

Children's, Families and Young Persons Housing Strategy Sub Group Meeting

2 September 2010 – Torbay Foyer

Minutes

Present: SB (Supporting People Service Development Officer), JS (Housing-Torbay Council), DP (Independent Futures), RH (Accommodation Officer, Youth Offending Team), SC (Housing Options Team Leader- Torbay Council), JW (Connexions), VS (Housing Options- Torbay Council), NA (Check Point), FP (Youth Offending Team), SBell, CT (Supporting People), SB-T (Safer Communities), CJ (Check Point), CH (Children's Services), PM (minutes)

Apologies: ND (Youth Offending Team), HD (Strategic Commissioner, Children's Services), CC (Westcountry Housing Association), DK (Care to Community), SBr (Children's Services)

No.	Action	Who
1	Send Torbay procurement process information to Nightstop	SB
2	Follow up outstanding action point 4 with SA	SB
3	Arrange meeting SA, EP, SB	SB
4	Discuss Terms of Reference guidance issued by Supporting People Manager	SB/JS
5	Contact Children's Services front line staff to ensure correct process known for signposting homeless young people	NA
6	Identify Care To Community resources needed in response to Southwark	SB/DK
7	Age profile statistics from services to next meeting	DP
8	Review youth homelessness prevention protocol	All
9	Send leaflet and protocol to Shelter once updated	SBell
10	Review strategy group distribution list	SB/JS
11	Complete good practice template for inspection	SB
12	Liaise with Cllr Parrot on exception	SB/CJ
13	Distribute exception template	SB

No.	Item	Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions JS welcomed everyone to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.	
2.	Matters Arising Last minutes agreed as accurate. AP1 – JS has liaised with Nightstop, the provision is voluntary and not commissioned by the local authority. Agreed Torbay needs to ensure provision fits into strategic plan. SB to send tendering information. AP2 – Terms of Reference for youth homelessness prevention panel have been updated and SB developed	SB

	<p>some templates which are being reviewed by operational staff.</p> <p>AP3 – cleared</p> <p>AP4 – Outstanding – SB to follow up with SA</p> <p>AP5 – JS met with RK (Children’s Services) who updated on Children’s Services restructure and is being kept updated with their process, JS said there is a desire to move towards joint commissioning.</p> <p>AP6 – as AP5</p> <p>AP7 – FP said it was difficult to made decisions as his post and SA post are interim, but confirmed the commitment to attend and FP and SA will attend alternate meetings and hold briefs to ensure good communication.</p> <p>AP8 – SB updated that JDr (Housing Link Worker) is leaving her post. Item carried forward. SB said there were accessible homes being advertised on Devon Home Choice currently but little interest. SB urged people to support families to register.</p> <p>AP9 – No feedback received on Terms of Reference. Guidance has been issued from Supporting People Manager. SB to discuss with JS.</p> <p>AP10 – SBell has updated leaflet with Check Point information. This will be verified by Shelter and distributed. NA agreed to contact frontline Children’s Services to ensure they are clear on process.</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>SB</p> <p>SB/JS</p> <p>NA</p>
7.	<p>Item 7 brought forward – Post Southwark Update</p> <p>SBell updated that Care To Community team are seeing a 40% increase in referrals and have accepted 6 young people under Section 20 of the Children’s Act. SBell said this was having resource implications on the team. JS said it was important to capture the prevention work being undertaken and the pressures this is causing. SB and DK to liaise on future resource requirements.</p> <p>SC updated on youth homelessness prevention panel (YHPP). She said that waiting lists were reducing as the panel identified inappropriate and out of date referrals. The YHPP still have to develop its monitoring tool.</p> <p>YHPP identifying the need for a service for chaotic young people with high support needs. JS asked for case study examples to help inform commissioning. SB recommended that the YHPP use the exception reporting process to identify trends for the strategy group to consider.</p> <p>DP raised a concern that priority is given to 16/17 year olds which could leave 18-25 year olds without a service and lead to unbalance in services. SC said referrals being received have changed which shows fewer referrals from 18-25 year olds. SC is attending the criminal justice and homelessness move on panel to ensure the needs and options for 18-25 year olds are represented. DP agreed to</p>	<p>SB/DK</p> <p>DP</p>

	<p>bring utilisation statistics in terms of age profile from services to next meeting.</p> <p>SB and SBell have met to revise the protocol. This needs to be reviewed by others and feedback given to SB who should bring to the next strategy group. Once agreed SBell will put information onto eProcedures for Children's Services staff.</p> <p>JS asked if a formal review of the protocol was required. Agreed to look at this in 3 months time and ask Shelter for input. SBell to send protocol and leaflet to Shelter once update work complete.</p> <p>SBell gave apologies and left the meeting.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>SBell</p>
3	<p>Children's Services Representation</p> <p>FP said there was a wide distribution list for minutes but that not many of these people attend. FP felt that HD would be a key commissioner to attend in the future and suggested the following other representation:</p> <p><u>ND</u> – Youth Offending Team and Targeted Youth Support</p> <p><u>FP / SAI</u> – Early Intervention / Specialist Services</p> <p><u>DK</u> – Care To Community</p> <p><u>TT / SBr</u> – Clusters / Children's Centres (SB to liaise and identify who will attend)</p> <p>CH felt that social care should be represented and suggested <u>JW</u> attend.</p> <p>JS/SB agreed to go through the distribution list includes core members.</p> <p>FP asked the group to identify good practice examples to contribute towards the impending inspection. SB to liaise with RK for the template. Information is required by 09/09/10. CJ suggested the protocol be used as one example.</p> <p>VS said that more work was required to educate young people on maintaining tenancies. SB responded that this was beginning in partnership with Check Point and Paignton College.</p> <p>SC asked if a panel approach would be used for families. CH said that young people entering the care system at 14/15 are very high cost and explained about the avoidance from care panel and suggested SB attend to represent housing in the first instance.</p> <p>FP and CH apologised and left the meeting.</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>JS/SB</p> <p>SB</p>
4	<p>Evidencing Cost Benefits of Supporting People</p> <p>CT explained the model used for evidencing cost benefits as a national tool, using localised finance data where available. The full document can be found on Supporting People pages of Council website.</p> <p>CT gave headline information; for families the cost saving is estimated at £0.37 million for 55 units of support and £0.31 million for 126 units for young people. The report is</p>	

	<p>complimented with case study examples from our services. CT and SB have developed a further data collection tool that has been sent to all services for them to audit current cases to demonstrate where clients are involved with statutory services. This data will be analysed and brought back to the strategy group.</p> <p>The information collected can help the strategy group identify where prevention money is best spent to have biggest impact on cost benefits for other agencies.</p>	
5	<p>Exception Reporting</p> <p>SB tabled an exception report that is a template tool developed by the Supporting People team. This tool should be used in the future at contract management level and to flag exceptions to delivery of outcomes. Where a trend is identified that requires a strategic response, the exception will be raised at this group. The exception process can also be used by YHPP where they are unable to achieve aims. The exception tabled in relation to unplanned move from a supported accommodation service was brought to the group as the planned move-on target has not been achieved. This is a Local Area Agreement target and Supporting People has to identify its target recovery plan.</p> <p>JS summarised that statutory partners need to be included in the debate on this exception as the report shows the multi agency approach should have worked as the young person was a relevant care leaver and had a child on the child protection register. CJ suggested the exception be raised at the corporate parenting strategy group. SC raised concerns on in-action by the provider in preventing the eviction and SB confirmed these had been addressed with the provider, but the exception was still required and SB-T expressed that the responsibility for accommodating the family rested with the Care To Community team as the corporate parent. Agreed SB and CJ should liaise with Julian Parrot the Cllr Champion for Children and Chair of corporate parenting strategy group.</p> <p>The group suggested a row be added to the template to show what actions had been taken to address the exception. SB to amend and distribute to Chair YHPP and all providers.</p>	<p>SB/CJ</p> <p>SB</p>
6	<p>Commissioning Updates and Budget</p> <p>SB updated the following contract changes which have been agreed to meet strategic need identified in the young people sector:</p> <p>Galway House will become a low needs service from 5 October and the Foyer will become high/medium/low needs service from 5 October. Staffing changes and finance have been amended contractually to reflect changes.</p> <p>Floating support will be increased by 9 units from 5 October</p>	

	<p>specifically for 16/17 year olds, to be funded through the Southwark money.</p> <p>SB has started to formalise commissioning arrangements undertaken through the sector by issuing Service Level Agreements for the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Offending Team accommodation worker – joint post Supporting People and Youth Offending Team, extended to 18 April 2011. • Care To Community and Supporting People delivery of Parkview Guesthouse, extended to 18 April 2011 plus agreement for Care To Community to reimburse Supporting People for units used by eligible and relevant care leavers. DK is identifying numbers that need re-charging from 1 April which will add some financial income to sector budget. • Young Devon provision for emergency temporary accommodation for 16/17 year olds (5 block purchased and the option to spot purchase up to a further 5) – Southwark funds • Family mediation – Supporting People, Housing and Southwark funds <p>SB concluded that the current budget position for Supporting People was projected for 2010/11 to be £123,727 overspent (down from £196,597).</p> <p>The Southwark money budget position was projected at £6,206 overspent, but SB said this was unlikely as projection is based on 5 spot purchased units being fully utilised at all times which is unlikely.</p>	
8	<p>Any Other Business No other business.</p>	
9	<p>Date of Next Meeting 4 November 2010 1pm – 3pm at Torbay Foyer Part B – 3pm – 4pm for commissioners only</p>	