

Sandwell Children and Young People's Trust Board

30 November 3.30 – 5.30pm
2F Kingston House

Present: Cllr. Ian Jones (Chair) Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services
Allison Fraser Executive Director Sandwell MBC (Interim DCS)
Val Bailey Head of Sandwell College
Malcolm Bailey Murray Hall Community Trust (VCS Representative)
John Middleton Director of Public Health
John Garrett Executive Director of Adults & Community
Steve Clay Chief Executive West Bromwich & District YMCA
Steve Lawrence Director Learning Skills Council
Bev Hill Chief Operating Officer Sandwell Community Health Service.
Richard Taylor Service Delivery and risk Director Sandwell Mental Health Trust.

In Attendance:

Janine Brown Joint Director of Partnership and Commissioning Directorate.
Tony Styles Superintendent West Midlands Police(for Andrew Jewkes)
Mark Gibbs Senior Joint Commissioning Manager
Nick Hamer Performance & Planning
Brian Aldridge Director of Learning Improvement
Bob Griffiths Service Manager – Planning & Business Support
Andy Ferguson Director of Children's Social Care.
Kevin Dennis Head of Young People's & Community Services.
Wendy Donnelly National Energy Action
Lorraine Gumbs Sandwell Warm Zone
Neeraj Malhotra Sandwell PCT
Martin Ayres Ofsted Inspector
Helen Humphreys Ofsted Inspector
Kulbinder Thandi Joint Commissioning Manager
Peter Forth Senior Joint Commissioning Manager
Shane Parkes Joint Partnership and Commissioning (Clerk)

Apologies:

Roger Crouch Executive Director of Children & Young People's Services
Simon Lomas District Manager Probation Service
Andrew Jewkes Chief Superintendent West Midlands Police
Dr Helen Grindulis Consultant Paediatrician – Divisional Director of Women's and Child Health Services.
Rob Bacon Chief Executive Sandwell Primary Care Trust
Henry Seaton Partnership Director LSC
Ian Cotterill Programme Manager Sandwell Partnership
Paul Slater Chief Executive Sandwell Leisure Trust
Peter John Director of Partnerships and Housing

Agenda Item	Key issues/Actions
Apologies & Welcome	As Above. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting
Declarations of Interest:	Malcolm Bailey declared an interest in Children’s Centres item.
Minutes of the Last Meeting & Matters Arising.	Allison Fraser asked for page 2 – 4.1 LSP Key priorities paragraph 3 to be amended as it was an inaccurately reported. ECM was always seen as a key issue, shown in an overarching way. The remainder of the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.
4. Governance	
4.1 DCSF Commissioning Support Programme, Children’s Trust Self Assessment.	MG updated the board on the Commissioning Support Programme which is offering bespoke support to develop commissioning in areas that the self assessment identified. The Self assessment took place on 10 th November and identified issues and key priorities which needed to be addressed: These are outlined in the report and Self analysis template. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The board is asked to agree the priority to update the commissioning strategy and framework with a view to submitting to the Trust for approval in March. • The Joint Director of Partnership and Commissioning to negotiate the detail of the support sought from the CSP to enable the issues identified to be taken forward. This was agreed by the Trust Board. Action: MG to bring the commissioning strategy to Trust Board for approval March. JB to take forward key issues identified in self assessment with CSP Support.
4.2 Children & Young People’s Participation Strategy.	The C & YP Participation strategy and Implementation Plan was approved by the Trust Partnership in December 2007. As part of the implementation plan a review was undertaken of services and structures and an Executive summary report was circulated for the Trust Board members. (The full report is available if any one would like this by contacting SP). The discussion on recommendations focused on:: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping activity needed which would identify existing practice and give the C & YP Trust Board a clear picture of what is already happening.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A more coherent network needs to be developed; in particular a gap exists between structures and the Trust Board, which needs to be addressed. • JM suggested that revised membership of the Trust Board should include young people. • AF agreed with this participation but stated that consideration was needed of how to support a Young Person through the tedium of long meetings. • Cllr Jones mentioned his recent experience in having a member of the youth cabinet shadow him at many formal meetings. • SC supported this move, but stressed the necessary support should be in place for Young People taking up the position.e.g. Transport, laptop, tools to do the job. • SC stated that a ‘children’s champion’ or peer mentor would provide excellent support. • There had been a lack of clarity about where the strategic lead sits but it was agreed that this should be with the Joint Director of Partnership and Commissioning. <p>It was agreed the Joint Director of Partnership and Commissioning take forward the recommendations and bring a progress report including recommendations on structures to a future meeting.</p> <p>Action: JB to report back to board in March.</p>
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5. Performance

<p>5.1 Qtr. 2 report – Programme updates from each Programme Executive.</p>	<p>NH presented the performance report for quarter 2. A total of 41 indicators are able to be reported on in this quarter and the overall summary is 12 targets met. 8 within Tolerance and 20 targets not achieved. 11 of these indicators show improvement.</p> <p>Good Start to Life: JB gave a verbal update: NI53 indicator (prevalence and coverage of breastfeeding) - Actions have been undertaken to improve data collection and build sustainability in this. It is anticipated that by the end of year targets should be achieved. The PCT & hospital have signed up to National Baby Friendly strategy, and training for Children Centre staff, Midwives and Health Visitors is taking place. SI709 National Health schools: Work is underway to take Healthy schools to next level of development with ‘enhancement’ model. Emotional Health & Wellbeing - CAMHS rated low in last assessment. A service improvement plan has been developed to address the points highlighted in the report.-Self assessment was at 11 - Current self assessment at 14.</p> <p>Safeguarding : AFe gave a verbal update: Indicator SI550 Health of children in care 88% achievement</p>
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was an excellent result.

NI59 percentage of initial assessments completed within 7 days This area needs further work to ensure consistency of practice.

NI65 Child becoming subject of protection plan for subsequent time. All these cases to be looked at individually can be due to several factors as circumstances change.

SI635 percentage with child protection plan not allocated social worker: This is a sensitive indicator as it is a snapshot in time, and subject to variation. Issues may be due changing workforce which is being addressed through a recruitment drive and data issues.

AFe added that there are ongoing issues in Children's Social care -

- Staff recruitment and retention -70 staff have recently applied for posts in the area, but at present there are 40+ agency staff.
- Development of Young Peoples own review is taking place
- The LSCB has a new independent chair resulting in a sharpening of.

A Fraser suggested that progress of performance against targets be reported at every meeting rather than quarterly.

BG reports monthly on safeguarding indicators to Andy Fergusons management team and to Cllr .Jones.

Learning Improvements: BA gave a verbal update:

- 'Everyday matters' team have achieved improvements in attendance. Current attendance 0.2% below national average/ in spite of problems incurred such as weather, swine flu, norovirus.
- Behaviour challenged attendance, bullying, racism
- Wellbeing attainment last year re focused support
- Primary schools are on trajectory
- National challenge schools - huge progress - 6 schools
- Standards for 5 A* – Cs at national average, but there is more to do.
- Teaching & Learning quality of learning good but more improvement to keep on trajectory.

Successful Young People: KD gave a verbal update:

NI117 16-18 year olds in NEETs

- YP with Learning difficulties who are NEET has fallen this quarter.
- Connexions now in house continue support.

The percentage of 16-18year olds NEET has fallen to 11.8% in quarter 2 as part of governments September Guarantee. 11.8% is slightly above milestone end of year expected to be as low as 10.6%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEETs and first time entrants into Youth Justice system - 137 less entering system, which is twice the improvement for West Midlands figures. • Young People learning outside borough not taken into account. • Plans to identify potential NEETs earlier; Screen year 9 pupils and put in intensive support in all schools. • Volunteering initiative a major focus <p>JG commented that crime figures continue to improve despite recession. Local Policing working as a deterrent.</p> <p>SC mentioned that for medium to large organisations PAYP paperwork is difficult to process, so small organisations will really struggle. Can we improve this? KD mentioned that a small grants programme is being introduced to combat this.</p>
<p>5.2 Joint Inspection of Safeguarding & looked after Children (OfSTED)</p>	<p>Bob Griffiths gave the presentation which had been planned to go on the Agenda before the OfSTED inspection had been confirmed.</p> <p>Based on the published framework in May 2009.</p> <p>Takes over from the JAR – requires an inspection every year – 10 days notice is given for each inspection by OfSTED and Care Quality Commission.</p> <p>Outlined the scope of inspection on Safeguarding and Looked After Children and the impact on outcomes.</p> <p>There are four grading standards Outstanding, Good Adequate, inadequate. Limited grading if: 1 If either of the 2 safeguarding grades are inadequate. The inspectors will continue field work for 10 working days and will then give a verbal report, followed by a written outcome.</p> <p>No questions were asked.</p>
<p>6. Service Development:</p>	
<p>6.1 Child Poverty Act & Fuel Poverty Presentation:</p>	<p>MG outlined the background to the new Child Poverty Act- The report highlighted a number of issues that Sandwell is addressing and needs to address when taking forward its strategy for combating child poverty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosie Edwards has been working on the strategy regarding risk mitigating poverty. • Need to understand the role we can play to recognise how poverty is affecting families Education & Leisure • More detailed Action Plan - how to work with children’s centres and schools raising awareness understanding and impact of fuel poverty <p>Neeraj Malhotra from Sandwell PCT is spearheading housing health for borough - Health & Well being board tackling none decent housing-cannot succeed without working in partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a massive problem • Cold damp homes effect on children’s health • The inability to afford to adequately heat the home is a key factor. No more than 10% of disposable income

	<p>should be on heating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy in-efficient houses waste money. • West Midlands have a high figure and an extra 5 ½ thousand more household are affected each fuel price rise. • Better housing see’s an improvement in asthma, child health in general and the Health of all in the family. • Bad housing also leads to strained family relationships, accidents etc – also the child becomes isolated which affects ability to enjoy and achieve. • Warm Zone in partnership with Sandwell MBC are piloting a scheme offering householders free or cheap cavity wall insulation/loft insulation in Tividale initially. • Also offering advice and guidance on energy usage. • A presentation was given by Wendy Donnelly from National Energy Action and Lorraine Gumbs Sandwell Warm zone. • MB asked if any evidence was available to link the Health benefits to decent housing. JM confirmed it did link. • A large investment has been made in the Decent Homes initiative – council stock and private sector. Adults and Children have to join up with Housing to decide the approach we take. • Cost of School meals have been frozen <p>Six workshops in each of the towns have been arranged to engage front line staff.</p> <p>Action: A report should be submitted to a future meeting to consider in detail the actions that Trust should take to reduce child poverty and mitigate its impact.</p>
Good Start to Life:	
6.2 Children’s Centre’s	<p>PF reported - 18 Children’s centres were developed in phase 1 & 2 developments. A further 3 centres are currently being established in phase 3. These will move to ‘full core offer status’ over the next 12 months.</p> <p>A full list of the centres and lead agencies was attached to the report.</p> <p>The targets which Children’s Centres should contribute towards:</p> <p>Foundation stage profile scores Obesity rates Breast feeding rates Benefits Teenage mother in education, employment or training. Parental satisfaction with services, reach out to community.</p> <p>A range of activities are being offered through Children’s centres. A national pilot – Job Centre plus is taking place in Friar Park, Wednesbury North and Tipton. This is proving to be very successful.</p>

	<p>JM commented that this was a success story – 10 years ago nothing was in place, Early years formalised arrangements were very thin - coverage now excellent but still could go further.</p> <p>Action: A further report back to the Board at a future meeting was requested, to address the impact that Children’s Centres are having in prevention and early intervention.</p>
<p>6.3 Consultation for Medium Term Maternity Services:</p>	<p>JB reported that the consultation followed on from work that the Primary Care Trust and the South West Birmingham Hospital Trust, have been undertaking in response to reports from the Care Quality Commission on the suitability of Maternity Services in Sandwell, ensuring that the services are safe and fit for purpose. Right Care Right Hear had been working on the planned hospital with the long term vision from 2015. A Mid term project group is headed up by Andy Williams Director of Commissioning PCT.</p> <p>The paper provided details the options which are subject to these formal consultations which is running from October – Mid January. There have been several meetings with scrutiny and in response to questions; JB confirmed that all the options are real affordable choices.</p> <p>The consultation was tabled and it can also be found online.</p>
<p>Safeguarding:</p>	
<p>6.4 Young Carers Strategy:</p>	<p>KT presented the strategy which is currently being consulted on:</p> <p>The last census reported 210 young carers in Sandwell. These children are a vulnerable group. A subsequent needs analysis identified over 2000 Young Carers in Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council 833 Secondary 1177 in primary age.</p> <p>The Strategy includes all partners, SMBC PCT VCS & other agencies and an Action Plan was included in the paperwork circulated.</p> <p>JM commented that the whole arena of carers is under resourced. RCRH programme need to invest in carers to reduce hospital usage. Model of adult carers is inappropriate for young carers, they may require different kind of respite.</p> <p>IJ confirmed that this has been to his CAT meeting and requested that investigation is undertaken to ensure that government funding in this area is being committed to young carers.</p> <p>SC commented that this is an area with a positive contribution from VCS. KT is working with SCVO and Sandwell Young Carers (organisation).</p> <p>KT stated that comments and contributions would be much appreciated from the Trust Board Members.</p>

<p>7. Any Other Business:</p>	<p>Apprenticeships, Skills, Children & Learning Act: A brief was tabled regarding Statutory Guidance on the arrangements including the Children’s Trust Board and the Children & Young People’s Plan draft consultation. The guidance states what the children and young people’s plan needs to look like.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any feedback to Janine Brown before the Christmas break by e mail. <p>Action: Member to Feed back to Janine Brown re the consultation JB to present further detail at the next meeting.</p> <p>Children of Prisoners Report: A report was circulated to members for an agenda item that would be discussed at the next meeting.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Next Meeting Tuesday 12 January 3.00 – 5.00 2F Kingston House, 438 High Street, West Bromwich.</p>	