



## CHILDREN'S TRUST PARTNERSHIP BOARD – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Present		
Cllr Jan Gavin	CJG	Lead Member for Children's Services
Natausha van Vliet	NV	PACT
Cllr Stanford-Beale	CSB	Councillor
Ann Marie Dodds	AMD	Director of Children, Education and Early Help Services, RBC
Kim Drake	KD	Quality and Improvement Lead, RBC
Cllr Josh Williams	CJW	Councillor
Hannah Powell	HP	Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
Jill Lake	JL	Trustee, RCVYS
David Dobraszczyk	DD	Participation Officer, RBC
Lisa Wilkins	LW	Interim Service Manager, YOT, CSE and Troubled Families, RBC
Andy Fitton	AFi	Head of Service – Early Help, RBC
Young People in attendance		
Sasha Tyagi	Youth Cabinet	
Alex Leith-Snow	Youth Cabinet	
Business Support:		
Donna Gray	DG	Minute Taker
Esther Blake	EB	Partnership Manager, RBC
Apologies:		
Debbie Woodcock	Department of Work and Pensions	
David Seward	Berkshire Youth	
Ben Cross	Development Worker, RCVYS	
Sally Murray	Head of Children's Commissioning, NHS Berkshire West CCGs	
Stan Gilmour	Local Area Commander, Thames Valley Police	
Kim Wilkins	Senior Programme Manager, Public Health	

### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Round table introductions took place. David, Alex and Sasha were welcomed to the meeting.

### 2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

**Action 1** - AFi agreed to get contact details for pastoral leads/safeguarding leads in Schools for the Youth Cabinet to approach. AFi will pass this information on to DD – AFi will follow up.

**Action 2** – Votes at 16 - YC to invite Cllr Gavin to meet with them along with other politicians to discuss this further – CJG is happy to attend youth council meetings when required. CJG advised that the Council support votes at 16.

**Action 3&4** – DG to send Presentation to be sent with the minute of today's meeting - Completed.

### 3. YOUTH CABINET UPDATE

Votes for 16: Sasha asked if the Youth Cabinet would be able to contact the Council communication team to assist them with their campaigns. CJG advised that they are not able to use the officers that work for the council for political campaigns. However if it relates to a policy that has been by the council then the can communication team can assist. CJW said as the council have agreed to support votes for 16 DD could approach them to assist the Youth Cabinet further. DD spoke with Michael Popham and discussed what work can be done in relation to promoting votes for 16. DD has communicated this to those members of the Youth Cabinet working on the project. Cllr Tony Jones is the lead for Schools so he can attend a Youth Cabinet Meeting if required.

PSHE Campaign: Sasha and Alex asked if there is a service in relation to the management of finances that can be included in the PSHE lessons in schools. AMD advised there are number of

organisations that Trouble Families work with that may have access to learning to assist families to manage their finances and resources and they can be used to teach young people how to budget and control finances. AMD will speak to the Head of Education to see if they have any resources. CSB advised there are companies who link up with schools to do finance training. Within the education department they will be aware of resources that support the PSHE Programmes.

The credit union have some resources for education. Sasha advised that they have received some lessons in school however there is a concern around the quality of these lessons. HP advised that some of the major banks used to go into schools and do work regarding finances. Money saving expert has some very pertinent information and ideas about how to save money.

**Action:**

- PSHE Campaign – Management of Finances - AMD and LW to undertake some work in relation to available resources and feedback to the youth cabinet via DD.
- PSHE Campaign – Management of Finances - LW will make a list of whats on offer for AMD to discuss this at the next head teacher's briefings.

LGBT Campaign: Sasha and Alex asked if anyone had contacts that could help the Youth Cabinet with a presentation that they have been working on or help them get their 'foot in the door with schools'. Alex asked if there were organisations that could help with activities for LGBT children and whether resources such as a theatre production or workshop that could be delivered in Schools were available (1 hr session). CJG advised that there are a number of organisations who could help with this. CJW advised the Youth Cabinet to approach Cllr Hacker regarding local art and theatre groups who may want to get involved with the campaign. Youth theatre companies in the town that might be interested in a drama based production or drama activities are Berserk, Progress Theatre and the South Street Theatre Group.

JL asked how many young people there were on the youth council and what range of schools they come from. Alex and Sasha advised that there are 20 young people on the council with a range of schools represented: Bulmershe, Highdown, Maiden Erlegh, Little Heath, Blessed Hugh Faringdon and Kendrick; they are trying to get representation from other schools to make it more diverse. The election for new representatives takes place yearly and after a 2 year term members have to be re-elected. There are no gaps in membership when people leave education.

Alex and Sasha thanked colleagues for their responses.

**Action:**

- AMD asked if the Youth Cabinet need a sponsor from the CTB to endorse the LGB campaign and agreed to do this.

**4. TROUBLED FAMILIES**

LW advised that Reading are now in Phase 2 of the programme and that they are looking at a culture change model to ensure that in 2020 when funding comes to an end the programme has made a sustainable change.

652 families have been worked with up until April 2017 and 139 claims have been made; this means the family has made a sustainable change in the outcomes areas. The next claims window is open until September 2017.

Innovations Committee – Programme Enrich looks at those areas where we haven't made an impact or any issues that have come up such as the benefit cap to see what support can be offered. There is a worker involved with 30 women who had high involvement with the police, all had

arrests of drug possession or drunk and disorderly. A dedicated police officer has worked with Alannah House and IRIS and this has been very successful. Partnership outreach was the key to success. In terms of the benefit cap work has been carried out with housing around how they can support families and how we manage the number of people affected.

Innovations Fund – When a family is ‘Turned Around’ money from the DCLG is provided to fund local organisations. So far 11 organisations in Reading have been funded.

CJG advised that the innovations fund is a bidding process where an organisation can submit a request for up to £25k but they have to meet certain criteria and show how the project will achieve its aims. It is a tough process because this is public money and it needs to be spent on working with families and children to improve outcomes.

LW advised that mental health interventions are evidenced by the service the family is open to such as GP management, CAMHS tier 3 or 4. LW advised that they use SDQ and Family star to monitor progress.

**Action:**

- DG to send Trouble Families presentation with minutes of today’s meeting

**5. SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS**

AFi advised that the Single Point of Access has been operating for 2 weeks; it has been a massive learning curve. There has been a real focus on having a positive approach regarding how they respond to the families who need an early help response.

Contact Experience – Within 24 hours there will be a joint decision made. AFi advised that there have been over 200 contacts per week. 20% go onto single assessment, 50% go to early help (tier 2) and the rest are sign posting or information advice for a family or the referrer. There is still a MASH procedure that sits in the front door and the key statutory partners are represented.

Reading will enter the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase in early September whereby the commissioned domestic abuse service provider will come into the front door service for 10 hours a week. They will look at cases along with the CSE and Missing pathway so this is all coordinated in one place.

CJG asked if they have a metric on how many calls are being diverted from the old pathway to see if the communications have got through to agencies. AFi advised that schools have started to use the pathway. There is a slot at the LSCB meeting next week to get some initial feedback on agencies experience of using the front door service. AFi advised that mainly positive experiences have been reported.

JL asked if referrers receive a response in a timely fashion. AFi advised that this standard is in place and it is happening. AFi can see on case notes that feedback is being provided to the referrer and the family. The majority of referrals are still coming from TVP.

Disabled Child Assessment – AFi advised that there is a Disabled Children’s Team Manager working in the front door service to assist with these referrals so they are dealt with consistently. AFi advised the right measures are in place and he has been advised that this is working well. AMD advised it is part of our aspiration to remove the stigma for families requesting assistance and when they are in need of help getting them to the right part of the system.

AMD advised if a family is referred to the single front door it doesn’t mean they are going to get and RBC offer as there are a lot of other agencies that can provide a service to families in need. NV likes the idea of being able to empower families and giving them the tools such as the family

information service is brilliant. CJG felt that the family information service should form part of the membership of this Board.

**Action:**

- EB to invite Maryam Mackie to the next meeting.

**6. EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION STRATEGY**

CJG is excited about the prospect of how positive this can be; there is a lot of partnership engagement that has fed into the strategy, although it is RBC owned.

LW spoke about the key areas of the strategy:

Being Bold – The strategy needs an ambitious plan that meets the need of Reading children. The strategy will drive forward the early intervention and prevention offer to the community.

Family Experience – Looking at universal, universal plus, targeted, specialist services there will be a suite of services for each of these areas.

Childs Journey – Will look at what support a child needs from friends and family all the way to being at crisis point where they will receive support from emergency health and social care services.

Each service area will take ownership and lead on culture change. Services will meet the local need and this will be informed through data. Work is needed around workforce development, data, and community work.

Delivery Plan – Communication is key to getting the messages across regarding the understanding and application of thresholds, structures and process delivery, workforce development and how we use data. There will be workshops held in geographical clusters of multi – disciplinary / agency partners as well as where necessary single agency discussions and presentations.

Action - Will look at partnership response to single point of access, model of intervention, increase the partnership offer and workforce development for staff so they understand changes and principles of the programme.

LW asked for feedback on the plan and asked if there were any other ideas on how we engage people. NV asked what the timescale for the communication of this was. LW advised that most of the workshops will be held by the beginning of October at the latest. LW advised that we need to look at how we can virtually involve those people who cannot attend meetings. The strategy will be shared at the workshop meetings and some communications will go out shortly.

AFi advised that there is constant dialogue with the CCG about how we can joint work when the opportunity arises. AFI said that conversations can take place with the CCG about what their funding priorities are.

Children’s Centres – AFI advised that there has been some work done with this client group on facebook and communications have gone out. This needs to be revisited to ensure the communication is understood by all agencies and this can be looked at in the strategy workshops that are going to take place. A work shop is due to take place with the voluntary sector.

**7. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE)**

AMD advised that the paperwork has changed around how this is managed and now looks at the victim profile. Work with TVP about how we best manage the risk of CSE is underway so risks are

addressed before children are harmed. A more substantial item will be required at a CTB Meeting but not until early in the New Year. There is the need to understand that alongside SEMRAC, RBC is managing the process through the front door as well.

AMD asked for colleagues to please talk to them if they have any concerns. AMD advised that if there is immediate risk of a crime being committed then workers should call 999 and if there is some risk that a crime has been committed then use crime stoppers, 101 or the Police. However, if a child is at risk and something isn't right e.g. changes in behaviour, a child having a lot of money, coming home with gifts etc. then this needs to go via the single front door. Standard safeguarding practice has not changed.

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS**

SEN Strategy – This has been through the ACE Committee. CJG recommended people look at this. Link to be added to the LSCB agenda.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

2018 meeting dates agreed.

**10. FUTURE ITEMS**

- 18th October 2017 – Early Help Strategy Update
- CSC Update re Ofsted process – Substantive Item
- January 2018 - CSE