

Childrens Trust Locality Forum Minutes

18th December 2006

Roundswell Community Centre

12.30pm – 3.00pm

Present:

Jon Richards	Area Manager, NDYOT
Bruce Pollit	Parent Rep, Surestart, Early Years
Peter Martin	Parent Rep
Irene Greaves	NCH
Carly Roberts	Ilfracombe Family Centre
Robert Chugg	ND JAT
Diane Pedley	MY Start CC
Sue Whitworth	Midwife
Alison Allen	Devon PCT & NDHCT
Mark Walker	Connexions
Kate Corbin	EPS
Chris Wardle	EPS
Judith Walker	Extended Schools
Pete Blayney	CPND
Marion Welch	Carewise
Kate Taylor	AXS Co-ordinator, Bideford
Sue Ford	CASP
Ronnie Jackson-Tanner	YISP
Sarah Screech	Primary CAMHS
Lee Langford	Primary CAMHS
Cllr Marguerite Shapland	NDDC

Apologises

Nicole Huxtable, Ian Hobbs, Anita Hardy, Paul Marshall, Cllr Hugo Barton, Mick Cammack, Melissa Filby, Rebecca Prince, Mary Pearson, Ali Bellamy, Sarah Simpson, Liz Rafferty, Alison Lewis-Smith, Jane Kivlin, Julia Drury, Julia Locke, Cllr Malcom Prowse

Introductions were made.

Minutes and Matters Arising from 20th November 2006

Amend 2nd paragraph to read "for January 2007". Alison Lewis Smith asking to be on next agenda to report on governance and role of CTLF in relation to the CT partnership.

Out of School activities. Judi reported on last meeting (report attached).

Combined brochure across Northern Devon agreed with partners. 20,000 copies to be printed cover all Northern Devon focussing on statutory agencies on this occasion. Will review again. Details of DISC, Working Families Tax Credit and feedback form included. Is a first go and will be built on. Some shortfall for production of brochure.

Youth Opportunity Fund application an option. It is for 13-16 year olds. General discussion about the detail of achieving a Youth Opportunity Fund application. Proceeding would be excellent, will require youth service input.

Working Group to achieve brochure as first step and then look at bid for work in new year!

Carewise

Youth Carer project. Requesting feedback forms – if you don't have one – please ask for one.

Role of Children's Trust Locality Forum

Jon has written to Liam McGrath as Programme Manager for Devon Children's Trust. Response is an acknowledgement and an offer to join us in February meeting. We can discuss format at January meeting.

YP Representation

Jon wrote to Rahila Henderson. Still to have the discussion. UK youth partnership – Devon Elections due in January 2007. All local youth agencies have received information on this. Thought to be 6 candidates for our constituency (North and West). To ask Liam in February about YP representation. Is this a model the Children's Trust partnership will adopt?

Parenting Support Northern Devon

Parenting conference 16th January 2007. Flyer to be attached to the minutes. Immediate information from Exeter Y.O office. Irene updated on the parenting work notes. See attached notes. Forum meets termly. Steering group meets more regularly. Dates for 07 meetings to be attached to the minutes. Mark raised the question of how we can be assured of the quality of Webster Stratton, if we are to promote it across northern Devon. Liz Rafferty will look at the QA issues as part of her role.

Presentation re: Behaviour Support Strategy

Chris reminded us that the NORDAB behavioural plan is still in existence. 'Hard to place panel' has been set up by heads – still in infancy but developing. Behaviour support seeks to help schools engage with outside agencies at earlier stages and in partnership working.

Chris shared the county staffing structure promoting the SEAL agenda. SEAL is a universal tool for all primary schools. Holistic approach to emotional wellbeing. Links to school improvement. Developments and achievements are ad hoc currently. Chris' responsibility is to achieve these strategically too.

Kate shared that the shift is from the "old" approach of supporting individual children to a broader approach of training and working alongside school staff to ensure that skills are embedded into the school environment. 1:1 referrals are still made to the Behavioural Support Team for most vulnerable children. The model of this input is based on SEAL to ensure continuity. Kate encouraged practitioners to contact their PRB worker (advisory teacher) to establish relationships etc. They can be the bridge to schools. There is Secondary SEAL that will be out next year. The secondary behaviour support network is being established with reference to NORDAB. There will be more information over the next six months. CAF and AXS etc will all fit in together eventually! SEAL can be part of a school PSHE curriculum, and will link with Healthy Schools. Discussion acknowledged that variability in AXS pathways currently affects the delivery across areas!

Changes do mean that whilst we are seeking to achieve a hearts and mind change for schools, where individual children are in this development. Kate shared that ACL have agreed to fund "Family Seal" pilot programmes in each areas. Information available on the DFES website – first will be run in Lynton.

Standing Items

Integrated Options

Paper presented on future options for AXS networks (apparently tabled at September Integrated Options consultation day). Concern that proposals require a response too soon. Consultation period will start in January. This would be a good item for discussion with Liam McGrath for February meeting. Update

required as some confusion. Jon will enquire as to the status of the document circulated and we will hone our thoughts on the proposal. Dave Roberts attending the Torrington MAG 29th January 10.30 – 12.30 at Bluecoat Children’s Centre. All welcome.

AXS Pathways

Local delivery plans developed. Joint/integrated training package being developed. Will be two days 13th / 14th February looking at condensed training for senior managers to be kept informed. Also, applicable for local management board members. This is an either/or for attending.

Stay Safe Sub Group

Alison provided update. Comprehensive report provided. How does this feed into the learning community groups and the Devon-wide CT sub-group. This is another question for Liam McGrath.

General discussion around the tensions between making recommendations and having the authority/clout to influence county decision making. Structure of reporting was in place– but Liz’s absence impacts on this. Suggestion that, in the lack of clarity currently around, the minutes and reports be forwarded to the Chair of our LSP – Cllr Shapland – who can table and distribute as appropriate. Cllr Prowse is the NDDC rep at the CT board – minutes to be copied to Malcolm to inform him of local issues. Marguerite advised of the potential for an more integrated LSP across Northern Devon as a whole. The CTLF will be given a role in this.

Braunton CT Groups

Meeting well attended and positively multi-agency. Information shared and activity to support local developments shared.

Update from Braunton Children & Young People’s Trust

Continues to meet half termly, with average attendance of 20-25, including all 6 Heads & rep from Social Services.

- Has used original brainstorm of “Ideas for Development” as agenda for meetings & have worked on range of joint projects in 18 months it’s been in existence.
- Has created subgroups to tackle particular areas (eg Children’s Centre Steering Group, & Braunton Alcohol Action Group).

- Supported idea of joint AXS Pathway Co-ordinator/ Children's Centre Manager role to try to link initiatives more closely together and consolidate idea of working with families of all age groups.
- Had visit from FASST Team in Havant (Family & School Support Team) which has developed system for supporting pastoral issues- similar to AXS Pathway developments.
- Is now looking at Learning Mentor system (currently being rolled out through Devon) as possible way of supporting AXS Pathways within schools. Considering tackling this as joint Learning Community project.

Any Other Business

Liz's retirement do his Wednesday.

Bon Voyage

Dates of Next Meeting

15th January

19th February

19th March

12:30pm, Roundswell Community Centre.

Interim arrangements for reporting agreed as ECM groups 6 monthly. Local learning community groups to report once a term.

Interim Chairship – Jon endorsed as the interim Chair.

Meeting Closed 3.40pm

Update on Parenting Work in Northern Devon for ND CTLF 18th December 06

Parenting Forum:

The parenting Forum was established in Nov 05 in response to local front line workers identifying a need for parenting work in Northern Devon and as an opportunity for practitioners to share experience, local knowledge & skills.

This group has continued to meet quarterly sharing knowledge and practice about a wide range of issues related to delivering groups to parents.

There is also a Parenting Forum steering group that meets more frequently with the aim of progressing initiatives forward.

Availability of groups in Northern Devon:

South West Parenting Academy: Building Effective Families (Trevor Overton & Janet Cotter) is a private company offering parenting groups for parents of children over 8 years. They have run several courses, usually joint funded by Children & Young Peoples Services, Education Welfare, YOT, Safer North Devon & ACL (possibly more).

They receive positive feedback from parents and can be accessed on line at trevorswpa@aol.com

Drug Proofing Your Kids:

Course run by Roger Bartlett & Sandy Norton at Grosvenor Church had gone well. Cost = £15 per person to attend, includes book.

Also have dedicated webpage & telephone link, for further information: 01271 336271 admin@drugproofyourkidsnorthdevon.co.uk

ACL funded Parenting Programmes:

ACL fund and deliver a variety of parenting courses via schools, these include Webster-Stratton: The Incredible Years, Back on Track at Ilfracombe Family Centre (amalgamates SEAL, assertiveness, healthy lifestyle, money, behaviour) Share plus Courses for parents of adolescents via senior schools. ACL have a strong commitment to rolling out parenting courses, not just by funding some courses but by encouraging some tutors to be trained in specific courses. ACL are also keen to have an accredited group facilitator course to meet National Occupational standards, available for practitioners, which it is hoped will be piloted later this year in N. Devon.

Here's Looking at You Baby & Growing together.

Currently the 4 children's centres run these courses; both are for very young children and their parents together. (0-6 months & 18months respectively) They encourage reflective parenting, focusing on understanding stages of development and building secure attachments. Therefore they are, arguably, the most valuable course in preventing future difficulties.

Some comments from parents at the end of a recent Here's looking at you baby group:

- ◆ *Helps partner in his interactions*
- ◆ *Made a real difference in how I interact with Fred and my understanding of his needs and development. Thank you so much!*
- ◆ *We giggle together, we play together, we cuddle together, I smile when I see her, she feels better with me.*
- ◆ *I feel more confident and less anxious*
- ◆ *I am even more amazed by the things she does.*
- ◆ *I give him much more credit for the things he does. Don't think his movements are random!*

Some comments from parents at the end of a recent Growing together group:

- ◆ *I learnt more than I thought I would & I really enjoyed spending one to one time with my son*
- ◆ *I enjoyed learning about schemas and because it was quite a small group I enjoyed watching the other children & guessing their schemas.*
- ◆ *It was interesting to learn about the various schemas and to be able to identify them in your own child. This has certainly helped with Xmas shopping.*

The Incredible Years: Webster- Stratton:

There are 27 trained practitioners in The Incredible Years parenting programme across Northern Devon, Webster- Stratton is aimed at parents of 3-8 yr olds. (and 25 trained practitioners in the therapeutic Dina- Dinosaur programme for schools). This term was the first roll out, and there has been 7 groups running across Northern Devon (2 in Barnstaple, Braunton, Ifracombe, Bideford, Torrington, South Molton). This is the initial phase of rolling out this programme and feedback from practitioners includes issues relating to:

- ◆ Inter-agency working
- ◆ Levels of support & supervision
- ◆ Resources
- ◆ Co-ordination
- ◆ Funding
- ◆ Where we go next.

This roll out is just beginning and is a first step in delivering a universal service via multi-agency working. There is independent evaluation being carried out that is focussing specifically on the effectiveness of roll out and accessibility for parents. This evaluation will be useful in the wider sphere of multi-agency

delivery of children's services and will no doubt high light what needs to be in place for this work to be effective.

Some comments from parents at the end of a recent Incredible Years Group:

- ◆ *Applying observational skills gained from vignettes to everyday life*
- ◆ *I've noticed my children, got to know them – appreciate them. Can express my feelings more clearly*
- ◆ *I really appreciate the powerful impact of parenting on the children*
- ◆ *Appreciate other people's problems, knew other people by face but not personally*
- ◆ *Really didn't like role play*
- ◆ *Some of the vignettes seemed to be 'simple' but I did see the relevance.*
- ◆ *Huge improvement at home*
 - *Calmer in approach*
 - *Children calmer*
 - *Listening more to the children*
 - *Less rowing*
 - *Not sending child to her room so much – now using other coping strategies*
 - *Improved sibling/family relationships*
 - *Child patience*
 - *Different outlook/approach/thinking*
 - *Noticing more of the subtle stuff*
 - *Praise has had a knock on effect*
- ◆ *Life appears to be easier*
 - *Everyone seems happier*
 - *Enjoying spending time with the children*
 - *Enjoys craft activities with the children*
 - *Much calmer, not shouting as much*

Issues common to all groups:

Parenting is firmly on the government agenda and therefore on every agency's agenda who deliver services to children. In northern Devon some of the continuing issues are:

- ◆ Long term funding of courses
- ◆ Long term resources
- ◆ A Northern Devon co-ordinating post that could co-ordinate practitioners, resources etc for groups and be a point on contact for parents looking for provision.

Irene Greaves

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Update on SUMMER HOLIDAY PROVISION IN NORTH DEVON.

- Combined brochure for next summer- TDC, NDDC, Parkfield Leisure (Leisure Centre, Pools, Tarka Tennis), GTS Sports College, Youth Service = only contributors. Will be sharing cost.
- Copies to be distributed via all schools through Sports Co-ordinator system, with additional copies available at Children's Centres, Libraries, Youth Clubs etc
- No independent organisations or charities to be included this time, due to difficulty if only some participate. All to be invited to participate next summer if the scheme is a success, including Art, Drama etc & Childcare providers.
- Brochure to include details of DISC so that working parents can check on whether wrap around childcare can be provided.
- Brochure to give details of Family Tax Credit for OFSTED registered provision.
- Brochure to include feedback form, so that parents can explain how provision could better meet their needs (eg location, timings, costings etc).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT:

- Bank of places offering wrap around childcare to tie in with part-time provision.
- Bank of subsidised places to be offered to most needy families.
- Some provision in all rural areas, or at least transport provided from rural areas to larger centres.
- Larger range of activities, not just sport, but Art, Drama etc too.

FUNDING:

- Bruce chasing funding through Children's Trust.
- Judi keen to put in joint bid through Youth Opportunities Fund for whole of N Devon (2 reps from each school council of 9 Secondary Schools, to cover 13-16 age group). Dave Rafferty feels smaller bids through individual areas likely to be more successful with local ideas for what is needed in area. I feel this will leave it down to individual capacity in each local area (ie who is prepared to lead?) though with larger bid, what are you actually bidding for? N Devon Co-ordinator? Subsidised places on provision in brochure? Is this something which N Devon CTLF needs to decide?