi Systemic Therapy (MST) from February 2013 to July 2014

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Summary report of the delivery of Multi Systemic Therapy (MST) from February 2013 to July 2014. The report was presented by the Head of Commissioning.

It was reported that MST had been running in Derby since February 2013 through the second round of evidence based programmes through Department for Education (DFE) and Department of Health (DOH). It was further reported that the team was provided by Action for Children through a 4 year contract to 2016 with annual costs of £330k. Members noted that the service was delivering successfully against the model, achieving outcomes including at 6 and 12 months by maintaining young people at home and out of care and/or custody. It was reported that of all 16 young people who had been discharged from MST after 6 months, all were still living at home and all 7 discharged after 12 months were also still at home. It was further reported that there were less young people 11–17 years entering care in 2014/15 compared with the baseline year 2011/12. Members noted that there were potential future opportunities to commission this service jointly with the Derbyshire County Council subject to funding being agreed

by both authorities.

It was reported that MST was one example of an evidenced based programme and it would not be appropriate for all young people either of level or approach. It was further reported that Derby needed to build a menu of evidence based provision to support parents and children and avoid out of home placement and spend on high cost resource. Members noted that there were also opportunities to do this in relation to parenting with phase 2 of Priority Families.

It was reported that it was important to commit to evidence based approaches both to improve outcomes but also to champion Derby as an authority which appeared confident in investing in models that supported young people becoming successful adults and parents themselves.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to note the progress with Multi Systemic Therapy (MST), including the future opportunities for commissioning the service with Derbyshire to support sustainability;**
- 2. to receive a further report in 6 months time; and**
- 3. to acknowledge the success of MST.**

## **27/14 Priority Families (PF) – Expanded programme 2015 - 2020**

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Priority Families (PF) – Expanded Programme 2015 – 2020. The report was presented by the Priority Families Coordinator.

It was reported that in April 2012, the Government launched the Troubled Families Programme; a £448 million scheme to incentivise local authorities and their partners to turn around the lives of 120,000 troubled families by May 2015. It was further reported that the current programme worked with families where children were not attending school, young people were committing crime, families were involved in anti-social behaviour and adults were out of work.

Members noted that the national programme was making strong progress and, as at the end of May 2014, had already turned around nearly 53,000 families. It was reported that the Troubled Families programme would be expanded to work with 400,000 more families from 2015 to 2020, with £200m funding for 2015 to 2016.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to note achievements in Phase 1; and**
- 2. to understand the process for National Roll out of Phase 2.**

## **28/14 Derby Child and Poverty Strategy - Update**

The Board received a report of the Chief Executive on Derby Child and Poverty Strategy – Update. The report was presented by the Head of Performance and Improvement.

It was reported that the Derby Child and Family Poverty Strategy (DCFPS) was a partnership strategy owned by the Derby Child and Family Poverty Commission (DCFPC) and aimed to tackle the causes of poverty in the city by taking action across three themes:

1. Mitigate – addressing the immediate causes of poverty and the short term impact on children and families.
2. Movement – moving people out of poverty.
3. Breaking the cycle – addressing the causes of inter-generational poverty.

It was further reported that the focus of the DCFPC's work to date had been in areas that came under the Mitigate and Movement themes and that this was because there were already strategies in place in the city to tackle the areas of action under the Breaking the Cycle theme including Early Years Support and Intervention, Inspiring Young People – Raising Attainment Levels and Improving Work Readiness of Young People. Members noted that Inspiring Young People - Raising Attainment Levels and Improving Work Readiness of Young people were a priority for the city of Derby and Neighbourhood Partnership as set out in the Derby Plan and the focus of the Leadership Board; in conjunction with the Derby Renaissance Board and the Children, Families and Learners Board.

It was reported that since it was established in March 2013, the DCFPC had made significant progress and had an impact in a number of areas for action, including:

- extending the food bank donation network;
- Derby City Council adopting a minimum income level;
- the introduction of the iChoose energy scheme;
- successfully bidding for funding for a joint working initiative between credit unions/NHS in baby clinics; and
- a co-located multi agency partnership advice hub in the Council House bringing together relevant advice and support.

Members noted that the DCFPC would soon commence two new work streams:

- a review of child care provision in the city; and
- developing a Financial Inclusion Strategy.

Members requested further information on:

1. How many employers were paying the Living Wage.
2. The Green Deal and reduction in fuel costs.
3. Financial inclusion/increasing the availability of affordable banking and Credit Unions.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to note the progress the DCFPC has made in implementing the DCFPS;**

2. to note the action the DCFPC is planning to take to tackle the causes of poverty in the city; and
3. that an update report be brought to a future meeting of the Children and Young People Board.

## 29/14 Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers – self-assessment and improvement plan

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers – self-assessment and improvement plan. The report was presented by the Strategic Director of Children and Young people and the Service Director, Early Intervention and Integrated Safeguarding.

It was reported that in April 2014 the Strategic Director of Children and Young People and the Improvement Partner for Children and Young People attended the Board to brief members on the single social care inspection framework.

It was further reported that the framework was introduced in November 2013 and at the end of August 2014, 31 authorities had been inspected under the framework, with the largest proportion being judged as 'requires improvement'.

Members noted that Ofsted would inspect all local authorities on a three-year cycle under the new framework and that making sure that staff and Members were briefed on the requirements of the framework and the associated judgement areas was critical to Derby's preparations and a 'good' outcome.

It was reported that the inspection framework would also assess whether Derby was meeting its corporate parenting responsibilities and Member awareness of this was essential.

It was further reported that to support preparations for an inspection, officers had completed a self-assessment against the key lines of enquiry in the inspection framework. Members noted that linked to this, previous inspection recommendations from the Safeguarding and Looked After Children inspection (May 2011) and the Child Protection inspection (December 2012) had been reviewed and built into the supporting improvement plan.

### **Resolved:**

1. to note the report; and
2. to note the presentation.

## 30/14 Annual Complaints Report

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People on Annual Complaints Report. The report was presented by the Head of Children's Quality Assurance.

Members noted that the report provided information about complaints received in relation to Children's Social Care during the 12 months between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 under the complaints and representatives procedures established through the Local Authority Social Services complaints (England) Regulations, 2006.

It was reported that despite an increase in numbers of children and families receiving a service, there had been a reduction in the number of complaints, currently representing 0.87% of the total. It was further reported that the majority of complaints were resolved at stage 1, only one from 2013/14 went on to appeal/stage 2 of the procedure. Members noted that 65% of complaints were resolved within timescales, reflecting the complexity of some issues and the activity addressed to resolving at stage 1.

It was reported that most complaints related to conduct and attitude of staff, followed by quality of service, lack of communication and decisions. Members noted that the report identified learning and action which had taken place during the year and made recommendations.

Members agreed that the report should include numbers rather than percentages, the numbers of concerns resolved before they became complaints and more context about the LAGAN system. Members also agreed that the following years complaints report should include some benchmarking.

**Resolved:**

- 1. to receive the report and endorse publication on the Council's website;**
- 2. to agree that the report should include numbers rather than percentages, the numbers of concerns resolved before they became complaints and more context about the LAGAN system; and**
- 3. to agree that the following years complaints report should include some benchmarking.**

## **31/14 Work Programme and Topic Reviews**

**Resolved to defer the item to the next meeting of the Children and Young People Board.**

MINUTES END