



minutes

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

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT COUNTY HALL, WEST
BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAM**

date **9 MARCH 2009**

Present: County Councillor Joyce Bosnjak (Chair), Steve Edwards (Nottinghamshire County Council), Sue Fish (Nottinghamshire Police), Danny Fox (Young People's Board), Ruth Hyde (Broxtowe Borough Council), Frank Horsley (Ashfield District Council), Terry Laws (Learning and Skills Council), Helen Longland (Government Office for the East Midlands – critical friend), Ruth Marlow (Mansfield District Council), Anthony May (Nottinghamshire County Council), Mary McEvoy (Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service), Jean Pardoe (Connexions Nottinghamshire), Lyndsey Radford (Youth Worker), Simon Smith (Nottingham Healthcare), Keith Tansley (Gedling Borough Council), Sheila Wright (Probation Service), John Hemstock and Philip Martin (Nottinghamshire County Council – minutes)

ACTION

The Board meeting began at 5.00 pm

1a Introductions

At Councillor Bosnjak's invitation, colleagues introduced themselves.

1b Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Fenton (NAVO), Allen Graham (Rushcliffe Borough Council), Andrew Muter (Newark and Sherwood District Council) and Louise Newcombe (Bassetlaw PCT).

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2009 and matters arising from the minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2009 were accepted as an accurate record subject to Ruth Marlow's name at the top of page 7 being substituted for Ruth Hyde.

Matters arising were as follows:

i) *Performance Management Framework*

Operational guidance for the performance management framework agreed by the Partnership Board at the last meeting was circulated.

It was agreed that:

- the annual cycle of performance reports brought to the Children's Services Executive Group (CSEG) would be as set out in Annex 3 of the performance management framework
- these reports would be posted on the Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's partnership website together with an email alert and hyperlink to the reports for Board members
- CSEG will consider reports and decide on the action necessary to alleviate under performance, including escalation to the Partnership Board if necessary
- the minutes of the CSEG meetings which consider performance reports will be posted on the Partnership Board website
- an annual performance report will be brought to the Board on progress towards achieving targets for each measure in the Children and Young Peoples Plan
- a progress report on the top 12 or so performance indicators to be suggested by Anthony May be brought to the Board on a quarterly basis.

**Anthony May
John Hemstock
to note for
agenda**

ii) *Chair of Safeguarding Children's Board*

Anthony May informed the Board that Chris Few had been appointed as the new independent chair of the Safeguarding Board (subject to usual checks). It was noted that Chris would be attending the joint development event on the 20 March 2009.

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 gave a presentation in support of the report which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

The following issues relating to the Plan were noted by the Board:

- The work on the plan started in October 2008 and emphasises the need to address inequalities and the development of

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integrated working to support early intervention work

- The plan is structured around 10 improvement priorities which were detailed in the report
- The development of the plan has been overseen by a multi-agency planning group and taken forward by a development team
- For each priority, strategic and operational leads have been identified and these were included in Appendix 1 to the report
- The Plan has been constructed in 2 layers, the first layer being an overview document and summary of actions which will be made available in print copy 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
- There will be a quick read version aimed particularly at a wider audience including children and young people
- A consultation draft of the plan has been sent to partner organisations and 7 district workforce conferences and focus groups with children and young people are taking place together with public consultation through the partnership website
- The Plan has to be published by 16 May 2009

The following comments were made by Board members:

- The importance of the realignment of the Plan and LAA priorities and the need for the appendix to the report to make this clear
- Priorities need to cover the bigger picture, such as eating disorders as opposed to just obesity and sex education as opposed to purely teenage pregnancies. It was acknowledged that these issues differed widely within the county.
- It was important to ensure that the 'positive activities' priority is fully explained to ensure public consultation is meaningful
- There was a need to be specific about the respective target groups for each of the priorities
- That the Strategic Group with the overall lead for the following priorities be noted as:

Positive activities - Early Years and Childcare Development Partnership with Integrated Youth Support Development Board

Crime and fear of crime – Safer Nottinghamshire Board and

the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership

Young people in EET- 14-19 Partnership

- That further discussion be held on the lead group for raising standards and aspirations
- The priorities listed in the section of the plan setting out the leads for arrangements for working together were in fact themes rather than priorities

At the end of the discussion it was agreed that:

Board members should send any further views to Steve Edwards by correspondence during the consultation period which ends on 31 March 2009

4. Nottinghamshire 14-19 Plan 2009/10

Roy Haynes, Head of 14-19 Strategy at Nottinghamshire County Council, attended for this item and along with Terry Laws of the Learning and Skills Council, gave a presentation in support of the report which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

It was noted that the report had been agreed by the 14-19 Partnership in February 2009 and that it would form the 14-19 element of the Children and Young People's Plan.

The following points were made in the presentation and noted by the Board:

- The government's reforms for the 14-19 year groups are underpinned by three goals
 - to ensure that by 2015, all young people remain in education and training to their 18th birthday
 - to give young people the knowledge and skills that employers need to prosper
 - to close the achievement gap so that all children and young people have the opportunity to succeed.
- That the three goals will be delivered through four qualification routes
 - Apprenticeships
 - Diplomas
 - Foundation learning tier
 - General qualifications e.g. GCSEs and A levels

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- Machinery of government changes will see the functions relating to 16-19 age group transferred from the LSC to the County and City Councils from April 2010
- The driver for delivering these changes will be the 14-19 Partnership and the key vehicle the 14-19 Plan
- There were a number of issues specific to Nottinghamshire such as the current infrastructure of buildings being poor and the falling numbers in the 16-19 cohort
- Participation is 5% above the national average and the figures for those not in education, employment and training are much lower than statistical neighbours
- There are 8 key priorities which had been identified through local analysis and consultation and these priorities would form action plans to be delivered at district level through Area Strategy Groups who would report regularly to the 14-19 Partnership.

The following comments were made by Board members:

- Anthony May stressed the need for institutions to continue to offer choice but at the same time value for money issues had to be considered
- Ruth Marlow emphasised it was the role of the Board to make the best use of resources but it was important not to lose sight of the options that choice gives. One size is not always best for all.
- Danny Fox stressed that many children and young people preferred the more adult environment of a college to school
- Consideration to be given to how young people can help inform future plans, utilising existing forums.

At the end of the discussion it was agreed that:

The 14-19 Plan for 2009/10 should be incorporated into the new Children and Young People's Plan

5. Statutory Guidance on Children's Trusts

Anthony May presented a report which had been previously circulated.

The report identified issues arising from the latest statutory guidance on children's trusts from the DCSF,

After a brief discussion it was agreed that:

- i) the Board approve the proposals for linking schools, colleges of further education and Job Centre Plus to the Board as outlined in Paragraph 5 (a) to (c) of the report
- ii) further consideration be given to how best to engage GPs with the work of the Children's Trust as the consensus was that having GP's on the Board was not necessarily the best approach. It was agreed that Anthony May would work with Brenda Howard to develop an approach to engage the medical profession generally with the work of the Trust.
- iii) consideration of the relationship with the Local Strategic Partnership and the Safeguarding Board to be part of the discussion at the joint event on the 20 March 2009
- iv) further consideration to the Audit Commission self assessment tool included as an appendix to the report also be considered on the 20 March, in the expectation that thereafter this would act as a work plan for the Board and its sub-groups.
- v) the participation of young people in the Trust also to be considered at the joint event on 20 March 2009

Anthony May

6. Building Schools for the Future

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

The Board noted the progress on the CLASP issue and that Partnerships for Schools (PfS) appear supportive of the County Council's bid for additional funding. A decision on this is required before the Strategy for Change 2 (SfC2) document can be submitted. It is likely that this will be now after the June elections.

Anthony May highlighted the reprioritised list of future waves of BSF investment where Nottinghamshire was prioritised 5th out of

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95 LAs. This is indicative of the confidence the PfS and the DCSF have in the Council's ability to deliver the programme.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on 15 June 2009 (5.00-7.00pm), with the venue to be confirmed.