

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

4 November 2010 – Torbay Foyer

Minutes

Present: Shelley Brown (SB, Supporting People Service Development Officer), Julie Sharland (JS, Chair, Torbay Council), DP, RH- (Youth Offending Team Accommodation Officer), SBT (Safer Communities), PM (minutes), BT (Housing Services, Torbay Council), SBR (Sure Start)

Apologies: ND (Youth Offending Team), HD (Children's Services), JW (Connexions), SC (Housing Options, Torbay Council), FP (Children's Services), SA (Children's Services), NL, NA (Check Point Mediation Service), CC (Westcountry Housing Association)

No.	Action	Who
1	Follow up outstanding action point 5	NA
2	Follow up outstanding action point 6	SB/FP/SA
3	Follow up outstanding action point 7	DP/SB
4	Youth Homelessness Prevention Protocol - Agreed by this Group SBell to be informed	SB
5	Feedback on raising exception at Corporate Parenting Group Meeting	SB
6	Raise with Children's Trust the need to cover health aspects and Terms of Reference to include a Health Person	JS
7	All to email SB with details of any Providers who may be interested in the Procurement Events	ALL
8	To do more work on Needs and bring to next Meeting	SB
9	Feedback on impacts on Landlords and results of looking at different models for Tenancy Support and Deposit Schemes	JS
10	Develop Tool and draft proposals for Monitoring and circulate to this Group	SB/BT
11	Email this Group Dates and Venues for Devon Home Choice Reviews	JS

No.	Item	Action
1.	Welcome and Introductions JS welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Ben to the Meeting.	
2.	Matters Arising Last minutes agreed as accurate. AP1 – Cleared. AP2 – Cleared AP3 – Cleared	

	<p>AP4 – Cleared</p> <p>AP5 – Outstanding – Contact Children’s Services front line staff to ensure correct process known for signposting homeless young people.</p> <p>AP6 – Outstanding - Identify Care to Community resources needed in response to Southwark .Is this now urgent? SB to liase with FP or SA to see if someone can do this</p> <p>AP7 – Outstanding Age profile statistics from services to next meeting DP will email details to SB to send out to the Group</p> <p>AP8 – Youth Homelessness Prevention Protocol Agreed by Group SB to inform SBell</p> <p>AP9 – Leaflet had been sent to Shelter – no comments back yet.</p> <p>AP10 – Review Strategy Group distribution list – to be done after this meeting.</p> <p>AP11 – Cleared</p> <p>AP12 – Exception to be raised at Corporate Parenting Strategy Group by SB who is attending their next meeting.</p> <p>AP13 - Cleared</p>	<p>NA</p> <p>SB/FP/SA</p> <p>DP/SB</p> <p>SB</p> <p>SB</p>
3.	<p style="text-align: center;">SP Commissioning Body</p> <p>JS advised that Event had taken place on 7th October 2010 and findings from the Event were due to be sent out shortly. JS represents this group at the Commissioning Body meeting.</p> <p>JS reported that Caroline Taylor (Deputy Chief Executive) had attended the Event and in the afternoon visited some Supporting People Services. CT visited Stone Court, the homeless families project commissioned through this group and was given useful information from the manager, including details of the cost benefits on other public sector bodies.</p>	
4.	<p style="text-align: center;">Ofsted Outcome Feedback</p> <p>Unfortunately no-one from Children’s Services was present at the meeting. SBT said that the main issue was around the levels of case loads on Children in Need. The Children looked after Inspection was adequate with good points and positive outcomes. With Children in Need Section 47’s were not being done in the timescales required.</p> <p>An Action Plan has been drafted which is quite robust. It is now under Direct Governance. A lot of cases are referred in but they do not have the capacity to deal with them. They are having problems recruiting Social Workers.</p> <p>Youth Homelessness Prevention Panel (YHPP) had been highlighted as good practice. Multi Agency working was also reported as good.</p> <p>SB advised that she was asking her Providers about Safeguarding cases they are dealing with in contract review</p>	

	<p>meetings and JS agreed this to be an Agenda Item at the next Meeting.</p> <p>SB highlighted missing representation of health at this group and operational YHPP. JS said a key link was with JD who is liaising with SB about Teenage Pregnancy. JS to raise with Children's Trust the need to cover Health aspects and include in Terms of Reference a Health person to receive these minutes.</p>	JS
5.	<p>Future Commissioning Risks Comprehensive Spending Review & Neighbouring Authority Decisions</p> <p>JS advised that from this Groups perspective the main concern is that Supporting People and Homelessness Grant are now un-ringfenced. Early Interventions are recognised as important as is the Supporting People function.</p> <p>DP reported that Devon Supporting People are looking at Spot purchasing Supporting People services. DP advised that by mid December they will be told more about what is happening. JS said that Torbay are using a zero based budgeting tool to identify what Services are Statutory and what are not. The Local Authority are not rushing forward to make decisions but are potentially looking at a 25% cut over the next four years.</p> <p>DP advised that Devon are costing out High; Medium and Low costs of Services they are looking at the Oxfordshire model and putting money into High Needs Services.</p> <p>SB advised that one option in a move towards personalisation was a core and flexi model where services receive a set amount per client and the client then undertakes a resource allocation assessment to identify how much funding they are able to receive in total to meet their needs (from all public sector bodies as part of personal budget), with the service amount being deducted from the total cost. The funds left over from the allocation could be used by the client to buy additional services, either from the same provider or an alternative.</p> <p>SB suggested the strategy group look at further models of Commissioning i.e. include SPOT Purchase. DP said that she feels Personal Budgets are quite risky for Young People as they are quite chaotic and need to build up relationships before looking at what is best for them next. SBr joined the meeting.</p> <p>SBR advised that there is a protected budget for Sure Start it is part of the Early Years Grant. Children's Centres are a Statutory Provision. They are considering payment by result or going back to the Sure Start set up when it was originally</p>	

	<p>set up.</p> <p>Framework Agreement SB advised that the Timetable had slipped and now looks to be March instead of January 2011.</p> <p>There is potential for Children’s Centres to look at putting in Tenders under community support. This is a big opportunity for Providers to work collectively in formal partnerships and consortiums to bring together skills.</p> <p>SB asked that if anyone knew any Providers who may be interested could they email her so that they can be invited to the Procurement Events.</p> <p>Client Perspective SB advised that BT, Supporting People Community Engagement Officer and Torbay Voice are planning a consultation event for young people for January to get their feedback and ideas on service delivery in the future. SBT advised that she recently attended a Participatory Budget Event where four Groups put in a two minute pitch and then everyone voted on it to decide what proportion of money goes to each group. It could be tangible for Young People. SBR said she thought there could be a possibility to use this approach with parents in Sure Start Centres. SBR reported that for Family Support Team issues always come up with Housing.</p> <p>Priority Needs Group discussion identified potentially in the future will have less money so will need better value for money. Need to look at resources and decide who to target. What is the next step from supported accommodation? The 18+ group may not fit into priority need. SB to work on needs data collection for next meeting and seek information from partners. SBR advised that there was a Group which meets to support Families of Offenders. SB advised that she attends this meeting on behalf of the strategy group. All agreed the crossover between the different strategic groups needs to be joined up.</p> <p>Group needs to consider Cross Authority Commissioning and need to take down the budget barrier.</p> <p>JS advised they were looking at the impacts of the welfare changes particularly around Housing Benefit, but not everything is definite at this time. JS will pull out specific things relevant for Children families and young people for the next meeting. JS said there are also potential impacts</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>SB</p> <p>JS</p>
--	--	--------------------------------

	<p>on Landlords with one bed roomed flats being affected for the under 35 year olds. JS advised that they were exploring different models on how to offer Tenancy Support and the Deposit Scheme. She will bring this back to the next Meeting when more will be known.</p> <p>SB advised that all Supporting People Contracts end at the 18th April 2011. Simon Sherbersky as the Accountable Officer has stated that no Contracts will be extended without his advance approval. Also we need to look at where else we can get money from to jointly commission.</p> <p>SB advised that she was looking at the financial benefits tool and working with services in the sector to look at cost savings. She is collating costs for the January Meeting for the group to identify joint commissioning opportunities based on cost savings.</p>	
6.	<p style="text-align: center;">Exception Reporting</p> <p>Document was tabled by BT who then went through the Report (attached to minutes). There is a need to develop a Monitoring Tool for the YHPP to ensure governance and needs information to inform strategy group decisions. JS advised that it was crucial to identify consistent approaches. The main problem is with IT Systems not talking to each other and therefore a bespoke system was required. SB and BT to be involved with this and to liaise with IT re what is needed and what IT can do to help. Looking at Paris; Comino and Check Point Systems. The Tool needs to be user friendly. The Group agreed for BT/SB to develop the Tool and share with strategy group for feedback. JS initially allocated a three month timescale for BT/SB to attend the YHPP and support capacity building of the group.</p>	SB/BT
7.	<p style="text-align: center;">Devon Home Choice</p> <p>JS said the system was currently being reviewed she will email this Group the dates and venues for the reviews. She advised that all reports were available on line. At the end of August Torbay had 3,114 active applications. There is a waiting time of 3-5 years for families needing a three bedroomed property. 89% of people are bidding on line. Also 59% across all bands are not putting in any bids; this could be because the right properties are not on offer. Bidding now takes place weekly. Movement in and out of Torbay so far between January 2010 and September 2010 - 29 people have moved out of Torbay and 8 have moved in.</p>	JS

8	<p style="text-align: center;">Any Other Business</p> <p>DP advised that it was the launch of Independent Futures on Monday. Commissioners invited from 08.30 am. The rest from 10.00 to 13.00 with lunch provided.</p> <p>SB asked about future venues for this meeting as we are now being charged for using the Foyer. DP advised that she would book the Meeting room upstairs for these Meetings in future and there would not be a charge for using it.</p>	
9	<p style="text-align: center;">Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>6th January 2011 – 13.00 to 15.00 – Meeting Room, Torbay Foyer. Part B 15.00 to 16.00 for Commissioners only.</p>	