



minutes

meeting **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT MEADOW HOUSE, MANSFIELD

date **15 JUNE 2009**

Present: Anthony May (Nottinghamshire County Council) in the Chair, Steve Edwards (Nottinghamshire County Council), Sue Fenton (NAVO), Danny Fox (Young People's Board), Brenda Howard (Nottinghamshire PCT), Helen Jebb (Nottinghamshire Police), Angela Main (Broxtowe Borough Council), Helen Longland (Government Office for the East Midlands – critical friend), Ruth Marlow (Mansfield District Council), Jean Pardoe (Connexions Nottinghamshire), John Hemstock (Nottinghamshire County Council – minutes)

ACTION

The Board meeting began at 5.00 pm

1a County Council Election update and Chair of the Partnership Board.

Anthony May gave a brief update on the implications for the Board of the recent County Council elections.

The Board heard that the new Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services was Councillor Phillip Owen. Councillor Owen would be confirmed in place at the Council meeting on 18 June 2009. He would take up the Chair of the Partnership Board on that date hence he was not able to chair this meeting.

Anthony May was therefore in the Chair

Councillor Owen would be supported by two spokespeople, Councillor Lynn Sykes who would cover Adolescent Services and Councillor Alan Clarke who would cover Social Care.

It was agreed that details of the new cabinet positions and spokespeople together with opposition spokespeople would be circulated to Board members when confirmed.

**Anthony
May/John
Hemstock**

1b Outgoing Chair

Anthony circulated a note from Councillor Bosnjak thanking board members for their work and support and wishing them best wishes for the future.

1c Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Ian Ackerley (Nottinghamshire Police), Frank Horsley (Ashfield District Council), Ruth Hyde (Broxtowe Borough Council), Simon Smith (Nottinghamshire Healthcare) Keith Tansley (Gedling Borough Council) and Sheila Wright (Nottinghamshire Probation Service)

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2009 and matters arising from the minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2009 were accepted as an accurate record.

Matters arising were as follows:

Statutory Guidance on Children's Trusts

Anthony referred to the discussion at the last board meeting on how best to engage GP's with the Children's Trust and said a meeting had been planned with Brenda Howard and himself for 8 July 2009, to develop an approach on this matter.

3. Children and Young People's Plan 2009/11

Les Cowling, Head of Strategic Planning and Commissioning, and Maggie Pape, Temporary Lead Officer for the Children and Young People's Plan at Nottinghamshire County Council, attended for this item and presented a report which sought approval from the Board of the Children and Young People's Plan 2009/11.

The following points were noted:

- A draft of the plan was presented to the Board on 9 March 2009 and subsequent feedback had been received resulting in further amendments to the final version including more information on the ten improvement priorities and their links to the Local Area Agreement.
- To meet statutory requirements a copy of the final plan was placed on the partnership web site on 18 May 2009.
- The work on the plan had started in October 2008 and emphasises the need to address inequalities and the

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development of integrated working to support early intervention work

- The development of the plan has been overseen by a multi-agency planning group and taken forward by a development team. Content has been influenced by feedback from children, young people and families and from children and young people's workforce, obtained through a series of consultation conferences and workshops. It was noted that over 1300 people had been involved in a discussion on what should be in the plan.
- The Plan has been constructed in 2 layers, the first layer being an overview document and summary of actions and restricted to 40 pages in length
- The second layer will contain more detail and will be available only on the website. It will be aimed primarily at practitioners and contain detail on the priorities chosen and the actions required to achieve them. Detailed performance management arrangements and linkages to other strategies relating to children and young people will also be included.
- A paper copy of the website map detailing the full content and linkages was circulated.
- There will be a quick read version of approximately 4 pages in length, aimed particularly at a wider audience including children and young people, which will be available in September 2009.

It was agreed that:

- i) Approval be given to the Children and Young People's Plan 2009/11.
- ii) That the Plan be made available on the Board's website and only a limited number of copies to be made available in hard copy format.

Maggie Pape

The Board thanked Les Cowling and Maggie Pape for their attendance and the work they have done on the plan.

4. Partnership Delivery Unit

Les Cowling presented a report which had been circulated with the papers for the meeting, which proposed the establishment of a Partnership Delivery Unit in light of the statutory guidance on Children's Trusts issued by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF).

It was noted that the proposal had received support at the joint meeting of the Board and Children's Services Executive Group and the Safeguarding Board on 20 March 2009.

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Les Cowling outlined the current details of the team who had produced the Children's and Young People's Plan and that funding to continue this team until the end of March 2010 had been made available to enable work to support the Board and its executive group to take place.

It was noted that this team would carry out policy work in addition to administrative support functions but that a further debate was needed over the next 9 months on future funding for 2010/11 and beyond.

Ruth Marlow made the point that leaving the discussion until March 2010 was not robust enough as budget setting timelines commenced in the autumn. Anthony agreed that a model showing how this can be progressed needed to be considered at the next meeting.

Anthony May

Helen Jebb agreed with the comment about timelines but suggested that partners could consider secondments into the unit as opposed to a financial contribution.

There was general consensus that a delivery unit was important to enable the Board's work to move forward and that this would be a logical step especially with the next plan for 2011-2014 only two years away. It was however acknowledged that there was not an expanding pot of money to finance the unit and further discussion was necessary.

It was agreed that:

- i) a further paper should be presented to the next meeting of the Board which would give options on how to identify the future funding of the unit.
- ii) a progress report on all the issues from the joint meeting on 20 March 2009, particularly around the need for greater clarity about roles and responsibilities between the groups involved should also be presented to the September meeting of the Board.

Anthony May

Anthony May

5. Quarterly Performance Bulletin

Mike Lee Head of Performance, Data and Communications presented a report which brought together a wide range of data to show outcomes for children and young people in Nottinghamshire against the national indicators set.

The report highlighted areas of strength and weaknesses against 12 key points detailed in the report.

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Mike emphasised that many of the national indicators have a time lag from recording the outcome to the data being reported. Conception rates was quoted as an example where because of a 14 month time lag, 2008 data will not be available until February 2010 and 2009 data is not currently available for many of the national indicators.

The Board considered the key points included on pages 1 and 2 of the bulletin and made the following points:

- The detailed information as presented does not highlight hotspot activity of good and bad performance in localised areas.
- Important for the Board to consider what were its priorities with the outcomes, in order to plan to 'narrow the gap'. There was a need to highlight areas where additional capacity was needed and then task CSEG to deal with the issues. This is the performance management role of the board.
- Anthony stated that providing information on area based data and the differentiated activities is available at district and family of school level. Over time this could be made available on the partnership website.
- In the case of teenage conception rates Anthony stated that he would ask Derek Higton to report in more detail to the next meeting and also provide Ruth Marlow with information on the Mansfield area in particular.
- Ruth stated that the provision of localised data was important as the Local Strategic Partnerships are in the best position to determine whether information is useful or not.
- There was an agreement that many of the points were a partnership issue and that the reasons for poor conversion rates for example were down to numerous reasons within families and it was important to move resources to commit to a family approach.
- Anthony referred to social care issues and stated that discussions had already taken place to build capacity as part of the County Council's medium term financial strategy.
- Ruth requested a report to the next meeting specifically on the cluster of social care indicators in order to make recommendations for action by the Board or CSEG.
- There was a need to use data available in a smarter way, concentrating on performance in the lowest quartile to enable the Board to consider whether this was a priority, how it should be progressed and who should lead on the work.

Derek Higton

**Anthony
May/Mike
Lee/John
Hemstock**

6. The work of the Youth Offending Service

Laurence Jones, Head of the Youth Offending Service gave a presentation on the work of the service in support of a report which had been circulated with the papers for the meeting.

The Board noted:

- that the three main priorities of the service was to prevent offending and reduce re-offending, to safeguard children and assist them to meet the five Every Child Matters outcomes and to protect the public from harm.
- the service's work was governed by six national indicators which were outlined in the report.
- that the service was currently working with 1007 young people aged 7-19, the average age being 14.7 years.
- A key driver for the service is the prevention of young people from entering the youth justice system and that current performance shows a fall in first time entrants into the system by in excess of 40% since 2006.
- Anthony emphasised the importance of this work as crime was linked to alcohol and drugs which manifested themselves in a number of other indicators such as poor school performance and under age pregnancies.
- The importance of information being provided on a Local Strategic Partnership basis (as discussed previously on the agenda) would enable members of the Board to better understand issues in localities.

Anthony May thanked Laurence for his report and presentation.

7. Building Schools for the Future

Anthony May circulated a briefing paper outlining progress since the last meeting of the Board.

The Board noted that work is continuing to progress the negotiations in respect of the CLASP issue and that the Partnerships for Schools (PfS) have passed the County Council's CLASP business case to the DCSF which has commissioned two independent agencies to provide a review of the case. This will form the basis of a report to the DCSF.

Ruth Marlow expressed a concern on the progress of the programme nationally and the apparent backlog of work. Anthony May acknowledged these concerns.

8. Resignation from the Board

Danny Fox stated that this would be his last attendance at the Board as he was no longer on the Young People's Board. He thanked all board members for their help and assistance and wished everyone good luck for the future.

Anthony May on behalf of everyone thanked Danny for his input and enthusiasm into the Board's work.

9. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 21 September 2009 (5.00-7.00pm) at County Hall