

**MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN'S TRUST  
MONDAY, 5 OCTOBER 2009**

**Present:** Councillor Lorna Reith (Chair), Ify Adenuga, Sue Baker, Yolande Burgess, Tracey Baldwin, Jan Doust, Councillor Gail Engert, Dr Mayur Gor, Dave Grant, Tony Hartney, Paul Head, John Jay, Councillor Claire Kober, Peter Lewis, Jane Lithgow, Mary MacLeod, Cenk Orhan\*, Jim Shepley, Councillor Alan Stanton, Penny Thompson.

*\* present for part of the meeting*

**In Attendance:** Xanthe Barker, Sheena Carr, Tim Dauncey, Tom Fletcher, Patricia Walker.

<b>MINUTE NO.</b>	<b>SUBJECT/DECISION</b>	<b>ACTON BY</b>
<b>OBCB129</b>	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from the following:</p> <p>Graham Badman Councillor Nilgun Canver Jean Croot                      Linda James substituted Jane Elias June Jarrett                      Jo Salsbury Rob Larkin                      Deborah Wheeler substituted Dr Ita O'Donovan Clare Panniker Walter Steel</p>	
<b>OBCB130</b>	<p><b>URGENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p>No items of Urgent Business were raised.</p>	
<b>OBCB131</b>	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p>No declarations of interest were made.</p>	
<b>OBCB132</b>	<p><b>MINUTES</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2009 be confirmed as a correct record.</p>	
<b>OBCB133</b>	<p><b>INFANT MORTALITY STRATEGY: 2007-2010</b></p> <p>The Trust received a report setting out revisions made to the Infant Mortality Strategy following the issuing of new guidance from the Department of Health.</p> <p>The Trust was advised that the document contained a new section on</p>	

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	<p>Housing and that this reflected the work being undertaken to address the link between poor housing and Infant Mortality. It was noted that in forming this new section of the document improved links between the Council's Housing Team and NHS Haringey had been forged.</p> <p>In response to a query the Trust was advised that bed sharing, particularly if a parent had been drinking or taking drugs, over heated properties, poor ventilation and a lack of awareness of good sleeping positions, were often associated with poor housing and that these were strongly linked to infant deaths.</p> <p>It was noted that, at its recent Board meeting, NHS Haringey had discussed the need to carry out research work with respect to the causes of premature births and the links to deprivation. This was intended to provide a more targeted approach to addressing the problems that were most prevalent in Haringey.</p> <p>The Chair noted that report proposed that an update was received in June 2010, following the National Support Team visit in January 2010 and there was agreement that this should be added to the Trusts Work Programme.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That the report be noted.</li> <li>ii. That an update should be received in June 2010 following the National Support Team visit in January 2010.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>OBCB134</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD</b></p> <p>The Trust received a verbal update on the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).</p> <p>It was noted that the LSCB's Executive body had now met and agreed its Terms of Reference. At its first meeting there had been agreement that the sub groups under the LSCB should be reviewed with a view to concentrating on a limited number of key areas.</p> <p>Raising awareness amongst professionals of Safeguarding issues was a key area of focus for the LSCB and the Executive body would take responsibility for ensuring that this was an ongoing process.</p> <p>The Chair requested that the publicity material that would be issued to staff was circulated to members of the Trust for information.</p> <p>It was noted that the LSCB also planned to hold a series of awareness raising events for professionals. It was suggested that there should be a session to specifically look at cross partnership working and CONEL was offered as a venue for this.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p>	<p>Penny Thompson</p>

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	<p>That the verbal update be noted.</p> <p>That consideration should be given to arranging an event to focus on raising awareness of cross partnership working.</p>	<p>Penny Thompson</p>
<p><b>OBCB135</b></p>	<p><b>FAMILY SUPPORT STRATEGY</b></p>	
	<p>The Trust received a report that set out why a Family Support Strategy was required and the work that had been undertaken to date.</p> <p>A time limited, multi agency, Family Support Task Group had been established to complete the Strategy. As part of its work an information gathering exercise was being carried out that included seeking the views with respect to two questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which areas of need should the Family Support Strategy need to address?</li> <li>• How can the Strategy ensure that appropriate support gets to those families who need it?</li> </ul> <p>The Trust broke into three groups and considered these questions and notes were taken of during their discussion.</p> <p>The Trust was advised that their comments would be fed into the Strategy and taken into consideration in the drafting of the Strategy.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	
<p><b>OBCB136</b></p>	<p><b>AREA CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIPS</b></p> <p>A verbal update was provided with respect to the first cycle of Children's Area Partnership (CAP) meetings that had taken place in September.</p> <p>The Trust was advised that the first round of meetings had been well attended by the Core Agencies such as NHS Haringey, Police, Great Ormond Street Hospital and the Council.</p> <p>An overview was given of the issues raised at each of the meetings:</p> <p><u>South CAP</u></p> <p>The CAP had agreed that addressing the level of children classed as Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), provision of Family Support and children with Special Needs should be focussed on.</p> <p>It was also agreed that there should be a workshop session to consider how to respond to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).</p>	



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	<p>review process and views were sought as to whether these captured everything.</p> <p>The Chair reminded everyone that the Trust was not a political body and that Councillors sitting on the Trust represented the Council as a whole.</p> <p>It was confirmed that Induction sessions with the Director of Children's Services were being organised for all new member of the Trust and that these would take place prior to the review.</p> <p>With regard to improving the understanding of other agencies and their work the Trust was advised that core agencies such as the Police, Council and NHS Haringey, visited one another's organisations to gain a better understanding of how they operated.</p> <p>It was recognised that it would be impractical to extend this type of visit to every member of the Trust and it was agreed that at future meetings operational staff from different organisations should be invited to give a presentation on an aspect of their work.</p> <p>It was further agreed that a Development Session would be useful in promoting understanding of roles.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That a six month review should be carried out in December 2009.</li> <li>ii. That at future meetings, operational staff from different organisations should be invited to give a presentation on an aspect of their work.</li> <li>iii. That a Development Session should be organised for the Children's Trust.</li> </ul>	<p>Peter Lewis</p> <p>Peter Lewis / Patricia Walker</p> <p>Peter Lewis</p> <p>Peter Lewis</p> <p>Peter Lewis</p> <p>Peter Lewis / Patricia Walker</p> <p>Peter Lewis</p>
<p><b>OBCB138</b></p>	<p><b>SAFEGUARDING PLAN FOR HARINGEY</b></p> <p>The Trust received a report that presented the Safeguarding Plan for Haringey.</p> <p>It was noted that the Safeguarding Plan (formerly the JAR Action) had been refreshed and was now presented in a more streamlined and simple format. The designed was intended to simplify the Plan and ensure that there was a clear focus on delivery.</p> <p>In response to a query as to why certain targets were reported as being 'on track' when the delivery date had passed, the Trust was advised that this status had been awarded in certain areas where there was a small degree of slippage.</p> <p>It was confirmed that in any given area any delay in achieving a target</p>	

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	<p>would be no longer than one week if it was reported as being on track.</p> <p>The Chair requested that if any members of the Trust had further queries regarding the Plan following the meeting that these were emailed to Patricia Walker or Xanthe Barker and a response would be supplied.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. That the final version of the refreshed JAR Action Plan, re-titled as the Safeguarding Plan for Haringey, be approved.</li> <li>ii. That progress against milestones and performance information presented within the report be noted.</li> </ul>	<p>All to note</p>
<p><b>OBCB139</b></p>	<p><b>PERFORMANCE MONITORING</b></p> <p>The Trust received a report setting out performance against selected Local Area Agreement (LAA) National Indicators (NIs) within its responsibility during the first quarter of 2009/10.</p> <p>Exception reports were provided for ten of the twelve NIs showing as red. Two of the NIs had been omitted as performance was improving in these areas.</p> <p>With respect to the fall in performance in completing Core Assessments, the Trust was advised that during the last two weeks in August there had been a sharp fall in the number completed and this had distorted the overall figures for the month. However, it was expected that the September data would show that performance had improved.</p> <p>In response to a query regarding the development of seven new proxy indicators, to measure the quality of Safeguarding, the Trust was advised that this had been suggested as a means of assessing the quality of the work being undertaken. There was agreement that details of what these proxy indicators would cover should be circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>The Trust was advised that work to determine whether referrals were being directed via the proper route was being carried out. It was recognised that ensuring referrals were properly dealt with was a key priority. To reflect this the Screening Team was now staffed by trained Social Workers, rather than administrative staff, who were better equipped to determine how cases should proceed.</p> <p>The Chair noted that the target with respect to NI 126, early access to maternity services, had been raised for the current year as performance during 2008/09 had been particularly good. Although this was showing as red against the new target, performance was still improving in this area.</p> <p>The Trust was advised that the CT EMPG would be looking at the</p>	<p>Patricia Walker / Xanthe Barker</p>

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	<p>Maternity Action Plan at its next meeting. A report would be brought back to the Trust if this was considered appropriate.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the report be noted.</p>	
<p><b>OBCB140</b></p>	<p><b>UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT GROUP</b></p> <p>The Trust received a verbal update from the Director of Children's Services on the work of the Children's Trust Executive Performance Management Group.</p> <p>It was noted that the CT PMG had discussed the following:</p> <p><u>Performance Monitoring</u></p> <p>It had been agreed that a Development Session would be held for members of the CT EMPG to consider its approach to performance monitoring.</p> <p><u>Instances of Looked After Children Reported as Missing</u></p> <p>Information held by the Police, with respect to the number of children reported as missing whilst in Care, had been circulated and discussed at the meeting.</p> <p>There had been agreement that provision should be made to review these cases on regular basis between the Police and Council and that this should also be reported to the Corporate Parenting Committee.</p> <p><u>Joint Commissioning</u></p> <p>It had been agreed that a workshop session should be arranged for the Trust in the Spring to consider commissioning.</p> <p>The Chair noted that, in addition to the items raised above and earlier in the meeting, a report on the Children's Centre Strategy should be received at the Trusts December meeting.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <p>That the verbal report be noted.</p>	<p>Patricia Walker / Xanthe Barker</p>
<p><b>OBCB141</b></p>	<p><b>NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS</b></p> <p>No new items of Urgent Business were raised.</p>	
<p><b>OBCB142</b></p>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p><u>Recent Gang Violence</u></p>	

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	<p>The Trust was advised that work was being undertaken to address the recent number of gang related stabbings and shootings in the Borough. A multi agency group to identify short and long term measures to address this problem was in place.</p>	All to note
<b>OBCB143</b>	<p><b>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <p>The following dates of future meetings were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4.30pm, 17 December 2009</li><li>• 4.30pm, 9 February 2010</li><li>• 4.30pm, 15 April 2010</li></ul> <p>The Chair suggested that, if appropriate accommodation was available, the meeting scheduled for December or February, should be held at the Triangle Centre and there was a general consensus that this was acceptable.</p>	<p>All to note</p> <p>All to note</p>

COUNCILLOR LORNA REITH

Chair

The meeting closed at 6.45pm.