

# Agenda Item 2

REPORT REF: **2.0**

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S  
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP  
14 FEBRUARY 2013**

**PRESENT: Debbie Barnes (Chairman)**

Malcolm Barham (YMCA), Tracey Blackwell (South Kesteven District Council), Councillor D Brailsford, Stuart Carlton (Lincolnshire County Council), Sally-Anne Caunter (Barkston & Syston CE School), Louise Davidson (Spilsby Primary School) Linda Dennett (Lincolnshire Community Health Services), John Herbert (Lincolnshire County Council), Kerry Mitchell (Participation & Engagement Sub Group Chair), Chris Seymour (Special Schools – Pilgrim) and Paula Whitehead (LSCB).

Also in attendance: Cornelia Andrecut (Lincolnshire County Council), Andrea Brown (Lincolnshire County Council), Laura Datta (Lincolnshire County Council), Damian Elcock (Lincolnshire County Council), Carrie Forrester (Lincolnshire County Council), David McWilliams (Lincolnshire County Council), Jessica Spry (Lincolnshire County Council), Zania Stevens (Lincolnshire County Council), Phil Taylor (West Lindsey District Council & Lincolnshire County Council) and Julia Church (Jobcentre Plus – for item 7)

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting.

55. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Semantha Neal (East Lindsey District Council), Ginny Blackoe (Lincolnshire Community Health Services), Councillor Mrs P A Bradwell, Rachel North (West Lindsey District Council), John Allen (Lincoln College), Philip Roberts (North Kesteven District Council), Martin Taylor (Donington The Thomas Cowley High School), Janice Spencer (Lincolnshire County Council), Chris Cook (LSCB) and Karen Parsons (Children's Links).

56. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING AND ACTION POINTS OF THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP HELD ON 12 DECEMBER 2012

The following points were raised from the minutes of the previous meeting of the Partnership held on 12 December 2012:-

- In relation to the membership of the Partnership, David McWilliams confirmed that he had written to the District Councils, followed up by an email. School members had been confirmed and Mr McWilliams was encouraged by the response from the District Councils who indicated their commitment to attend and an interest in what their roles would be on the partnership. Zania Stevens and Andrea Brown were asked to update and circulate the membership list.

ACTIONS

Zania Stevens/  
Andrea Brown

- Debbie Barnes confirmed that she had spoken with Dr Tony Hill in regard to the Public Health Framework Indicators. Statutory guidance was awaited relating to Health and Wellbeing Boards and they had agreed to wait until the guidance was received before discussing the issue forward. It was agreed, therefore, to add this item to the work programme after April 2013, when the guidance was expected.
- The Chairman confirmed that Lynne McNiven had sent the Health and Wellbeing Strategy to her and advised that some changes had been made.
- David McWilliams explained that a meeting was scheduled to further discuss Branding/Visual Identity of the Children and Young People Plan. It had been suggested that the colours in the Lincolnshire County flag be used to create a neutral logo which would not be related specifically to any one Council. This was unanimously agreed by all present.
- Although not directly involved, Linda Dennett (LCHS) advised that the development of a Children's unit, chaired by LFPT, was being considered and that the autism pathway had been central to the discussions. The Chairman acknowledged that children's services currently available in Lincolnshire were not appropriate for children diagnosed with autism. In order to agree a way forward, it was agreed to arrange a further meeting with key partners to discuss this further, following which a paper would be presented at the next meeting of the partnership. Volunteers for the meeting from a variety of sectors were requested.
- Minute number 46 – Performance Leads Updates (Priority 1) – when asked if the Task & Finish Group had a homelessness provider representative, it was confirmed that Tony McGinty had ensured that a representative had been involved.
- The strategy for access to eligibility for free school meals was being revised to include additional factors for consideration. Once completed, the document would be brought back to the panel.
- Stuart Carlton provided an update in regard to Fulfilling Lives. A key lead from the voluntary sector had been requested by government and expressions of interest had been invited via Source Lincolnshire. Work was ongoing with Public Health colleagues in order to target the right area and it was expected the end of February deadline would be met.

## RESOLVED

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2012 be confirmed and agreed as a correct record.

57. CYPSP CHAIRS COMMENTS

The Partnership received an update from Debbie Barnes which highlighted four key areas to the Partnership:-

- At the previous meeting, the Chairman explained that the government had decided to reduce the amount of Early Intervention funding by £150m nationally. Provisions have been made in Lincolnshire at 1% although it had been decided to give this money back to Local Authorities in the form of an Adoption Reform Grant. Most of this funding would be ringfenced to be spent on adoption reform only. Although scorecard targets were good, if not outstanding in some areas, it was helpful to have additional funding in order to improve on timescales for placing children, etc.
- The Chairman noted that the decision to replace GCSE examinations with the English Baccalaureate Certificates had been abandoned by the Education Secretary.
- An OfSTED Inspection in relation to safeguarding and welfare was being undertaken. The Government were currently consulting on the ability of the Local Authority to deliver school improvements and it was expected that schools not performing would be targeted.

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

58. LSCB CHAIR COMMENTS

The Partnership received an update from Paula Whitehead, on behalf of Chris Cook, Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board.

- A sub-group on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) had agreed to recruit a Coordinator for a 12 month period. It was expected that awareness of the issue would be actively raised. All agencies had been asked to prioritise the e-learning regarding CSE in their organisation for their staff to undertake.
- After an audit of some cases within Team Around the Child (TAC), several significant issues had been raised. An audit of 50 cases would be undertaken with lead professionals across all agencies, with cases being a random sample of open and closed cases. An overview report, including locality training, would be produced from the findings and it was expected this would be available by mid-April.

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

Paula Whitehead

59. ACTION GROUP UPDATES

The Partnership received updates from the relevant action group leads.

Lincolnshire Participation Action Group

Kerry Mitchell explained that an additional event for young people was planned with support from a variety of partners. Young people had been involved in the planning process and collating the presentation. It was reported that this was a mixed, broad, group of young people with more becoming involved. Action for Children were to bring four young people with disabilities to the event and facilities were to be provided to make the event inclusive to all for participation.

14-19 Partnership (RPA)

A written update had been expected although not received in time for the meeting. It was agreed that this would be circulated following the meeting, once received.

Zania Stevens

60. ALICSE COHORT 2013

David McWilliams introduced this item, explaining that ALICSE was an acronym for the Advanced Leadership In a Children's Services Environment, a project which was now in its fifth year and which was well supported. A regional group had been developed to review the progress of ALICSE. The project tied in with Every Child Matters with some funding available through the Children's Improvement Board.

David McWilliams went on to introduce some of the eight people representing Lincolnshire within the East Midlands, and invited them to update the Partnership on their own personal experiences:-

- Jess Spry – felt it was a really good programme which she had found enjoyed and which enabled her to understand areas that she wouldn't necessarily have been aware of otherwise. She'd found it interesting to contrast and compare with other LA's and to be able to share best practice. At a session held the previous week, a presentation regarding Ethics, Morals and Values was given which instigated some good and varied debate. A residential session had also been held which had provided good networking opportunities. Jess was currently developing her leadership skills and was looking at the independent Chair's role currently, a piece of work she was hoping to lead on.

- John Herbert – Having attended a number of sessions held, John was interested to hear challenges faced by others. His locality task led a central team based in Lincoln but had felt it difficult to build relationships again since the restructure. Feedback from other partners within the East Midlands had also been interesting to see how they had built their own structures and how successful they had been.
- Phil Taylor – thought that the networking events had been brilliant but mainly from a networking point of view. The residential session had been well structured and varied with good ideas shared.
- Laura Datta – events attended had been interesting as she felt if usually work within an isolated environment then there wasn't usually an opportunity to speak with other people in similar roles in other LA's. As SEN School Transport was her particular area, she would be looking into developing leadership in that area, including a new IT system.
- Paula Whitehead – had found the self evaluation and the colleague evaluation processes of leadership skills useful in order to build a picture of her own skills. Child Sexual Exploitation was her area of work and she would be looking into leading and influencing multi-agency response to CSE by building strategies and action plans.
- Carrie Forrester – the events had been valuable as the time had been given to consider issues, e.g. equality –v– equity, every child had a right to go to school but was it a good school. Children's Centres would also be considered by Carrie.
- Cornelia Andrecut – felt that this was good opportunity to reflect on what you do and how you do it and how to plan going forward. It had proved challenging in terms of attendance as her role was particularly busy proving difficult for her to attend all sessions. She had chosen a task which was linked to her role and intended to use her time better.

David McWilliams/  
Zania Stevens

## RESOLVED

That an update would be provided of those unable to attend.

## 61. WELFARE REFORM

The Chairman thanked Julia Church, Partnership Manager from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), for attending the Partnership meeting and invited her to commence her presentation.

It was agreed to circulate the presentation to the Partnership after the meeting.

Andrea Brown

During discussion, the following points were noted:-

- Assistant could be given by way of food vouchers to local supermarkets or by utilising food banks. The Chairman confirmed that two voluntary sector organisations had been identified to administer the system on behalf of LCC.
- It was anticipated that one in six homes were likely to be affected in SKDC as a result of the Welfare Reform. Should a possession order be taken this would likely be overturned in court so it was a difficult position for all parties.
- Although Government had made it clear that foster carers should be exempt, the absolute confirmation of that position had not been received by the local authority. It was acknowledged that there would be some unusual cases but that these should be made clear from Government.
- The Chairman requested that Phil Taylor raise this at the next housing meeting with District Councils and, in particular, the exemption of foster carers.
- It was suggested that a joint approach with the DWP be taken to support more vulnerable families directly as it was felt they would be less likely to seek out help and support due to the very nature of their circumstances. Zania Stevens was asked to provide the contact details of Ms Church to Stuart Carlton.

Phil Taylor

Zania Stevens

The Chairman thanked Ms Church for her presentation and suggested that an update may be required in future.

RESOLVED

That the presentation be noted.

## 62. INFANT FEEDING STRATEGY

David McWilliams introduced this item, confirming that the information contained in the strategy was relevant and useful to all partners but, particularly relevant to the partnership, was the implementation of the action plan as it was reliant on a range of agencies to take action.

During discussion, the following points were noted:-

- Concern was noted that the action list was large even though a number of agencies were involved and it was felt that the strategy should be more overarching rather than giving specific details.

- It was suggested that the actions should be broken down and made clear and succinct in order to have the biggest impact.
- Although the group had been considering breastfeeding for some time, wider involvement from other agencies would be beneficial. It was felt that the remit of the group and the Terms of Reference be looked at to ensure the most relevant person attends.
- Linda Dennett, LCHS, agreed to feedback the comments of the Partnership to the group.

Linda Dennett

#### RESOLVED

1. That the strategy not be taken until feedback received following comments made.

#### 63. PARTNER UPDATES

##### South Kesteven District Council (SKDC)

Tracey Blackwell, Strategic Director for South Kesteven District Council, advised that the key issues for SKDC would currently be the Welfare Reform and what was realistically required in terms of support and an appropriate strategy.

##### Voluntary & Community Sector

Malcolm Barham, VCS and YMCA, reported that the next year or so would be a very difficult time. Third sector organisations did not have statutory issues as a result of the Welfare Reform but they would have an enormous task ahead in terms of supporting people as a result.

#### RESOLVED

That the updates be noted.

#### 64. OfSTED FRAMEWORK INSPECTION

The Chairman introduced the item by explaining that the inspection framework had changed. The previous “good” rating was now “outstanding” and the previous “satisfactory” rating was now “good”. Jess Spry was invited to give her presentation.

The presentation, entitled Multi Agency Inspection 2013, provided background information on CRA inspections, Interim CP inspections and multi-agency inspections. The key changes were to be made from June 2013 and would be three yearly cycle. The inspections would continue to be unannounced but inspectors would spend two weeks on site looking at four key judgements. However, one single judgement within one report would be provided.

Damian Elcock was invited to facilitate a workshop. Breaking into groups, the partnership were asked to utilise one key judgement and assess where they would grade their service delivery as an organisation. The groups provided feedback for their particular judgement.

#### RESOLVED

1. That the presentation and feedback from the workshop be noted.
2. That the presentation be circulated following the meeting.

Andrea Brown

#### 65. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items of any other business were raised for consideration.

#### 66. REPORTS CIRCULATED FOR INFORMATION

1. CYPSP and Health & Wellbeing Governance  
For members information only.
2. CYP Health Outcomes  
The Chairman confirmed that this report had been circulated for information, advising that a short Task & Finish group had been set up to consider the remit of both groups. Two dates had been provided – 28<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2013.
3. CYPSP 2013 Meeting Dates  
For members information only.

The meeting closed at 4.40pm