

Minutes of the Children's Trust Commissioning Board (Learning & Skills for the Future)

Held on 10 March 2011

Present:

Carol Tozer	Torbay Council
Anna Tolchard	Torbay Council
Allison Grant	Torbay Council
Siobhan Grady	Torbay Council
Richard Williams	Torbay Council
Russell Knight	Torbay Council
Ian Stevens	Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (representing Steve Swani)
Debbie Stark	Torbay Care Trust
Janette Oxley	Community and Voluntary Action (representing Rose Sanders)

Also present:

Claire Hummerstone (Torbay Council), Kim Flemming (Torbay Council), Jane English (Head of School Leadership) and Kelly Murphy (Torbay Council)

126. Apologies for absence

126.1 Apologies for absence were received from Fred Pethard (Torbay Council), Rose Sanders (Community and Voluntary Action – represented by Janette Oxley) and Steve Swani (Devon & Cornwall Constabulary – represented by Ian Stevens).

127. Minutes

127.1 The Minutes of the Children's Trust Commissioning Board meeting held on 20 January 2011 were confirmed as a correct record.

128. Matters Arising from the Minutes

128.1 The Board reviewed the actions arising from its last meeting, and received a detailed update on:

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
Young Carers Memorandum of Understanding to be added as agenda item to 2 June CTCB meeting.	Alli Grant/Kelly Murphy	2 June 2011
Proposals for alternative suitable premises for EOTAS (Education Other Than At School) to be brought to the next meeting. It was advised that 1 potential building had been identified but investigation was still ongoing.	Richard Williams/Carol Tozer	2 June 2011

<p>Carol advised the Deep Dive Exercise would be taking place on the 4th -8th April by a multi agency team led by John Dixon, the Independent Chair of the SIP. The team would be interviewing frontline staff, managers, partners, members regarding areas of quality practice, partnership working and performance monitoring in the area of safeguarding. A presentation of the results from John Dixon is scheduled for 12 May 2011, likely to be at a venue at the Town Hall. The full report to be fed back to the 2 June Children's Trust Commissioning Board meeting.</p>	<p>Carol Tozer/Kelly Murphy</p>	<p>2 June 2011</p>
<p>A letter to be sent to Sam Barrell inviting a representative from GP Consortium onto the membership of Children's Trust</p>	<p>Carol Tozer</p>	<p>May 2011</p>
<p>The Children's Consortium has advised that Jeanie Lynch from Barnardos is to be the second voluntary representative on the Children's Trust Commissioning Board. Invites for future meetings to be sent to Jeannie.</p>	<p>Kelly Murphy</p>	<p>April 2011</p>

129. Feedback from 18 February 2011 Conference re: Health & Wellbeing Board

129.1 The Board received Report SCP/3/11 which gave an update on the Strategic Partnership Commissioning Review and the implementation of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

129.2 Debbie Stark advised that Torbay had been identified to be an early adopter of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Taunton Event on the 18 February 2011 had been looking at the development of these boards.

129.3 Carol Tozer advised of some of the key feedback points she had gathered from the workshop focusing on Children's issues. It was felt at the workshop that there were lessons to be learnt when establishing a multi-agency board by looking at the success of the Children's Trust Commissioning Board. It was important to make sure the new H&W Board was not adult focused, as the benefit of health and wellbeing from a child's perspective was really useful for cross cutting into other areas. Lead locals from LINK (Healthwatch) had expressed their wish to be involved.

129.4 Carol also advised that the Children's Trust arrangements were to continue for at least a year in the interim.

130. Community Based Budgets: Reducing Children in Poverty

- 130.1 The Board considered Report SCP/11/11 which outlined the progress made in the area of Child Poverty.
- 130.2 The Child Poverty Needs Assessment set out in Appendix 1 to Report SCP/11/11 detailed the extent of poverty within Torbay and the potential impact of poverty in limiting the 'life chances' of children and young people. Richard advised that some of the new data coming through indicated that in some areas of Torbay the number of children living in benefit dependant families was as high as 54%. Debbie Stark advised that the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment is available on the Torbay Council website would provide a good opportunity to compare information and identify any correlations between data.
- 130.3 Richard advised that the Child Poverty Needs Assessment would form the basis of a series of consultations with young people which would start in May/June 2011. The consultations would be designed to provide information on child poverty but also to facilitate the growth of 'social capital' within the targeted communities. The outcomes of this consultation process would form Section 2 of the needs analysis and would form the basis of a multi-agency operational working group and a new strategic approach. The child poverty strategy would form an integral element and contribute to the wider Closing the Gap project.
- 130.4 The Board expressed how important they believed it was for the consultation to be community led in order to ensure that the true voices of young people and their families were heard. It was felt that there were some good lessons to be learnt from projects such as those in Hele. The Board requested that Richard Williams liaise with James Drummond, Lead for Torbay Carers Service, Torbay Care Trust, to share best practice and methodology with regards to consultation.

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
Liaise with James Drummond to share best practice for consultation with young people.	Richard Williams	May 2011

131. Budget Update

- 131.1 Ian Stevens provided a verbal update on Devon & Cornwall Constabulary's budget position. The Board were advised that £11,454 was being allocated to the Torbay Safeguarding Children's Board and £5,000 to the Adults Safeguarding Board. From 20 May 2011, the 'blueprint' would come into action, with a planned reduction of 700 officer and staff over the next four years, with the main cuts affecting the area of response. There was an extra number of deployable officer support planned for the short term but this was to be night time economy led. Work was being invested with PCSO's to undertake 'working with vulnerable people' training.
- 131.2 Debbie Stark advised that funding had been received for four additional health visitors, due to start in September 2011. Work was also ongoing to try and address the poor performance in the area of mothers smoking during pregnancy and breastfeeding by joint working with the University of Bath using reward vouchers, however this was still in the early stages.

131.3 Carol Tozer advised that £466,000 had been re-invested by the Mayor into the Children's Services budget. This meant that the Children With Disabilities service savings would not be as severe and some identified savings would not be taken from the area of Safeguarding. Some savings would be still be made from Home to School Transport but cuts would not be taken from the over 16's budget as NEETS were seen as a priority. Savings would still be taken from the Connexions and Youth Services.

132. Strengthening Corporate Parenting – to include Children's Pledge and Children Looked After Improvement Plan

132.1 The Board received Report SCP/8/11 which provided an update in the area of Strengthening Corporate Parenting, including progress made against the Children Looked After Improvement Plan and Children's Pledge.

132.2 The Board felt that the Celebration event for all Children Looked After scheduled for September 2011 was a really key event and it was important that lots of input and enthusiasm was invested into it. The request by Children to be able to nominate their foster carers for awards as well as receiving awards for themselves was supported by the Board.

132.3 With regards to training for newly elected members on their role and responsibilities as a corporate parent, Carol Tozer advised that herself and Sue Allan had existing training material that could be built upon and as People Commissioner, Carol requested that she be involved in delivering the training.

133. Progress Report: Safeguarding

133.1 The Board noted Report SCP/9/11 which informed Board members about the progress in implementing the Safeguarding Improvement Plan.

133.2 Debbie Stark tabled a summary of actions due and completed on the CQC action plan. Debbie advised that there was a lot of pressure on a small number of qualified individuals from the Public Health team at present due to their involvement in Operation Mansfield.

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
More in depth summary to brought to future meetings of the CTCB.	Debbie Stark	2 June 2011

134. Improving Attendance and Behaviour in Education Settings

134.1 The Board received a presentation by Jane English, Head of School Leadership on 'Improving Attendance and Behaviour in Education Settings'.

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
Detailed plans of who/how the Behaviour and Attendance Hub will operate to come back to a future meeting of the Children's Trust Commissioning Board.	Jane English	2 June 2011

135. Progress Report: Reducing Teenage Conceptions in Torbay

135.1 The Board noted Report SCP/10/11 which informed members about progress in reducing Teenage Conceptions in Torbay.

136. Children and Young People's Plan Refresh

136.1 The Board considered Report SCP/12/11 which provided information about the refresh of Torbay's Children and Young People's Plan for 2010-2013.

136.2 All Members were asked to note the date of the event for the refresh (27 May 2011).

136.3 It was suggested, as the event was being held on a school day, that children's views were filmed beforehand and presented via video on the day.

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
Investigation into possibility of holding event at South Devon College. Other venue suggestions to be forwarded to Alli Grant.	Alli Grant All CTCB Members	April 2011
Event Invitation letter to be compiled by the Children's Trust Manager and forwarded to members to pass onto key attendees from each organisation.	Alli Grant/All CTCB members	April 2011
All CTCB members to identify contacts to work on developing needs assessment for each of the seven priority areas or provide a needs assessment to Children's Trust Manager directly.	Alli Grant/All CTCB members	April 2011
Submit any suggested changes to the event agenda to the Children's Trust Manager.	All partners	April 2011

137. Streamlining Consultations with Young People

137.1 The Board received and agreed the recommendations in Report SCP/13/11 which presented options for streamlining consultations with young people.

137.2 **Agreed:**

- (i) A Youth Board to be established comprising of members of the Children in Care Council, Children's Disability Council, Youth Parliament and invited members from other youth fora. The group to meet monthly with support from the participation youth worker from the Youth Service and a designated worker from the Children's Society.

- (ii) This Youth Board will have the following remit:
- To receive a summary of the agenda and minutes of the Children’s Trust Board and Children’s Partnership Forum and comment accordingly
 - To act as a steering group for a wider Youth Forum made up of the above groups which will meet four times per year for the purpose of discussing and consulting on relevant issues.
 - To provide two representatives for the Children’s Trust Partnership (to attend meetings twice a year)
 - To work in partnership with the Children’s Trust Board in developing the priorities and outcomes of the Children and Young People’s Plan and representatives to attend Board meeting twice a year.
 - To provide reports, evidence from consultative activity to the Children’s Trust Board as agreed.
- (iii) The Children’s Trust Manager will be the point of contact between this Youth Board and the Children’s Trust Board.
- (iv) The support for the board (venues/ transport etc) will be drawn from existing resources within Youth Service and Children’s Society.

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
Children’s Trust Manager to note agreed recommendations above.	Alli Grant	10 March 2011
Investigation into possibility of holding more ‘Your Bay, Your Say’ Events including younger children (of primary school age). Liaise with Suzie Franklin and Pete Maunder.	Alli Grant	2 June 2011

138. Children’s Trust Performance Report

138.1 The Board considered and noted Report SCP/14/11 setting out performance management information relating to Children’s Specialist Services activity for 2010/11 reporting year.

Action:	By Whom:	By When:
Re-look at format of ‘Making A Positive Contribution’ data as annual statistics are not very helpful.	Alli Grant	2 June 2011
Investigation of technical issues with ‘persistent absence’ data.	Alli Grant	2 June 2011
Relevant agencies to present their own performance data at future meetings.	Alli Grant/All partner agencies	2 June 2011

139. Date of Next Meeting

139.1 The next meeting was scheduled to take place on Thursday 2 June 2011 at 2.00 p.m.