



BOROUGH OF POOLE
CHILDREN'S TRUST GOVERNANCE BOARD

MONDAY 19TH JULY 2010

The Meeting commenced at 5.00pm and concluded at 7.00pm.

Present:

Members of the Board

John McBride – Chair, Chief Executive, Borough of Poole (BoP)
Adrian Dawson – Director of Public Health, NHS Bournemouth and Poole
Anne Newton – Director of Children's Services, Borough of Poole
Blair Crawford - Third Sector Representative
Cllr Carol Evans – Elected member (BoP)
Cllr Sandra Moore – Elected member (BoP)
Eugene Gratwick – Non – Executive Director, NHS Bournemouth and Poole
Fiona Haughey – Deputy Chief Operating Officer, B&P Community Health Services
Jan Thurgood – Strategic Director, Borough of Poole
Linda Boland – Operational Director, Children's & Specialist Services, Dorset Healthcare NHS Trust
Lynn Hart - Divisional Commander, Dorset Police
Mandy Goodenough – Third Sector Representative
Martin Smits – Director of Nursing and Patient Services
Martyn Jewell – Chief Executive, Connexions
Paul Barnard - Third Sector Representative Roger Browning – Chief Executive, Dorset Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Ros Maycock – Chair, Professional Executive Committee
Sue Pelham – Head teacher, Poole Schools

Invited Observers

Penny Mathers - Children & Learners Strategic Adviser, GOSW

Also in attendance

Nick Wharam – Commissioning Manager, Children and Young People's Services – Strategy, Quality and Improvement (CYPSSQI) (BoP)
Rachel Folley – Senior Children's Trust Policy and Planning Officer, (CYPSSQI) (BoP)
Amanda Males (Minutes) – Children's Trust Communications Officers, (CYPSSQI) (BoP)
Gerry Moore – Service Unit Head: Children and Young People's Social Care

1. WELCOMES AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed those at the meeting and Penny Mathers, Children & Learners Strategic Adviser, Government Office South West.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies of absence were received from:

Anne Shinwell – Head teacher, Poole Schools
Cathy Riordan - External Relations Manager, Jobcentre Plus
John Morton – Director of Joint Commissioning & Partnerships, NHS Bournemouth and Poole
Lawrence Vincent – Principal/Chief Executive, Bournemouth and Poole College
Liz Lowe – Deputy Director of Public Health, NHS Bournemouth and Poole
Roger Browning – Chief Executive, Dorset Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Valerie Graves – Chief Operating Officer, B&P Community Health Services

Apologies after the meeting were received from:

John Pay – Chair, Poole Governors Forum
Tina Ridge – Assistant Chief Officer, Bournemouth & Poole Local Delivery Unit, Probation Service.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 2010, having been previously circulated be taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chair as a correct record

MATTERS ARISING

Linda Boland was in attendance at the meeting on 18th January 2010.

4. BRIEFING ON EMERGING CONTEXT FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Presented by Anne Newton

Anne Newton showed a PowerPoint presentation and circulated copies. Anne Newton shared her key messages and illustrated each key message with various examples. The key messages were: Successes and Achievements, Changing times – Coalition Government announcements, Policy announcements, What we don't know, What we know about children and young people in Poole 08/09, What we must do.

A discussion followed:

- Lynn Hart said it was crucial to continue to work in partnership. We can't continue to do everything so we must focus on 2 or 3 key areas and work to acceptable standards
- Anne Newton pointed out that some issues were not quick fixes. Some activities are usually long term so we need commitment to work in partnership
- Lynn Hart said tackling inequalities is important and reinforced the need for the partnership to be focused

- Fiona Haughey suggested that the partnership builds up an infrastructure of universal services as it is something the Board all has in common
- Ros Maycock agreed that universal services needs to be strengthened and would also help avoid duplication of provision
- Sue Pelham said she had concerns about outstanding schools becoming academies as this could lead to non-outstanding schools being more vulnerable. There could be an impact on delivery of universal services
- Anne Newton suggested that partnership with academies may be difficult. However, there may not be such a rush to become academies due to some of the difficulties of the process.
- Sue Pelham said she was worried about the BSF programme and the possible impact on the programme for the Age of Transfer Programme for Poole
- Anne Newton said that the LA has not decided to change their commitment for the plans on Age of Transfer.
- John McBride noted that we are dealing with 2 things - deficit reduction and change in policy. BSF is caught in both.
- Anne Newton shared that there is going to be 'pupil premium', however there are no details on when it will start and how it will work. Schools will have additional funding, depending on their needs, to work with children. Currently the belief is it is a separate pot of money.
- Martin Smits asked if there was a clear direction towards commissioning in children's services
- Nick Wharam said that there were indications around commissioning and that needs analysis and use of data would still be crucial. The local authority role was likely to be more about managing markets than procurement of services.
- John McBride reminded the Board of the penultimate slide in Anne Newton's presentation which shared that most children do well in Poole. Some do not. There is less money in the public pot and change in policy. The need for partnership is crucial and to focus on priorities.
- Ros Maycock said GPs will be commissioning services. GPs will need to know how to work in partnership, how to commission and how to develop relationships successfully
- Lynn Hart said if schools and GPs commission, could localities be the way forward
- Ros Maycock said GPs would be very good at commissioning at their own micro level. However they may struggle with wider population commissioning and will be considering the potential for significant risks as they take on this role.
- Anne Newton said the Board will have to hold the voice of children and young people. The Board will have to keep them at the centre of activities because no one else is
- Blair Crawford asked if the government has given any indication of when implementation processes will start
- Penny Mathers said that there is a bit of a vacuum at the moment and the government will be in recess over the summer. The

Comprehensive Spending Review will be very important. While everything appears to be 'up in the air' it is important the Board works in partnership and has these discussions to start to work forwards. There are so many questions, and unforeseen consequences. Perhaps a group should meet to consider the consequences / risks

- Adrian Dawson suggested that GPs and head teachers could have a forum and he arranging a meeting in Hamworthy.
- Blair Crawford asked about statutory duties
- Anne Newton said people are looking at the current statutory duties, the shape of the LA children services structure, commitments and future scenarios and the key functions
- John McBride asked what will be the role of the Board's partnership
- Ros Maycock said GPs will be working on transforming community services, and asked where will that leave children's services
- Nick Wharam suggested that there will be a need to look at how services are commissioned
- Anne Newton suggested the need for some scenario building to help the Board to position themselves, maybe in the autumn
- Cllr Carol Evans said that we do need to target vulnerable families; however what about the people just below the threshold for targeted support, this group should not be ignored. Targeting could leave others vulnerable
- Lynn Hart suggested the need to be flexible, have long term targets and moveable resources
- Fiona Haughey said the workforce will need to be different, part of a team or a geography. Also there is a need to keep staff, policy and direction focused
- Martin Smits said partners should share some risk assessments to avoid all pulling money out at the same time
- Penny Mathers said that everyone should try to understand everyone's business. Look for opportunities to work together and understand partners agendas
- John McBride asked if the Board would like to work around impacts, risks and what will a modern partnership arrangement would look like in 2 or 3 years time
- Nick Wharam suggested that Commissioning Support Programme resource could be used to help facilitate this.

RESOLVED that:

- i. John McBride, Anne Newton and Nick Wharam will design a workshop for scenario building, to discuss and potential impacts, risks and what will a modern Children's Trust look like in 2 or 3 years time.**
- ii. The workshop will be the next Children's Trust Board Meeting**

5. REVIEW OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009 -12 AND EMERGING PRIORITIES FOR 2011 - 14

Presented by Rachel Folley and Nick Wharam

Nick Wharam set the scene by informing the Board that there is some confusion about current policy direction, however, there are emerging priorities for the children and young people in Poole. The report sets out where Poole is now and highlights the priorities for Poole.

Rachel Folley referred members to previously circulated report: 'Children and Young People's Plan 2009 -12 progress report and the emerging priorities in Poole for children and young people and their and their families for 2011-14. Rachel Folley also circulated a document on the selected highlights of the Needs Analysis 2008 -09.

Rachel Folley acknowledged that some of the content of the report had already been shared in Anne Newton's presentation.

Rachel Folley said there are essentially 4 major types of changes since 2007 – 08 to 2008-09, and directed members to section 4 of the report: The changes are:

- Changes to the population profile
- Relative increases in some of the separate need / risk variables we measure and use to produce the Children and Young People's Needs Analysis
- Our improved ability to identify pockets of significant disadvantage within Wards
- Increased understanding that children and young people in some specific groups have persistent vulnerability to poor outcomes

Rachel Folley directed members to section 5 of the report about the emerging priorities for young people in Poole. She reminded members that the information was drawn from stakeholder consultation events - including young people, the Needs analysis, the Children's Trust Scorecard, Parents Voice and Poole Opinion Panel. She talked through the summary of issues which is in 2 sections: issue based, and planning and partnership.

A discussion followed:

- Nick Wharam suggested that given the current situation, there is a greater need for integrated working
- Adrian Dawson said he has been privileged to see the masses of data behind this report. He recommended that for the next Board meeting, members must read the data ready for the next meeting so that discussions can be of really good quality.
- Nick Wharam suggested that Public Health partners could help distil the information and data at the next Board meeting
- Penny Mathers said the emotional health and well-being and the bullying data could be used to try and build the most resilient communities possible

- Nick Wharam said that in terms of services to support emotional health and well being, Poole has a lot of services, and yet Poole is still reporting significant issues against these targets

RESOLVED that:

- i. **The Board acknowledged the progress reported against the CYPP 2009-12**
- ii. **The Board agreed the emerging priorities to date, as the basis for planning key actions by Children’s Trust partners, to address the issues identified**
- iii. **The Board agreed that a priority is the integration of frontline services, including agreement of a delivery model and a timeline for implementation**
- iv. **The Board agreed that the following principles should underlie service planning;**
 - a. **That services should target support to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people in Poole**
 - b. **Prevention and early intervention services will be based on clear evidence of effective outcomes and / or best practice**
 - c. **All services will introduce robust measures of their effectiveness and impact on outcomes for children and young people**

6. SAFEGUARDING

Presented by Gerry Moore

Gerry Moore referred members to previously circulated document ‘Safeguarding Governance Protocol between Bournemouth and Poole LSCB and Poole Children’s Trust and Bournemouth Children’s Trust (draft)’

Gerry Moore informed the Board the protocol was produced jointly by Bournemouth and Poole Senior Managers and Ron Locke, Independent Chair of the LSCB. Gerry Moore said the protocol is about a relationship of a complimentary and yet challenging role. She referred members to section 4, outlining roles, and section 5 outlining accountability

RESOLVED that:

The Poole Children’s Trust Governance Board agreed the Safeguarding Governance Protocol

Gerry Moore then referred members to previously circulated document: ‘Annual Corporate Parenting Report - Children in Care’

Gerry Moore reminded members that ‘Children in Care’ is a priority in the Children and Young People’s Plan 2009 -12. There are about 120 children in care in Poole, so in the LA, Poole is the corporate parent. The report went to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee last week.

Gerry Moore referred members to the other previously circulated documents:

- Corporate Parenting Strategy July 2010
- Corporate Parenting Governance Framework diagram
- Borough of Poole Adoption Inspection Report
- Borough of Poole Fostering Inspection Report
- LAC Outcomes Scrutiny Report Jun10

Gerry Moore emphasised partnership work is absolutely essential, and there is high quality partnership work in Poole. Overall, there is a positive picture and Poole is above the national average. Anne Newton added that elected Members were pleased to support the Corporate Parenting Strategy

RESOLVED that:

The Board adopted the Corporate Parenting Strategy

7. SAFEGUARDING INSPECTION PREPARATION UPDATE

Presented by Nick Wharam

Nick Wharam referred members to previously circulated June 2010 briefing document: 'Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked after Children's Services'

Nick Wharam informed members that there can be up to 8 inspectors for a 2 week inspection. Updated information and Top Tips will be posted on the Children's Trust Website: www.poolechildrenstrust.org.uk

8. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Presented by Nick Wharam

Nick Wharam referred members to the previously circulated Workforce Development Strategy document (circulated May 2010) and that this will be deferred to the next Board meeting's agenda

RESOLVED that:

Workforce Development Strategy document is deferred to the next Board meeting's agenda

9. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Presented by Nick Wharam

Nick Wharam referred members to the previously circulated document: 'Poole Children's Trust Performance Scorecard', and circulated pages 1, 9, 10 and 11 of the scorecard, showing the summary ratings and the commentary on red ratings and any amber on a trend towards red.

Nick Wharam reminded the Board that some National Indicators (NI) won't change because of the reporting cycle, for example NI69. He said NI 112, reduce the under 18 conception rate, was still a concern. He said that NIs 81 and 82 are

quite volatile indicators. The 14-19 partnership was taking action as stated to understand the issues better and to increase performance.

Issues being explored are the range and availability of vocational qualifications, Access to level two and three courses, and the incentives and disincentives in the funding formula.

NI 91 is interesting, because it has become red for the 14-19 partnership based on 2007 data, yet the Connexions data shows an improving trend to 2009/10. Martyn Jewell noted that this improvement was now stopping due to the recession starting to impact the engagement of young people with jobs and training.

RESOLVED that:

Caroline Foster, 14-19 Partnership, and Martyn Jewell, Connexions, be invited to give a joint presentation to the Board on the big picture of National Indicators 81, 82 and 91

10. FORWARD PLAN

Presented by Anne Newton

RESOLVED that:

Outcomes of Board's September workshop will inform the Forward Plan

11. FOR INFORMATION

There were no items for information

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Blair Crawford shared the news that the Children's Workforce Development Council (CDWC) funds are coming through. There has been some discussion about using more of the funds for Common Induction Training (possibly jointly with Bournemouth and there is a further meeting in August to finalise.

Nick Wharam said that Poole has a very successful Common Induction programme – it is helping to lead towards a flexible workforce

b) Blair asked for 'Off the Hook' leaflets to be circulated

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The Chair advised the Board of the date of the next scheduled Meeting.

RESOLVED that the next Children's Trust Governance Board Meeting be held on Monday 13th September 2010 at 5pm in the Committee Suite, Civic Centre, Poole.

CHAIR