

**MINUTES OF THE
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S TRUST BOARD MEETING
HELD ON 25TH AUGUST 2009, MEZZ ROOM 2, COUNTY HALL.**

Present: Chris Williams (BCC) – Chair, Sue Imbriano (BCC), Chris Munday (BCC), Ed Mallam (BCC), Alan Dinning (BCC), Cllr. Lin Hazell (BCC), Carol Mason (Voluntary Sector), Sally Loring (Bucks Hospitals Trust), Cllr. Marion Clayton (BCC), Pauline Odulinski (Aylesbury College), Katherine Horler (Connexions), Cllr. Jane Bramwell (CDC), Donald McPhail (Local Safeguarding Children Board), Andrew Toynton (LSC), Cllr. Penni Thorne (AVDC), Chris Petford (Bucks PCT), Vivien Salisbury (Voluntary Sector), Lee Gilmour (BCC) – Notes.

Apologies: Cllr. Hillary Evans (SBDC), Alan Goodrum (CDC), Gill Clipson (Amersham & Wycombe College), Paul Tinnion (TVP), Ed Macalister-Smith (Bucks PCT), Stephen Czajewski (Thames Valley Probation), David Lunn (Bucks PCT).

Guest: Diana Large (BCC).

1. Welcome and Apologies

CW welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Alan Dinning the new Divisional Director for Safeguarding. Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes were agreed as a true record with the following amendments:

Page 2, Item 4, fifth bullet in second set of bullets, should have read:

- The Local Safeguarding Board should provide reports to the Children's Trust Board.

Last bullet, should have read:

- Sexual, Physical and Mental are the largest abuse categories, with the sad case of death forming a smaller category. Public awareness needs to be raised regarding this.

Matters Arising:

Page 2, Item 4

- LH to follow up safeguarding training for hospital staff in A&E.
- PO and AD have arranged a meeting.

Page 3, Item 5

- Second bullet – residential short breaks has been funded by the County Council.
- MC and SB have met regarding Children's Centres.

Page 4, Item 6

- PO and EM have established links. CMason/EM to include voluntary sector in this work.

Action: EM

Page 4, Item 7

- SI has drafted a letter to relevant schools.

Page 5, Item 8

- Links need to be made to Welfare Benefits joint working.

3. Declarations of Interest

None recorded.

4. Looked After Children (A Dinning and D Large)

DL presented the paper 'Care Matters – making a difference for children in care – progress report', noting the seven strands, which are all on track and about which the following points were noted:

Corporate Parenting

- There has been good progress with the Children in Care (CIC) Council, which is led by young people.
- The launch event is on 17th October 2009 at Green Park, alongside the pledge event.
- There is an annual celebration event in January.
- A Welcome Pack for those coming into care has been developed which will also be launched in October.

Care Placements

- A brief summary of how Buckinghamshire will meet the requirements of the Children and Young People's Act 2008 around fostering placements was given.

Delivering a First Class Education

- Stuart Mogridge has been appointed as the Virtual Headteacher for CIC.
- All children in care will have a laptop to help overcome disadvantage.

Promoting Health and Well-Being

- DL and CP will clarify the second post for a named nurse for CIC outside of the meeting.

Transition to Adulthood

- The £2,000 bursary is rolling out.
- Care Plans have been replaced with Pathway Plans.
- Work is being done with young people when moving out of care of foster homes.
- A proposal and briefing regarding the Care2Work Project will be brought back to the Trust Board at a future meeting.

The Role of Practitioner/Developing and Deploying the workforce

- All CICs will participate in drawing up their care plans.

CW thanked DL and the floor was opened for questions:

- How many children are there in care? – Response, approximately 320.
- Have asylum seekers numbers increased? – Response, they have significantly increased, a multi-agency group has been set up across the county which includes housing and health staff.
- There has been an increase in LAC, approximately 60 more, a 20% increase on last year, a large number of which are asylum seekers.

KH and DL will meet outside of the meeting to discuss unaccompanied asylum seekers that are older. Need to include the voluntary sector in this.

Action: KH & DL

5. Serious Case Review (Donald McPhail)

DMcP presented the paper 'Key Messages from Series Case Reviews' and noted that Executive summaries of both reviews are available at the following website – www.bucks-lscb.org.uk

DMcP discussed the key messages from the two cases and the following points were noted:

1) Residential school

- Everyone should understand their own roles within an organisation, safeguarding applies to all.
- Safeguarding procedures must be followed during the recruitment process, especially around research of a person's employment history.
- An action plan has been in place to address issues for a long time.

JB made a declaration of interest to this case and noted that during the time of the investigation parents felt isolated and students were not supported by BCC. CW noted that a multi-agency team has been or is being put together to address this area, AD to formalise.

The following additional points were noted:

- CW recognised the good work done by a housing association worker, who picked up on child abuse case.
- There should be training around understanding and raising awareness – Response, a lot of work is done around this area in schools; however it is a very hard message to remember if there is an allegation against someone you work with.
- There is a multi-agency induction for all colleagues coming into the county, which includes safeguarding.

DMcP noted that there had been a lot of contact with the parents involved.

2) The death of child 'A' age 2

- Lacked cohesive planning – including analysing key information, the history and risk factors.
- Pre-birth assessments must be completed fully.

The following additional points were noted from discussion:

- SI endorsed these points, we need to ensure all colleagues have relevant training and experience and are able to establish and manage risks. DMcP confirmed that the Safeguarding Board will undertake work on risk management.
- A case that was recently noted in the Bucks Herald was discussed briefly, raising questions about whether the abuse/assault could have been prevented and around quality of practice, intervention, care and assessment and planning.
- SL noted that there have been other recent cases of abuse reported.
- AD will bring a report to the Trust, noting the increase in care plans, following the baby 'P' case. Also noted were the pressures on frontline staff.

Action: AD

CW thanked DMcP.

6. Feedback from the Joint Commissioning Group (Chris Munday)

CMunday presented the paper 'CYP Joint Commissioning Strategy Action Plan Tracking Sheet'. Next month there will be an annual report setting out outcomes and lessons learnt.

The following points from the Tracking Sheet were noted:

Page 1

- CAMHS have significantly reduced waiting times – it was suggested that it would be helpful to see children in care getting priority access.

Page 2

- DVA Workers – it was indicated that next month this amber will change to green.

Page 3

- Short Breaks Service – it was noted that the member of staff being on long term sick was not the only reason for this being amber.

Page 4

- Increased affordable leisure – the Countywide Sports and Leisure Partnership were asked to look at this, to date there has been no response, CMunday will contact Matt Partridge (AVDC). It was asked if this will impact on the pledge to children in care – Response, not so much Item 1 but will affect Item 2, for which a card system has been suggested.

Action: CMunday

- The Aylesbury Academy – it is hoped that this will move to green by the end of the year.

Page 7.

- Think Family, working with Adult Services on how this can be improved.

Page 8

- Extended Services in Schools – The target is 85% by the end of September; we are currently at 81%.

Page 9

- Participation – there have been delays in recruiting to posts. Both of these are now filled and start in September.

CW queried Special Education on page 5 – Response, views of five schools involved have been requested with proposals and options, prior to formal consultation. There will be feedback in September.

CW noted that there was good progress and plans in place to address actions required.

7. Organisational Updates.

SI noted the significant changes proposed in the White Paper 21st Century Schools and the impact of working with schools regarding implications for our future workforce.

CMunday gave an update on BSF, feedback was received regarding the first submission and the resubmission is in process.

AT noted that things are now moving quickly regarding transfer of LSC to BCC. SI and AT will meet outside of this meeting.

Action SI & AT

JB – noted the consultation from seldom heard groups. AG has shared this information with EM.

KH noted that GCSE results are due this week and encouraged members of the Trust to change roles where possible to accommodate apprenticeships.

PO noted that there are apprentices and employers available but not necessarily matching. The college hopes to be involved in the Enterprise Apprenticeship. PO also noted that cookery classes for young carers went really well with positive feedback.

AD noted a struggle to keep staff levels due to increased demand, also regarding task force, there will be recommended caseloads for social workers.

CP noted that from September the HPV will be available for girls between 14-18, CP requested to work with Connexions on this. Regarding Swine Flu, a second wave is predicted when children return to school in September.

MC indicated that 'A' level results were reported to be very good this year, although we will not have a true picture until the autumn. On 7th September the first academy in Bucks will open.

DMcP noted that regarding Flu and in anticipation of where there are not sufficient staff, emergency meetings will take place.

8. Any Other Business

None recorded.

9. Date and Time of next meeting

Tuesday 29th September 2009, 9.30am to 12 noon, Mezz 2, County Hall, Aylesbury.