

# YorOK BOARD MEETING



**Date:** Monday 7 July 2014  
**Time:** 9.30 – 12.00  
**Venue:** The Severus Room, West Offices

- |                     |   |   |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Lucy Botting        | - | Chief Nurse, NHS Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group  |
| Scott Butterworth   | - | Millthorpe School   |
| Angela Crossland    | - | Youth Offending Team  |
| Tricia Head         | - | Danesgate School  |
| Garry Jones         | - | York CVS  |
| Judy Kent           | - | Head of Children's Trust Unit and Early Intervention  |
| Cllr Janet Looker   | - | Cabinet Member, Children's Services, Education & Skills (Chair)   |
| Graeme Murdoch      | - | York College  |
| Debra Radford       | - | Service Manager, NSPCC  |
| Paula Richardson    | - | Children's Centre Strategy Manager  |
| Cllr Carol Runciman | - | Elected Member, City of York Council  |
| Jon Stonehouse      | - | Director of Children's Services, Education & Skills   |
| Andy Weir           | - | Associate Director - Specialist & Learning Disability Services, Leeds & York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust |
| <br>                |   |   |
| Aniela Wenham       | - | University of York  |
| <br>                |   |   |
| In Attendance       | - | Mary Bailey (Item 3)  |
|                     | - | Jo Beilby (Item 5)  |
|                     | - | Helen Billson, NHS Scarborough and Ryedale Clinical Commissioning Group                                       |
|                     | - | Mark Ellis (Item 5)   |
|                     | - | Dot Evans (Item 5)  |
|                     | - | Carolyn Ford, Inspection & Planning Manager (Minutes)   |
|                     | - | Polly Griffiths, Healthwatch  |
|                     | - | Barbara Mands (Item 4)  |
|                     | - | Jackie Royce (Item 4)   |
|                     | - | Mark Smith (Item 5)   |
|                     | - | Lesley White, Public Health, Children and Young People's Manager  |
|                     | - | Stephanie Windsor (Item 4)  |
| <br>                |   |   |
| Apologies:          | - | Anna Buchan, Paul Edmondson-Jones, Eoin Rush and Liz Vincent  |

## **ACTION**

### 1. Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising

Following the York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's integration with Scarborough NHS Trust, a comprehensive review of child protection arrangements was undertaken. One of the recommendations is that the children's lead for safeguarding, and YorOK Board member, should be the directorate manager for children's services, Liz Vincent. The resignation of Jen Slaughter, an original YorOK Board member, was consequently noted. Judy Kent is to write to Jen Slaughter thanking her for her support and noting the Board's appreciation of her involvement.

JK

The minutes of the meeting held on 12 May 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The following matters arising were noted:

- The notes made following the thematic review of commissioning at the last meeting were incorporated into the minutes of the meeting.
- A sub-group is being set up to look at strategic commissioning and proposals will be brought to the YorOK Board.

JK

## 2. Trust Update

At the last YorOK Board meeting two reports focusing on early neglect were brought to the attention of Board members. Both reports were considered at a meeting of the YorOK Integrated Working Implementation Group (IWIG) where it was agreed that a task and finish group would be convened to scope opportunities and challenges in this area of multi-agency work, with a view to promoting a collective response to 'early neglect'. The conclusions of the group were discussed at the IWIG meeting on 27 June 2014 and the following recommendations are made to both the YorOK and Safeguarding Boards:

- 'early neglect' features clearly within planned Safeguarding Board activity regarding neglect
- the Safeguarding Board establishes a sub group/task group to develop a local strategy, tools and responses to early neglect, this with the full support and involvement of the YorOK Board
- this development is taken forward on a multi-agency basis.

Board members approved these recommendations, and noted that work was already underway. Simon Westwood's report to the Health & Wellbeing Board will also flag up the issue of neglect.

Simon Westwood tabled a report at the last meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board that proposed the establishment of a protocol between the Health and Wellbeing Board, YorOK Board and Safeguarding Board to promote and strengthen joint working across these key strategic partnership forums. It is hoped that the protocol will be approved at the next meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Judy Kent has been asked to produce a report for the Health & Wellbeing Board on the effectiveness, outcomes and impact of the YorOK Board, including the work of its subgroups. Judy Kent will prepare a draft document on which Board members will be asked to comment.

JK

Judy Kent drew Board members' attention to the NEET information in her Trust Update. Local data, as at the end of March 2014, indicates that 4.8% of young people aged 16 – 18 are NEET. From the 1st April 2013, the counting rules for this indicator changed and consequently there is no comparable trend data available. However, the local NEET figure improved throughout the year and York is ranked joint second best for NEET rates in the region.

Board members were advised that the Child Poverty Update report can be accessed on the YorOK website and that the 'National Dental Epidemiology, Programme for England: oral health survey of five-year-old children 2012: A report on the prevalence and severity of dental decay', can be found at: [publications@phe.gov.uk](mailto:publications@phe.gov.uk).

Cllr Looker queried whether the Board had "lost track" of the Children and Young People's Plan and whether the action plan was being monitored. It was noted that the CYPP was a three year plan and that an action plan for only the first 18 months had been drawn up. The actions were reviewed earlier in the year but are due to be reviewed again. Judy Kent agreed that, in future, items for discussion by the Board would be clearly linked to priorities within the CYPP. Debra Radford suggested that it should be more explicit about who was doing what and she liked the "You said, we did" approach.

JK

This year's "No wrong door" conference will be held on 14 October 2014 at York Racecourse. Partners were asked to submit ideas for workshops or initiatives to showcase to Judy Kent.

All

## 3. Young People's Services: Update

New Arrangements

Angela Crossland described how “Integrated Youth Support Services” have been transformed and will cease to exist as from 1 June 2014. The new service will protect the most vulnerable young people in the city and will be split into three distinct parts, spread across two Council directorates. 1) The Connexions Service, providing targeted information, advice and guidance, and support services for vulnerable young people aged 13 – 19 (up to age 25 for disabled young people), to help them into education, employment and training, and the Castlegate provision will remain within Children’s Services and will be managed by Maxine Squire, Assistant Director Education and Skills. 2) The Personal Support and Inclusion Service, an early intervention service working with young people at risk of poor outcomes, building up social and emotional capacity so that they can successfully take charge of their lives, will remain within Children’s Services and will be managed by Angela Crossland. 3) The Youth and Community Development Team, providing expertise and skills to help support local groups with places to go and things to do for young people, has transferred to the “Communities and Equalities” directorate and will be managed by Mary Bailey. Mary Bailey added that she was responsible for provision at Moor Lane, the 68 centre, Zoo scape and the Urbie Bus, and she encouraged colleagues to visit the provision which is targeted at the most vulnerable young people in the city.

All

Angela Crossland reassured Board members that all three services do work together. In response to a Board member query, it was noted that the new structure and the process of making referrals would be explained at the pastoral leaders’ meeting on 16 July.

Scott Butterworth reported that schools are not happy with the quality of advice provided by Connexions for KS4 pupils, and that they are waiting to see whether the recent changes have an impact on the work experience offer to pupils. It was acknowledged that whilst headteachers are aware that there will be less provision, they do at least know what the provision will be.

Aniela Wenham noted the fundamental changes to Youth Services and the reduction in provision compared to two years ago. She urged the Board to track the provision, skills and expertise being lost, and the impact on staff morale. Jon Stonehouse responded that the City of York Council had not provided youth work for a while but that a whole city partnership ensured that it was being provided by the voluntary sector instead.

Despite this restructure, Youth Services remains an area of transformation and will see a further reduction in services. There will be a consultation during August on the future direction of the service and where resources should be targeted, and colleagues were urged to respond. Angela Crossland noted that her work will focus on the margins of the criminal justice system and that she would welcome feedback and comments from Board members.

All

Board members acknowledged the loss of youth services, the need to prepare for further changes and the necessity to create a sustainable and resilient service. Graeme Murdoch urged Board members not to lose sight of the large number of young people in the middle who may miss out on services.

It was agreed that “Youth Services” would be a regular item in the YorOK Trust Update and a future agenda item. Judy Kent noted that Angela Crossland is now a YorOK Board member. Carolyn Ford is to circulate the Young People’s Service position statement with the minutes of the meeting.

JK

CF

4. Support in the Early Years

Children’s Centres – Early Intervention Report February 2014 - Reach, Impact & Outcomes including Parent Track

Jackie Royce presented highlights from York Children's Centres Early Intervention Report 2013, and Carolyn Ford was asked to circulate the powerpoint presentation and the Early Intervention Report plus appendices with the minutes.

CF

Ofsted has described York's children's centres as "bucking the trend" for the better in terms of best practice. The nine children's centres currently reach 72% of 0 – 4 year olds in the city and the target is 80%. Over the last year York Children's Centres have placed a greater focus on early intervention and parenting. Working closely with other early help partners, Children's Centres have advocated for the youngest and most vulnerable children and their families, while continuing to deliver universal services.

The universal "Parenting Track" accounts for 28% of work undertaken in children's centres, and is delivered to all new parents in the first two years of the child's life to support child development. The aim of the programme is to provide early support and prevent escalation to Children's Social Care.

Children's Centres are working at all levels. In 2013, of the 359 families supported, 58 were child protection cases, 140 child in need/CAF/IF cases and 235 were home learning/parent support cases. Families identified for support are categorised by risk factor, including 55 families identified due to domestic abuse, 92 identified due to an adult mental health issue, 54 identified due to adult substance misuse and 136 identified due to there being a vulnerable two-year old in the household. Supporting parents and ensuring they have access to services enables them to concentrate on their parenting and consequently reduce their child's level of vulnerability. A significant number of the families (37%) had 'other' risk factors. These included:

- High risk pregnancy
- Adults with learning difficulties or adults with disabilities
- Children with language or other developmental delays
- Isolated families
- Poverty / housing / basic needs

The referral system is being streamlined to ensure that these risk factors are being captured.

Of the 359 families that were supported during 2013, 52% of them (187) are now closed cases, and have demonstrated that the needs of the child and/or family are being met. The aim of the children's centre family support service is to improve the lives of parents by ensuring they can play more with the child at home, be more confident in setting and reinforcing boundaries, are aware of how to keep their child safe and are satisfied with the service received; and to improve the lives of children by enabling them to indicate what they are interested in and how they are feeling.

### 2 Year Old Early Education Offer

From September there is a new statutory duty to provide free, quality nursery education for a larger number of vulnerable two year olds. In September 2014, 308 vulnerable two year olds were offered free nursery places and in September 2015, 613 will be offered free places.

Placing these children in "good" or "outstanding" provision continues to be a challenge in some areas of the city, although there is some flexibility to use provision which is "less than good" where continuity for a child would be beneficial. Funding is based on the take up of places and this has increased from 71% to 77%. This is on a par with North Yorkshire and compares well to the national average of 68%. Non-take up data is shared with children's centres so that colleagues can follow up the families to ascertain why they did not take up the offer of a free place and whether they need any support services. There is still work to do around engaging with the hard to reach families.

A Steering Group will ensure that the need for additional places is met by not only expanding the quantity of provision available, but also the quality. There are insufficient quality places available in Tang Hall and the team is working with the headteacher of Tang Hall Primary School to secure sufficient places and challenge those placements that are not yet “good” to improve. Nationally, the DfE is encouraging schools to cater for two year olds however, in York, the private and voluntary sector is providing the majority of places, with most schools declining to get involved. Robert Wilkinson Primary Academy is the exception, having submitted an application to provide an academy nursery on the academy site.

To summarise the discussion, Judy Kent noted that three out of the four risk factors for families were related to adult needs and she suggested that this required further discussion as there were implications for commissioning. She clarified that children’s centres focus on the needs of the child and that the Team Around the Family will address the needs of the family as a whole. It is important that the child does not become invisible due to the needs of the adult, and children’s centres are working with health visitors and midwives to ensure that this is not the case.

JK

Cllr Looker raised the issue of post natal depression and it was noted that whilst a health visitor or midwife might identify depressed mothers, there is then no formal referral route to any specialist community provision, as the CCG is not commissioning mental health provision for post natal depression. It was noted that mums could access support through the NSPCC Your Baby Project, Parenting Track within children’s centres and from the YOT PSI team.

#### Shared Foundation Partnerships

This item was not discussed.

#### Coping with Crying – Verbal Update

This item was not discussed.

#### Early Years Stage Foundation Profile Headline Data 2013/14

The City of York’s figure for pupils meeting the twelve aspects of learning (a good level of development) is 64%, which compares to 56% last year. The national data is not yet available. Achievement of this indicator suggests that a pupil will go on to achieve five GCSEs including English and mathematics. Pupils who missed “a good level of development” by just one aspect will be followed up. Foster carers are to be trained in order to support looked after children in the home environment.

Early years provision in the city is currently judged “good or better” in 93% of settings. 6% of settings require improvement. 85% of schools are judged to be “good or better”, and from September Ofsted will provide a separate judgment for Early Years and Sixth Forms.

### 5. **Thematic Item: Vulnerable Groups**

#### Children Missing from Education

Mark Smith reported that when pupils are not attending school and it is not known where they have gone, they are entered on a “missing from education” register. The register currently contains 35 names. Missing from Education guidance will be issued shortly. This will clarify school responsibilities, including when they need to notify the Front Door that a child is missing, the checks the local authority will undertake and who will take the decision to stop checking. The guidelines are to be circulated to YorOK Board members for comment.

JK

In response to a query, Mark Smith noted that when he is notified of a child missing from education he undertakes checks on RAISE, Etrak and the Electoral Role, and talks to the Police, Housing and Benefits departments. Jo Beilby requested that ethnicity be recorded so that risk in terms of female genital mutilation, forced marriage and the honour system can be factored in.

It was confirmed that transfer files for Service Families are shared with the local authority.

### Domestic Abuse

Jo Beilby reported that York is working with North Yorkshire local authority on a Domestic Abuse Strategy. Whilst the North Yorkshire strategy is currently being consulted upon, York's first draft was presented to the York Domestic Abuse Board last week.

Jo Beilby had analysed police responses to domestic abuse incidents over the last year, and the majority had been catalogued as not meeting the threshold for children's social care. 168 of these families have been referred to IDAS for support and this has resulted in a reduction in the number of 999 calls. The YOT is looking into funding an independent domestic abuse adviser for young people.

There has been an 18% increase in the number of domestic abuse incidents compared to last year and this includes a 3% increase in the number of incidents involving 16 – 18 year olds. The biggest category for domestic abuse is 20 – 25 year olds. North Yorkshire has developed a risk identification check list in collaboration with young people, for use with young people up to the age of 25.

### Child Sexual Exploitation

Dot Evans, Chair of the Safeguarding Board sub-group for child sexual exploitation and abuse, described how the spotlight is currently on this area of work and that social workers need to re-learn how to spot and manage this. Child sexual exploitation needs to be a part of child sexual abuse so as not to fragment the response.

There is a growing awareness of child sexual exploitation through serious case reviews and the recent York case where an individual was exploited. A York and North Yorkshire Child Sexual Exploitation strategy has been produced and details how Health and the Police will respond.

The group is confident that they are approaching child sexual exploitation correctly and getting early help to young people to enable them to make the correct choices. The NSPCC 'Underwear Rule' campaign is being promoted in schools for pupils in Years 5 and 6. The YOT is educating targeted vulnerable young people about self-esteem, relationship choices and when relationships tip into abuse. Once abuse is referred to Children's Social Care, partners are working together to respond appropriately.

### Children in Receipt of Free School Meals/Take Up

Mark Ellis reported that, in November 2012, 400 pupils who were entitled to a free school meal were not claiming them. In order to address this, the benefits team wrote to the parents making them aware that their child was entitled to a free school meal and, as a result, 250 pupils subsequently took up the offer. This exercise will be repeated annually. The local authority is also working with schools in order to identify those pupils eligible for a free school meal, as they attract pupil premium funding.

As from September 2014 all Reception, Y1 and Y2 pupils will be entitled to a free school meal, and the local authority is confident that they will be able to access a hot meal at all schools in the city. The take up rate during the pilot phase was between

85% and 95%, and York is working on an average take up rate of 87%.

The largest percentage of pupils not taking up a free school meal attend a secondary school. Four secondary schools in the city did not have a cashless system for paying for school meals, and the local authority has assisted three of the four financially to install such a system. When asked, pupils said they did not take a free school meal because of; stigma; lack of choice; and they prefer to eat out of school at lunchtime. 80% of York schools are in the local authority catering contract and as a consequence of having to provide additional meals for KS1, the local authority has negotiated, as from September 2014, a price of £2,00 per day for a meal. This is a reduction from £2.20 per day.

The local authority and schools monitor the performance gap of pupils receiving a free school meal compared to their peers who do not. The gap in performance at KS2 is 26% and at KS4 29%, which is an improvement on previous years. Mark Smith, Jo Beilby, Mark Ellis and Dot Evans were thanked for their contributions to the meeting.

Board members discussed the prevalence of domestic abuse and it was agreed that the Board should discuss the risk factors in domestic abuse at a future meeting. It was noted that the Advice Team are in the process of noting and analysing risk factors on receipt of completed Early Help Assessments. The Police do not collect risk factors but A&E do record when alcohol is a contributing factor.

JK

Dot Evans suggested that anyone experiencing two out of the three “toxic trio” would be vulnerable and that if services knew about these factors earlier, they could intervene before the person reached the threshold for children’s social care. Partners were reminded that they could flag concerns about children, without consent, on the Child Index. Whilst universal programmes reach many families, colleagues were still concerned about the families that they do not see. It was noted that Durham MASH allows children’s social care to access police files, which then allows for early intervention prior to cases reaching CSC thresholds. Cllr Looker asked for this item to be added to the forward plan.

JK

## 6. **Forward Plan & Dates for Future Meetings**

Jon Stonehouse reported that the peer challenge of referral and assessment arrangements would commence on Monday 14 July. This is a sector led peer challenge commissioned by, and organised through, the ADCS group. Whilst it is not an inspection, the methodology and key lines of enquiry for the review will be based on the Ofsted inspection framework. The Front Door has been through restructures and the focus of the challenge will be on the effectiveness of the social worker element and how social workers signpost to the broader early help offer. The peer challenge team will comprise the DCS from Sheffield and two Assistant Directors, one from Sheffield and one from Rotherham. Jon Stonehouse is to feedback on the peer challenge at the next YorOK Board meeting.

JS

## 7. **Dates of Future Meetings**

Monday 8 September 2014  
 Monday 10 November 2014  
 Monday 12 January 2015  
 Monday 2 March 2015  
 Monday 11 May 2015  
 Monday 6 July 2015  
 Monday 14 September 2015  
 Monday 9 November 2015

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 11.55.