

**Decisions and Actions Log of the Nottinghamshire Children’s Trust Executive
Held on 30 March 2017**
Present:

Dr Kate Allen (KA) - Nottinghamshire County Council (Public Health), Marion Clay (MC) – Nottinghamshire County Council, Dr David Hannah (DHa) – Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Groups, Derek Higton (DHi) - Nottinghamshire County Council, Tracey Lindley (TL), Nottingham West CCG, Colin Pettigrew (Chair) (CP) – Nottinghamshire County Council, John Robinson (JR) – Gedling Borough Council, Ed Seeley (ES) – Edgewood Primary School

Sean Kelly (SK) – Nottinghamshire County Council

For Item 2 Rachel Miller (RM) – Nottinghamshire County Council

Apologies: Steve Edwards (SE) – Nottinghamshire County Council and Tracy Burton (TB) – NHS Bassetlaw

Key:
Complete
Ongoing but in-hand
Requiring action/attention

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Lead	Progress Update
30.03.17	Towards measuring outcomes in Early Help Services – Progress update		
	<p>RM explained that this is an update to the Children’s Trust on measuring outcomes in the Early Help Service. She explained the purpose for which the service was established in 2015; it combines tiers three and four and targets entrenched need. She expanded on the service’s four key areas of activity. It was noted that when looking at the data, a case represents an individual person so it is possible to have multiple cases for one family. Waiting lists to access the service are not growing and referrals are ‘RAG’ rated to determine priority; ‘red’ cases are seen within two weeks.</p> <p>The Early Help Service delivers outcomes in line with the government’s Troubled Families Programme but there is no guarantee of funding for this programme beyond 2020. It was recognised that this is an issue but DHi explained that it is possible to evidence the impact that the Early Help Service has on reducing the levels of take up of higher level interventions within Children’s Social Care and that this forms the basis of a business case for supporting lower level interventions. The use of the same recording systems for Early Help Services and Children’s Social Care has allowed more effective tracking and CP</p>		

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Lead	Progress Update
	<p>noted that Nottinghamshire's ability to track intervention and the impact that this has is much better than many other Local Authorities. The Early Help Service is able to offer intensive support targeted where there is urgent need including 'hands on' support to families where children/young people are on the edge of needing to be taken into Local Authority care; this highlights the savings that can be derived from having the ability to offer targeted early intervention.</p> <p>RM undertook to find out why some of the percentages in respect of intensive support outcomes do not appear to add up. It was clarified outside the meeting that there are a small number of cases (maybe just one or two) that had a journey which placed them in more than one category during the period (ie stepped down but were subsequently re-opened).</p> <p>JR enquired about joined up processes with local services. RM gave the example of resolution of housing issues but said that linked up working with partners such as the Police and District Councils has not been as great as envisaged but it is hoped that when the Early Help Service merges with Children's Social Care, links with partners will be strengthened. Better links have been established with health colleagues through the Family Nurse Partnership (FNP).</p> <p>DHa enquired about the level of referrals from GPs and commented that, as a GP, he was not always aware if a family were having any intervention. RM explained that the level of referrals from GPs is fairly low and the Early Help Service would see School Nurses and Health Visitors as the main point of contact and would anticipate that they would inform health colleagues if a family was subject to intervention.</p> <p>CP explained that from April, Steve Edwards, Service Director, Youth, Families & Social Work will manage the Early Help Service with Derek Higton, Service Director, Commissioning, Resources & Culture having responsibility for contracts and commissioning in respect of the Service. CP alluded to the high level of costs for residential provision and the big savings gain that can be achieved by effective early intervention, preventing children and young people having to enter residential care. RM noted that the development of a holistic approach looking at the whole family and its functioning will make a sustainable difference.</p> <p>ES enquired about the links that the Early Help Service have with tier 2 interventions and the use of volunteer support particularly as the capacity in schools through, for example, Family Support Workers is diminishing. CP explained that he and DHi had recently met with Nottingham Trent University and by September 2018 all students will have voluntary work placement opportunities which could be used to enhance this capacity. He also referred to the benefits of collaborative use of Pupil Premium on an</p>		

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Lead	Progress Update
	<p>area by area basis to support tier 2 interventions although ES noted the difficulties in evidencing Pupil Premium eligibility.</p> <p>DHi explained that the Local Authority had withdrawn tier 2 intervention as there was no evidence of the impact it made but it is possible to look at the gap being filled by the voluntary and community sector but the efficacy of this needs to be measured.</p> <p>DHa suggested that it would be useful if a brief paper could be produced for inclusion in CCG newsletters with an update on the work of the Early Help Service and how it can be accessed. ES agreed that it would be useful for a brief version of an update to be shared with head teachers. It was agreed that RM and KA would look at this.</p> <p>RM was thanked for her presentation and colleagues were very pleased to note the positive work being undertaken by the Early Help Service.</p>	RM/KA	Update produced
30.03.17 A strategy for closing the educational gaps in Nottinghamshire			
	<p>MC explained that this is a regular item at meetings of the Children's Trust to give feedback on the strategies that are in place across the County to close the educational gaps. The Closing the Gap programme in the Newark area is the most mature.</p> <p>She noted that work on the Children Missing Education (CME) strategy continues to develop and suggested reporting separately on this work later in the year.</p> <p>MC referred to the circulated data which relates to outcomes for Nottinghamshire pupils for 2016. Because of changes to recording, national data is not available for some of the indicators. In Nottinghamshire attainment of White British boys receiving free school meals is still an area that requires focussed action to improve.</p> <p>Research indicates that there are good results from targeting support to individual pupils across key stages, this needs to be consistent and requires continual monitoring but many pupils make an improvement within one phase.</p> <p>JR raised a question about the data for the Gedling area. MC said that every year there are swings in data but she was not able to offer an explanation for the Gedling figures although this is something that will be looked at. It was acknowledged that for a variety of reasons data at KS2 and KS4 is more</p>	MC/ Forward Plan	Added to Forward Plan

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Lead	Progress Update
	<p>reliable and meaningful than the data available for early years. It was recognised that good things happen for all pupils in good schools.</p> <p>MC explained that the programme in Newark is now an embedded way of working with the barriers to learning identified on an individual basis. Schools work alongside other partners in the area including local businesses. The programme in Newark has always been very 'grass roots' driven and has benefitted from a shared family of schools Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO). ES recognised the benefit of working within families of schools within local areas. MC added that there is ongoing work in the Ashfield area on a 'Dragon's Den' style initiative.</p> <p>MC said that Ofsted now identify the attainment of white working class boys and girls as of potential concern and their judgements can be depressed based on the performance of these sub-groups.</p> <p>CP spoke about the need to change aspirations in an area and break the cycle of generations of non-working families. He highlighted the success of the Outwood Academy in Worksop being Nottinghamshire's highest performing secondary school. MC explained the way the academy works in a highly structured way with standardised lessons and monitoring and assessment with targeted early intervention from year seven onwards. The academy also offers an impressive range of extra-curricular activities. The academy has a 'no compromise' system that works well for the majority of learners who achieve well and feel safe. Work is needed to look at the destinations of learners post school and the longer term outcomes they achieve.</p> <p>The Executive received the update on the strategy for closing the educational gaps in Nottinghamshire with thanks and noted the good work that is being done.</p>		
30.03.17 Update on mental health services for children and young people			
	<p>KA explained that the Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Transformation Plan is a five year transformation plan which aims to deliver the recommendations of the national taskforce report 'Future in Mind' and the findings of the Nottinghamshire CAMHS pathway review.</p> <p>She drew attention to the key achievements made specifically mentioning Take 5 and Each Amazing Breath and referred to the priorities for 2017/18 including new timescales for young people with eating disorders to be seen in.</p>		

Date of Meeting	Action Point	Lead	Progress Update
	<p>The CCGs work together with the Commissioning Hub to spend allocated resources and by collaborating are able to spend monies over a longer period of time because of facilities for carrying money forward.</p> <p>JR related the experience of a group of young people taking over the senior management group at Gedling Borough Council and noted that one of the key areas of concern that the young people identified was mental health issues and the sense of living in a bubble. JR recognised that young people are not always sufficiently involved in developing service offers and that was something that Gedling Borough Council are keen to develop in the future. DHi drew attention to the successful work that the Youth Service do through the Youth Forum to promote young people's participation. CP added that the Children in Care Council, which is led by the Youth Service in Nottinghamshire, is another good example of youth engagement.</p> <p>The Children's Trust Executive received the update on the Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing Transformation Plan with thanks.</p>		

DRAFT