

YorOK BOARD MEETING



Date: Monday 12 May 2014
Time: 9.30 – 12.00
Venue: The Severus Room, West Offices

Helen Billson	Partnership Commissioning Unit
Scott Butterworth	Millthorpe School
Angela Crossland	Youth Offending Team
DI Jim Glass	North Yorkshire Police, PVP Unit
Tricia Head	Danesgate School
Jayne Hill	Commissioning Partnership Unit
Garry Jones	York CVS
Judy Kent	Head of Children's Trust Unit
Cllr Janet Looker	Cabinet Member, Children's Services, Education & Skills (Chair)
Debra Radford	NSPCC
Paula Richardson	Children's Centre Strategy Manager
Cllr Carol Runciman	Elected Member, City of York Council
Eoin Rush	Assistant Director, Children's Specialist Services
Andy Weir	Leeds & York Mental Health Trust
Simon Westwood	Chair, City of York Children's Safeguarding Board
Lesley White	Public Health, Children and Young People's Manager

In Attendance:

Debbie Banerjee	Children's Trust Unit , (Minutes)
Wendy Green	Commissioning and Partnership Manager, Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire
Polly Griffiths	Healthwatch
Chris Hewitt	Management Information Service
Howard Lovelady	Children's Services, City of York Council
Niall McVicar	Children's Trust Unit
Mark Woolford	Commercial Procurement Team, City of York Council

Apologies:

Lucy Botting	Vale of York Clinical Commissioning Group
Paul Edmondson-Jones	Director of Public health and Interim Director Adult Services
Graeme Murdoch	York College
Jenni Newberry	Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire
Lynn Parkinson	Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Jen Slaughter	Associate Director, York Hospitals NHS Trust
Jon Stonehouse	Director of Children's Services, Education & Skills
DCI Maria Taylor	North Yorkshire Police

1. **Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday 3rd March 2014**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2014 were agreed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Matters Arising

Page 1: The action assigned to Paul Edmondson-Jones: it was noted that Juliet Burton is supporting the production of a city-wide domestic abuse strategy through the provision of information and data relating to children and young people.

Cllr Janet Looker queried progress on sex education and the Positive Sexuality Survey. Judy Kent reported that she had presented the findings and key messages to a Head Teacher briefing session and had attended a meeting of the Youth Council to discuss the feedback from the survey and issues relating to sex education in schools. Judy had found this session to be very positive, interesting and challenging. The group will take away the outcomes of the survey to discuss further.

Cllr Janet Looker also noted that Item 5 on Child Poverty will be included on the Forward Plan.

2. **Trust Update**

Simon Westwood arrived at 9.45am.

Judy Kent highlighted a couple of points:

- i) A recent Ofsted report has raised the issue and challenges around tackling the earlier stages of neglect. The YorOK Integrated Working group (IWIG) had discussed this at the last meeting.
- ii) A small task group has been set up to consider this issue and report back, and arrangements were in hand to join up this agenda with the Safeguarding Board.

Simon Westwood commented that we need a common understanding of what the key factors of early child neglect are. The report specifies that there are an estimated 3.5k children who are suffering early neglect in York. Simon

Westwood noted that one of the purposes of looking at early neglect is to understand and challenge parental behaviour; Simon Westwood queried what services are available to fill this gap and had queried what the issues locally are. Paula Richardson stated that the children's centres are educating parents of younger children about age and stage appropriate behaviour and made the link with norms within families and communities. Polly Griffiths raised the question of what age does early neglect happen. For the purpose of this meeting it was defined that early neglect can happen in the early years and at the early stage of a problem across all ages of children and young people, from pre-birth to teenage years.

Tricia Head asked if schools were represented on the IWIG group: it was confirmed that they are. She also offered to feed information in to the group from school age children.

TH

Simon Westwood noted the need to say when the Board will revisit this. It was decided to coincide it with the safeguarding update which will take place in September.

JK/SW

3. **YorOK Year End Performance**

Eoin Rush presented results on behalf of Jon Stonehouse. The highlights from the Quarter 4 YorOK monitor were reported:

- The ongoing challenges of focussing more on outcomes and the systematic gathering and analysis of information about groups of children and young people.
- Hectic year across YorOK domain. Encouraging Looked After Children predictions indicate are that there are likely to be 200 (+ or – 10) in the city, which is a number that feels appropriate. The number of children on child protection plans has decreased from 162 to 131. Caseloads for the children's social care team (Front Door) are becoming more manageable. The average caseload now is 15-17 cases per social worker.
- There is a focus on Early Intervention in the Early Help Strategy to ensure we're targeting the right children.
- Mental health issues – the delivery of the CAMHS Strategy Action Plan has been passed to the CAMHS Executive Team. The focus will be on increasing the preventative offer across schools.

ER

- There is continued good progress regarding the availability and take up of apprenticeships.

ER invited questions. Simon Westwood noted that it was positive about the caseloads for the children's social workers. He also noted in relation to mental health, that the issue of self harm (which needs to be looked at further) links to early help. He suggested that it would be good to know more about the impact and outcomes of the Children's Centre Service (tabled at the next meeting) and asked if it would be possible to conduct an analysis of 'step up' and 'step down' activity in relation to child protection plans?

ER

PR

Tricia Head noted that reading and maths are key priorities for the 'virtual school' for looked after children and school improvement. Data about KS2 English and Maths is now separated and handled differently so it's hard to compare; the numbers are also very small. The focus is on reading and writing and these skills need to be practised with adults at home. The LAC profile is an upturned triangle with KS4 at the top; if they join care at the adolescent stage they'll have gained a basic knowledge in KS2. The virtual school is trying to show areas which can be improved.

Simon Westwood queried the figure of 91% of LAC having access to dental care; it was suggested that not all children aged 14+ want to see health professionals and this could potentially have skewed the data.

Obesity – Lesley White

Lesley White noted there was a spike of obesity in Year 6 children. There is a pilot project going ahead that's been coordinated by the CCG nutritionist and the Sports and Active Leisure team. Tang Hall has been selected as the area to run the pilot which will last for 10 weeks. After this, the programme may run in Acomb as there have been several parents in this area who have asked for help. Paula Richardson commented that positive parenting has an impact of healthy living. It was noted that the parenting strategy is being refreshed and that input from Public health would be welcome.

NM/LW

Whilst discussing this health issue Eoin Rush brought up the issue of self harm. The national picture looks good but self harm locally is a concern. The CAMHS Executive team will report on this subject. Consultations from schools would also be beneficial. Cllr Janet Looker has had contact with York University who state that mental health and self harm are significant amongst the student population. Cllr Janet Looker hopes to bring the findings back to the YorOK Board. Simon Westwood suggested this should also be tabled at the safeguarding board.

SW/Cllr
JL

4. **YorOK Commissioning**

Judy Kent introduced this thematic discussion item, and welcomed colleagues who had joined the meeting for this item.

Several papers had been circulated with the minutes to provide contextual information for this item.

Partnership Commissioning Unit 'Discover Programme' – information received from the PCU was circulated to Board members for information. This item publicised consultation opportunities for colleagues and members of the public.

Judy Kent drew attention to a specific recommendation in her paper: that in the context of the new and developing child health commissioning arrangements, Board members are asked to endorse a proposal to establish a new YorOK Board task and finish group to assess in the first instance how the commissioning of child health and wellbeing provision can become fully aligned with the ambition and priorities of the YorOK, Health and Wellbeing and Safeguarding Boards.

The following comments and contributions were invited from those present.

Cllr Janet Looker said that we need to bring together partners with commissioning responsibilities. The YorOK Board should also be clear about what it would like to see incorporated into commissioning specifications. We should also focus on activity in relation to early years and vulnerable two year olds.

Eoin Rush reminded colleagues that we have previous

experience of having a YorOK integrated commissioning group, a forum for people involved in planning and commissioning services and an opportunity to assess gaps in provision. It was noted that the FIRST co-funded service based at Limetrees developed from this forum.

Garry Jones confirmed that dialogue is taking place between CVS and council commissioners. He noted the need for a structure for funding for voluntary sector and the integration of health, social care and wellbeing. The Board was reminded that flexible funding involved fewer constraints and potentially more creativity.

Andy Weir affirmed the need to focus on impact and outcomes, what is and isn't working and how we can best use what we have available. There is the scope for new projects to test this.

Cllr Carol Runciman noted the importance of looking at the strategic role in commissioning and decommissioning. We should be alert to the unintended consequences of this activity. The proposed new YorOK sub group will face complex challenges in considering how one element of the system affects another.

Helen Billson – Since the changes in health were introduced, commissioning has become increasingly complex. Having a forum to discuss this and to unpack problems would be very helpful. Colleagues needed to be aware of the 'givens' within the commissioning system.

Lesley White explained that NHS England is bringing out a controlled service specification next year. A project group has been established to plan for the transition of commissioning responsibilities from the NHS to the council. Cllr Janet Looker noted that school nurses are getting involved in sexual health.

Mark Woolford confirmed the importance of focusing on outcomes. He said that the re-design of sexual health services was aiming to deliver a seamless service across the York / North Yorkshire boundaries.

Paula Richardson highlighted the importance of establishing a shared perspective and acknowledging the

complexities of different agencies. The task and finish group would provide a unique opportunity to be creative and again focus on outcomes.

Debra Radford explained that The NSPCC is a national charity and is commissioned to deliver a range of services. Their 'Mind the Baby' programme is working with children's centres and the organisation is well linked to local partners. Debra noted that the NSPCC's funding structure is different to the council's. There is a robust research and evaluation plan for each service they provide. Debra drew attention to the forthcoming NSPCC 'underwear' campaign, highlighting the link with early intervention and safeguarding.

Simon Westwood – Commissioning needs to be supported by the Safeguarding Board, and the task and finish group offers an opportunity to shape and influence. The Safeguarding Board can add value by bringing forward what is known, what outcomes are needed, prioritising and what evaluation is telling us about services. The key roles of the Health and Wellbeing aboard and Public Health were noted, as was the potential for the collective influence of partnership boards. Must also consider if services need reshaping rather than de commissioning.

Wendy Green said that funding has strings attached and that this new YorOK group could identify those strings, identify where most impact can be made and work collaboratively where funding problems exist. The OPCC aims to link commissioning to specific indicators. Wendy referred to a paper which details OPCC for both North Yorkshire and York.

Angela Crossland noted the need to understand how the new commissioning arrangements impacted on service provision and asked how commissioning supports the delivery of services in different ways. Angela also noted that the group will need to be able to influence and cautioned against introducing unwieldy arrangements.

DI Glass posed the question – is there a will for specific preventative commissioning? If there's no budget we need to look at ways we can take preventative measures, for example in relation to child sexual exploitation. DI Glass noted the difficulties in measuring what you're trying to prevent. Evaluation would take longer with prevention; the

results would only be visible years down the line. Paula Richardson reiterated the link between prevention and positive parenting. DI Glass noted that the 'Coping with Crying' programme in Children's Centres could be considered a homicide prevention initiative.

Scott Butterworth gave a secondary school perspective. The services available to schools have changed over the last year. There is a need to identify what is the Early Help Offer from schools and to acknowledge that this may differ between schools. There is a need to focus on prevention and achieve closer links with health and social care. The importance of the pastoral role in schools was also highlighted alongside the need to understand the opportunities and tensions that arise from the cluster model of working.

Tricia Head noted that from a school perspective, the commissioning model is prescriptive and a common approach. There is a risk that Heads may do things in very different ways. Tricia noted the importance of having access to information. The YorOK website is a good resource, but needs to extend its reach. Tricia would welcome the opportunity for schools to be more involved in operational dialogue as well as at the strategic level. It will be very helpful for schools to be involved in the dialogue.

DI Glass raised the topic of suicide and self harm. He asked what services there were available in education and health to pupils that have been excluded.

Cllr Janet Looker asked that a record of this discussion be circulated.

JK

It was agreed that a small task and finish sub-group should be established to scope purpose, terms of reference and membership of a wider YorOK Commissioning forum. This to come to the next meeting for comment and approval. It was noted that a representative from the health should be included.

JK

Eoin Rush noted that we need to carry out a baseline assessment of where we are currently before we move forward.

JK

Mark Woolford left at 11.15

Niall McVicar arrived at 11.15

5. Safeguarding Update – Simon Westwood

The visits to the Front Door team and Police Safeguarding Hub were both helpful. They showed good evidence of joint working between the police and social care staff. There was good risk management and information sharing.

Jon Stonehouse is pulling together a final version of the draft protocol between the City of York Health & Wellbeing Board/YorOK Children's Trust Board and Local Safeguarding Children Board.

JS

Simon Westwood asked colleagues to look at the part of the safeguarding website outlining the newly updated procedure for allegations about professionals. Cllr Carol Runciman asked about the plans to promote this new legal framework, and the use of the website. The need to promote with Head Teachers and Early Years Settings was raised.

All

SW

It was noted that the Health & Wellbeing Board has commissioned a report from the YorOK Board on Early Help, to go to the Safeguarding Board and Health & Wellbeing Board.

JK / SW

6. Feedback from YorOK Sub Groups

Looked After Children

Howard Lovelady and Eoin Rush invited questions from colleagues about the report 'Looked After Children and Young People in the City: Summary of progress and key priorities for 2014-15'.

Simon Westwood pointed out that there was no mention of safety in the 1.3 Principles section of the document, and that this should be included.

HL

Simon Westwood also noted a safeguarding issue relating to one of the results from the UMatter Survey conducted in March 2014 – 'Many young people didn't know who their Independent Reviewing officer was'. Howard Lovelady went on to say that the Corporate Parenting Board are monitoring this issue very carefully and are working to

ensure that Looked After Children know who their IROs are and who the Children's Rights Officer is.

Judy Kent noted that the YorOK Board considers care leavers up to the age of 25 and would it be possible to include a profile of outcomes of care leavers aged 18-25? Howard Lovelady responded that provision statements of 19 and 20 year olds can be obtained.

HL

Voice and Involvement Group

Niall McVicar invited questions from his report. Debra Radford commented that it was a great piece of work which brought everything together. Simon Westwood asked that when we do audits of the parent's and child's views, do we engage young inspectors. If not, could we do this? Niall McVicar explained that we're currently in the process of recruiting young inspectors and that this was something we could explore.

NM

Tricia Head noted the difficulties in getting all voices heard and getting opinions of hard to reach children and young people. Tricia Head expressed an interest in being involved in getting the hard-to-reach children and young people to complete the surveys.

TH

Niall McVicar stressed that the results from the U_Matter survey will give us some of the picture but it shouldn't be viewed in isolation. The team are thinking of ways to work with other people to get an idea of the bigger picture. An event that will hopefully give us a greater understanding is the 'Speak Up' event on the 14th June which will explore Looked After Children's opinions through different activities and consultations.

Niall McVicar discussed the upcoming Voice and Involvement Digest which will explore what messages are coming from young people currently. Feedback from colleagues is very welcome.

All

Integrated Working Implementation Group (IWIG)

Judy Kent asked Board members to approve the Early Help Action Plan. This was agreed.

7. Forward Plan and Dates for Future Meetings

July 7th is the date for the next meeting. There being no

further business, the meeting finished at 11.45.

DRAFT