

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

29th April 2010 – Torbay Foyer

Minutes

Present: SB- Supporting People Service Development Officer, JS- Torbay Council and Chair, NA- Checkpoint, AM- Children's Services, LW- Stone Court, DK- Care to Community, SBT- Safer Communities, DP, RH- Youth Offending Team, SC- Housing Needs, KW- Checkpoint, AN- Torbay Foyer, JP, TT- Children's Service

Apologies: AL, KT- Children's Services, JW- Children's Services, ND, JD- Housing Co-ordinator, JW- Connexions, CB, KM- Safer Communities, FK- Housing Support Referral Hub

No.	Action	Who
1.2.3	Agenda items to be added	SB
4	Night Stop update	JS
5	Amendments / comments on Parenting Strategy to AM by 20 May 2010	All
6	Monitor spend of prevention fund for 16/17 year olds	SC
7	Provide annual estimate cost on provision of food parcels for young people in temporary accommodation	NA
8	Contact JW for Children's Services appeal procedure	SB
9	Decision required on what monitoring data from temporary accommodation is needed. To be actioned as agenda item at next meeting.	SB
10	Distribution of terms of reference for prevention panel. Feedback to be provided by end of May Chair of prevention panel to feedback highlights and exceptions from meeting	SB All SC

No.	Item	Action
1.	Minutes of last meeting and matters arising	
	1. Taken forward to this agenda	
	2. JS updated that Devon Home Choice is up and running, this has replaced Homefinder Torbay and includes all 10 Devon local authorities. Item carried forward to next meeting for review and collation of operational issues. SB to add as agenda item.	SB
	3. SB has arranged a meeting with JS and FM (Supporting People Manager) to discuss Young Devon service specification.	
	4. Carried forward. SB to add as agenda item.	SB
	5. Carried forward. SB suggested the group identify what monitoring data should be collected and monitored by this group. SB to add as agenda item.	SB
	6. SB has met with Young Devon and Check Point and	

	<p>raised issue of income support. Opportunities for joint working have been discussed for the future.</p> <p>7. Taken forward to this agenda</p> <p>8. JS informed the group that the person working at Night Stop has left and she has not received any further information, NA updated that they have placed in Devon previously but now been told that Torbay people can no longer use this service. JS to follow up.</p>	JS
7.	<p>Parenting Strategy - Item brought forward.</p> <p>AM gave an update since the 2006 strategy, highlighting that evidence then showed the older and more complex needs a child has, the less service provision was available. Since 2006 new services have been put in place, including Family Intervention Project, engaging fathers, Triple P training (Positive Parenting Programme), Parenting early intervention programme (through Youth Offending Team), Family Information Service, Parenting Advice drop-in's weekly in schools (to be expanded across other early years settings). There is also a parent's participation forum starting in May.</p> <p>The new strategy has 7 priorities. There is a Parenting group which meets quarterly and has 3 sub groups. AM stated that there are less outcomes achieved for children of prisoners, and this is an area where further work is required.</p> <p>JS thanked AM for the update and stressed that the challenge for the sub group was in supporting families with 16/17 year old children, and stated how important it is to link in with existing service provisions.</p> <p>A coordinator for triple P is being recruited, in the interim for more information contact HD.</p> <p>All amendments / comments should be sent to AM by 20 May 2010.</p>	All
2.	<p>Southwark Ruling Update</p> <p>JS updated that funding has been identified and the group can now take positive steps to implement additional services for accommodation and support of 16/17 year olds.</p> <p>SC discussed the young persons housing pathway and raised questions for the group.</p> <p>Q1. Should we have a shared pot of money for prevention? Agreement that the current methodology of fix it fund being used to maintain housing situation / place with kin in interim, whilst a planned move in undertaken worked well. Agreed that £10,000 of funding be used for this type of prevention. This money must be tracked and monitored – there must be</p>	

	<p>an evidence based trail to show need and decision. The fund must be carefully managed. Current arrangements between Check Point and Housing to continue. SC to monitor spend and feedback to strategy group.</p> <p>Q2. How should meals and allowances be funded? Agreement that food parcels should continue to be used for young people who have no money and when parents will not give any money and for those awaiting benefit claim. NA to provide an estimated annual cost based on numbers of food parcels distributed previously. Agreement that CFYP group should fund food parcels and agreement at next meeting on costing is required. Food parcels will be held and distributed by temporary accommodation providers.</p> <p>Q3. Agreed that a lead professional / worker should be identified for each homeless young person to ensure their case is followed through. More work is required to identify who decides who has this role, as it will be different for different young people. Agreed that a process for prioritising homeless young people at Common Assessment Framework stage is required. More work needed on this.</p> <p>Q4. Agreed that SBe from Care To Community (CTC) has delegated authority to allocate cases at panel meeting to the Children in Need team. This should speed up process.</p> <p>Q5. How is an initial assessment (IA) or homeless application processed? An IA through SBe, as answer to Q4, homeless application through current process.</p> <p>Q6. How are appeals to decisions made? Housing services has a standard procedure for appealing homeless application decisions. SB to contact JW to request Children's Services procedure.</p> <p>Q7. When is housing benefit claim placed? Discussion took place on implications of applying for benefit too soon and raising financial expectations of young people. Agreed that CFYP budget should fund days 0-5 rent, but this should be claimed back through housing benefit where possible once the young persons longer term living arrangements are known.</p> <p>Questions from the eta@foyer implementation group</p> <p>Q1. funding of food – answered above</p> <p>Q2. housing benefit claim – answered above</p> <p>Q3. Guidance on curfew – agreed that term curfew should be replaced by 'time in by'. Services should negotiate and agree times on an individual basis, working with the family and mediation service. Agreed to trial and review as required.</p> <p>Q4. Young People evicted from emergency temporary accommodation should re-enter the pathway at appropriate place. Would highlight potential child in need if unable to manage / adhere to rules.</p>	<p>SC</p> <p>NA</p> <p>SB</p> <p>DP</p>
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	<p>Q5. What about a young person whose needs are too high to place in emergency temporary accommodation? JS said that longer term the group needs to strategically procure provision that will allow for this, and in the interim, encourage access to existing provision by all services working together to put in resources to manage and maintain placements.</p> <p>Q6. What monitoring data does the group require? Carried forward to next meeting.</p> <p>Terms of reference for the Housing prevention panel have been drawn up by SB. To be circulated with minutes for feedback by end of May, amendments made and added as appendix to the protocol document. Group attendees must follow roles and responsibilities. Chair of group is required to feedback to strategy group highlights and exceptions.</p>	<p>SB</p> <p>SB / all</p>
3	<p>Commissioning Update</p> <p>SB updated that an additional full time equivalent mediation worker post will start on the 4th May at Check Point.</p> <p>SB updated that 4 emergency temporary accommodation beds are still being developed. It is hoped these be available in June. The service will be called eta@foyer.</p> <p>SB updated that additional (early intervention) floating support will be commissioned to support the protocol. The focus of this work will be to support young people living in temporary accommodation, support young people moving on from eta@foyer and hand over and longer term support to families / young people using mediation service. SB to meet with FK to discuss how priority can be actioned using existing hub processes.</p>	
4	<p>Check Point Update</p> <p>Data from 01/02/10 to 27/04/10</p> <p>42 young people presented to Check Point as homeless or at risk of becoming homeless</p> <p>9 young people referred into emergency temporary accommodation</p> <p>16 referred to the hub for supported accommodation</p> <p>24 referred to family mediation worker</p> <p>8 referred to Children's services (safeguarding/child in need)</p> <p>4 Common Assessment Framework's completed</p> <p>Check Point also stated that they are identifying a trend in relation to grand parents.</p>	
5	<p>Temporary Accommodation update</p> <p>SC provided data as of today;</p> <p>Young Devon – all vacancies will be filled by next week.</p> <p>Dalmeny – 6 young people (including 1 pregnant with</p>	

	<p>partner, 1 18 year old, 1 20 year old care leaver)</p> <p>Numbers waiting for Supporting People services total 74 Galway floating support – 3 Galway House – 16 Fraser Court – 26 Foyer – 31 Stone Court – Young Parents -</p> <p>Note: 2 duplicates in young people services SC raised issue that the Dalmeny had a high rate of ‘no stays’ amongst young people. Agreed that further work required to find out where people are staying, and how homeless are they if they don’t require temporary accommodation.</p>	
6	<p>Youth Offending Team accommodation worker update RH raised concerns about where young people with high needs will be placed for emergency temporary accommodation.</p>	
8	<p>Any Other Business None</p>	
9	<p>Date of Next Meeting 7 June 1pm – 3pm at Torbay Foyer</p>	