



Minute of Meeting Children & Young People Thematic Board

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday, 26 May 2016	10:00	CMR3, Council Headquarters, Renfrewshire House, Cotton Street, Paisley, PA1 1AN

PRESENT

Councillors Henry, Bibby and McCartin (Renfrewshire Council); L O'Brien, Barnardos; N Burns, Police Scotland; K Miller, Engage Renfrewshire; F MacKay, Renfrewshire Health & Social Care Partnership; A Lowe, Renfrewshire Child Protection Committee; J Melrose, Area Support Team; P MacLeod, D Hawthorn, J Trainer and S Glasgow (all Renfrewshire Council); Maurice Gilligan, Skills Development Scotland; J Divers, Scottish Fire and Rescue Services; S Graham, West College Scotland; and M Dunn, University of the West of Scotland.

CHAIR

Councillor Henry, Chair, presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

K Tobin, Dartington Social Research Unit; A Ferguson, Champion's Board; C McCreadie, Who Cares? Scotland; and Y Farquhar and C MacDonald (both Renfrewshire Council).

APOLOGIES

S Bell and G McKinlay (both Renfrewshire Council); and L King, Scottish Children's Reporter Administration.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest intimated prior to the commencement of the meeting.

1 MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was submitted the Minute of the Children & Young People Thematic Board held on 31 March 2016.

DECIDED: That the Minute be approved.

2 ROLLING ACTION LOG

The Rolling Action Log was submitted for approval.

DECIDED: That the Rolling Action Log be approved.

3 CORPORATE PARENTING CHAMPIONS BOARD - LIFE CHANGES TRUST FUNDING AWARD

There was submitted a report by the Senior Officer (GIRFEC), Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council outlining the additional funding awarded to develop the Champions Board by the Life Changes Trust.

The report advised that the Life Changes Trust (LCT) was established by the Big Lottery Fund in April 2013 with a ten year endowment of £50 million to support transformational improvements in the quality of life, well-being, empowerment and inclusion of people affected by dementia and young people with experience of being in care. During 2015, LCT invited applications for funding to start or develop Champions Boards. Following an extensive application process, Renfrewshire was one of eight local authority areas to receive funding for the Champions Boards and awarded funding of £225,000 over the three year period from 1 April 2016/2019.

There then followed a general discussion relative to the Champions Board which included hearing the views of Partners who sat on the Board.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the funding arrangements and plan for the Life Changes Trust funding be noted; and
- (b) That it be noted that progress reports would be submitted to future Board meetings.

4 ALL CHILDREN'S STUDY OF NEED

There was submitted a report by the Acting Head of Early Years and Inclusion, Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council relative to the All Children's Study of Need.

The report advised that Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership was the first in Scotland to work with the Dartington Social Research Unit (DSRU) to undertake a study of need in the child population. The work commenced in 2010 and was carried out as part of the Achieving Step Change Programme. The work was referred to as our “All Children Epidemiology Survey”.

In late 2011 all children in Renfrewshire aged between 9 and 17 were invited to complete an on-line questionnaire which provided data on their well-being to inform the development of the present Renfrewshire Integrated Children’s Services Plan and the Renfrewshire Community Plan. Almost 13,000 children responded to the survey.

The report highlighted the plan to work with the DSRU to carry out a further study of child need in Renfrewshire in late 2016. The work would be the first time any partnership in Scotland had conducted a second survey. The second study would again involve children aged 9 to 17 completing an online questionnaire facilitated during their school day. The data from the second study would be used to inform the next Renfrewshire Integrated Children’s Services Plan. In addition it would attempt to explore the impact of poverty on outcomes for children.

It was noted that a short life group comprising of staff from across a range of children’s services and pupil representatives had been established to work with the DSRU to ensure that the questionnaire was developed to address Renfrewshire’s needs, develop the agreed methodology, promote participation in the study and participate in the development of the next Renfrewshire Integrated Children’s Services Plan.

The involvement of pupils and parents as partners in the process was central to the success of the second study of need in Renfrewshire. Pupil engagement would commence with a group of senior phase students participating in the design and promotion of the survey. Work would be progressed to increase the number and year range of pupils moving forward. Parent engagement would be delivered via the parent council chair meetings.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the plan to carry out a second study of child need in Renfrewshire be noted;
- (b) That the establishment of the short life group comprising of staff from across a range of children’s services and pupil representatives to work with DSRU to ensure that the questionnaire was developed to address Renfrewshire’s needs, develop the agreed methodology, promote participation in the study and participate in the development of the next Renfrewshire Integrated Children’s Services Plan be noted;
- (c) That the involvement of the parent council chairs be noted;
- (d) That it be noted that the study would be conducted in late 2016; and
- (e) That it be noted that further reports would be presented to the Board as the work progressed.

PROGRESS REPORT

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services, Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council which updated members on Outcome 4 of the Integrated Children's Services Improvement Plan.

The report intimated that the focus for the report was Outcome 4: 'Our children and young people have good physical, emotional and mental health and wellbeing'. Key areas of progress were highlighted within the report and the progress made against each individual action was detailed within the appendix to the report.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the actions contained within the appendix to the report be noted: and
- (b) That the key areas of progress highlighted within the report be noted.

6 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATION GROUP - TERMS OF REFERENCE

There was submitted a report by the Head of Childcare and Criminal Justice, Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council relative to terms of reference for the Participation Group to be established.

The report advised that the Council's Participation Strategy set out the key principles of participation and how to ensure that the right to participate was realised for all young people and extended to more children and young people across Renfrewshire through changing and adapting approaches to practice, planning and policy development.

It was intimated that in response to the recommendation of the Children's Services Inspection and to ensure a co-ordinated partnership approach to participation, the Children and Young People Thematic Board agreed that a Participation Group would be established. The Terms of Reference for the Group was attached as an appendix.

DECIDED:

- (a) That the Terms of Reference for the Children and Young People Participation Group be agreed; and
- (b) That it be agreed that the group be established by Summer 2016.

7 CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2014 - GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD (GIRFEC) - INFORMATION SHARING PRACTITIONER GUIDANCE

There was submitted a report by the Senior Officer, (GIRFEC), Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council relative to an update on the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), Information Sharing Practitioner Guidance.

The report advised that the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 provided a

framework for information sharing between professionals to support the functions of the Named Person and the operation of the Child's Plan. The current information Sharing Practitioners Guidance was approved in 2014 with a view to further update and review as part of the full implementation of the information sharing duties from 31st August 2016. The Guidance was supported by inter-agency information sharing briefing sessions delivered by the Council information Governance team. The training had been revised as part of the GIRFEC implementation plan and future training incorporated details relating to the new duties. A copy of the revised Information Sharing Practitioner Guidance was attached as an appendix to the report.

DECIDED

- (a) That the revised Information Sharing Practitioner Guidance attached as an appendix to the report for implementation from 31st August 2016 be agreed; and
- (b) That the minor amendments to the Guidance once specific contact details on the Named Person service were available be agreed.

8 PREGNANCY & PARENTHOOD IN YOUNG PEOPLE STRATEGY

There was submitted a report by the Director of Children's Services relative to the Pregnancy and Parenthood in Young People Strategy.

The Report advised that the Scottish Government had published a Pregnancy and Parenthood In Young People Strategy 2016/26. The Strategy identified actions for specific partners, including Community Planning Partnerships. It was proposed that the Children and Young People Thematic Board would be responsible for leading actions on behalf of the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership.

DECIDED:

- (a) That it be agreed that the Children & Young People Thematic Board lead the Renfrewshire Community Planning Partnership response to the Pregnancy and Parenthood In Young People Strategy;
- (b) That it be agreed that a further report be submitted to a future meeting of the Board, with an analysis of work required of the Board; and
- (c) That it be agreed that the Children & Young People Thematic Board identify an accountable person to provide leadership and co-ordination for the Pregnancy and Parenting In Young People Strategy.

9 FEEDBACK FROM GLENNIFER HIGH SCHOOL

The Head of Childcare and Criminal Justice, Children's Services, Renfrewshire Council gave a verbal update relative to feedback from the pupils of Gleniffer High School arising from the Youth Engagement Event which took place on 31 August, 2015 at Gleniffer High School.

Senior pupils had identified various issues and explored, in discussion with Board members, possible ideas and solutions to combat those concerns. Key themes included

youth voice, health and wellbeing, jobs and training, employment, access to community facilities, social isolation and impact of poverty. A summary of the issues identified was compiled and action points developed.

During the feedback from pupils it was noted that young people wanted to keep re-engaging and were happy to act as advocates on behalf of their school. However, it was noted that all schools were different and there was no consistent approach. The pupils suggested Paisley Town Hall as a more formal setting and a good location to hold further engagement events.

After further discussion it was agreed that a programme of engagement events be submitted to a future meeting of the Board.

DECIDED:

- (a) That it be agreed that a programme of engagement events be submitted to a future meeting of the Board; and
- (b) That the verbal update be noted.