

Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee

TUESDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, 2012 at 19.15 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Councillors Allison, Brabazon, Dogus, Reece, Solomon, Stennett and

Waters (Chair)

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

2. URGENT BUSINESS

The Chair will consider the admission of late items of urgent business. Late items will be considered under the agenda item they appear. New items will be dealt with at item 11 below.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the consideration becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member' judgement of the public interest.

4. TO AGREE THE ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING WITH ASPIRE

Prior to the start of the meeting the Committee will have met with Aspire, a youth led project group of Young people that are currently in the care of the council .The young people will have put forward their vision and priorities as a group . As Corporate parents the committee will agree actions arising from this discussion to be taken forward by Children's Services and monitored by the Committee over the year.

5. MINUTES (PAGES 1 - 16)

To consider the minutes of the meeting held on 08th October 2012 and the Joint meeting held on the 29th October 2012.

6. MATTERS ARISING

To consider the work plan and other issues arising from the minutes. **Report to follow**

7. PERMANENCY POLICY

The Committee to consider and endorse this policy with a view to informing the development of a clear policy statement on how best to secure permanent placements for children within the care system. **Report to follow**

8. CHILDREN IN CARE SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

This report is a review of progress made by the Children in Care Service in relation to service development including the issues previously addressed through the Looked After Children Action Plan. **Report to follow**

9. TRANSITION AND LEAVING CARE

The Committee to consider information on the transition process for young people leaving care. **Report to follow**

10. CORPORATE PARENTING PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT- PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR TO OCTOBER 2012

This report sets out performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children. **Report to follow**

11. MISSING CHILDREN

At the joint meeting in October, it was agreed to provide a report back to the December meeting of Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee advising on the process and risk assessments in place for children in care taking unauthorised leave from their placements and also for children missing from care. **Report to Follow**

12. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for consideration of items13, 14,15 as they contain exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by Section 12A of the Local Government Act 1985): paras 1, 2, and 3: namely information relating to any individual, and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual. Also information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person(including the authority holding that information).

13. MINUTES (PAGES 17 - 18)

To consider the exempt minutes of the meeting held on 08th October 2012.

14. PROGRESS REPORT FOLLOWING AN OFSTED INSPECTION OF A COUNCIL CHILDREN'S HOME

This report sets out the progress made with the implementation of the OFSTED action plan for a council children's home. **Report to follow**

15. UPDATE ON REGULATION 33 AND 34 VISITS

The Committee to consider proposals on a format and new arrangements for undertaking Regulation 33 and 34 visits and monitoring . **Report to follow**

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

London N22 8HQ

Date of next meeting: 19th February 2013

David McNulty
Head of Local Democracy and Member Services
5th Floor
River Park House
225 High Road
Wood Green

Ayshe Simsek
Principal Committee Co-ordinator
Tel: 0208 489 2929
Fax: 0208 881 5218

Email: ayshe.simsek@haringey.gov.uk



Page 1 Agenda Item 5 MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2012

Councillors Allison, Brabazon, Dogus, Reece, Stennett and Waters (Chair)

Apologies Councillor Solomon

Also Present: Libby Blake, Marion Wheeler, Attracta Craig, Tracy Hutchings, John

Lewis, Alex White, Phil Dileo, Wendy Tomlinson.

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DE		ACTON BY
CPAC182	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)		
	Apologies were received from Cllr Solo	mon.	
CPAC183	URGENT BUSINESS		
	There were no items of urgent business put forward for consideration.		
CPAC184	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST		
	There were no declarations of interest put forward.		
CPAC185	ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING WITH ASPIRE		
	and distributed to Members of the Committee and Aspire. It was agreed that the actions be added to the formal minutes to allow the Committee to monitor and progress the agreed actions. (These are included below) It was also agreed to invite Aspire to the start of the next Corporate Parenting meeting on 04 th December 2012. Actions		Clerk
	What you told us (Aspire) W	hat we have done(Council)	
	We want a regular budget		
	We want Access to printing and design facilities when advertising our events		
	We want Publicity and promotion of the group and its work		
	We want leadership training for up to 7 people		

MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2012

	We want to cook together			
	We want LAC living outside the borough to know about our events and be given travel expenses to attend Aspire events			
	We want Information about Aspire in training for foster carers			
	We want Leisure Passes for some LAC			
	We want support for learning musical instruments when interest in this type of extracurricular activity is shown			
	We want to know how to complain and take forward a disagreement about our care			
	We want the IT offer made clear to us			
CPAC186	186 MINUTES			
	The minutes of the 04 th September were agreed as an accurate record. The discussion relating to adoption and the action to provide a letter on the outcome of the adoption diagnostic were omitted from the notes. However, the letter from MP Edward Timpson was tabled for Committee Members to consider.			
CPAC187	MATTERS ARISING			
	The Committee felt it would be useful for the Performance report to distinguish and explain the indicators that were locally set and those which were nationally required.		MW	
CPAC188	PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES		
	The Committee were asked to consider performance figures and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to looked after children, from the start of the year up to August 2012.			

MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2012

OP457 (Number of Looked after Children who ceased to be looked after who had been looked after less than a month) The performance in this area was markedly better than this time last year. This change was associated with the use of targeted intervention and change in emphasis, of the service, to managing risk and getting early help to families. One example of this was targeting Youth Service resources to help young people, in families, that are at risk of going into care.

OP389 (Children in care including unaccompanied asylum seeking children)

The number of children in care was steadily reducing with the safety of children and young people still paramount. The Director of the Children's Service was factoring the impact of the housing and council tax benefit changes in the continuing strategy to reduce the number of LAC through prevention initiatives and early help to families and there were plans to mitigate the risks posed by the benefits reforms. Reports close to these matters had been compiled for the LSCB and it was agreed to supply Cllr Brabazon with this information after the meeting.

Dir CS

HY32 (Percentage of Children placed in Haringey provision) The Committee heard about the initiatives to broaden the range of foster carers available to the council. This was though training carers to increase their range of abilities. The Head of Commissioning and Placements was confident that the service was better at matching children and young people to foster carers to ensure that placements were stable and sustained. With regards to the number of young people and children placed outside of the borough and those placed in the borough by other local authorities, the Director for Children's services was starting a dialogue with private residential providers in the borough to ensure that Haringey children were prioritised for any private placements available to enable them to stay local as far as possible.

Some Members expressed frustration at the perceived lack of improvement to the number of foster carers recruited, that were living in the borough, as it was felt that the number of looked after children placed outside of the borough was still too high. These Members continued to guestion whether past actions, agreed by the Committee in relation to these areas, had been followed through. Understanding continued to be sought on the reasons for the disparate performance in foster care recruitment compared to other local authorities. In response to these concerns, The Head of Commissioning and Placements advised of the increase in the use of independent foster carers Also a new framework agreement was being worked on by North London Fostering Consortium, in relation to foster care recruitment, and the Head of Commissioning would examine further how this agreement can still better facilitate the placement of children with a foster carer in the borough. The Committee were assured that, although the majority of looked after children were placed outside the borough, they were often in neighbouring boroughs and close to the border with Haringey.

The Committee sought further assurance on how the required momentum to increase foster carers, and decrease LAC could be

MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2012

sustained given the decrease in top level management in the Children's Service. The Committee were advised that the streamlining of management would improve the speed at which decisions were taken in Children's Services, in turn assisting these key areas.

CPAC189

ACADEMIC PROGRESS REPORT FOR HARINGEY CHILDREN IN CARE 2012

The Head of the Virtual School introduced the report which reported on the progress and results for Children in Care: at the end of Reception, Key Stages 1 and 2 and 4, undergraduates and graduates and new university entrants.

The Head of the Virtual School had also invited John Lewis, Community Partnerships Director, and the lead for the Chrysalis Accelerator Intervention programme for Looked after Children along with Alex White Community Development Manager at Tottenham Hotspur to talk about their work in partnership with the Virtual School with looked after children and young people.

The Virtual School consisted of a head teacher, a small number of teachers and an Education Welfare officer. The Virtual School had been established to tackle the low levels of aspiration seen in young people as well as the carers working with them. The progress set out in the attached report was a summary of their work over the past 12 months. It was important to note that the Virtual School was driven by policy and research to help plan and develop looked after children's learning and respond to their different circumstances.

John Lewis, Community Partnerships Director, addressed the Committee and spoke about the work of the Chrysalis Accelerator Programme for looked after children, an intervention programme which had been co-developed by Highgate School and Future Foundation in partnership with the virtual heads of Enfield, Barnet and Camden to raise aspirations, attainment and confidence leading to successful applications to higher education and into work. The Committee learned about the programme's ethos, aims and what it hoped to achieve with young people in care. The programme started from year 6 and supported participants through to year 10. They were also invited to summer school at Highgate School. During the programme there were initiatives to: develop confidence, support young people's transition periods in their teenage years, promote the benefit of extracurricular activities, improve skills in numery and literacy, support self development and personal responsibility for learning. The Virtual School in Haringey was essential in facilitating the attendance of children and young people at the events organised by Chrysalis.

The Committee commended the work of the Chrysalis project and felt it was a key initiative to be part of, as a council, to support raising the achievement and aspiration of young people in care. The Committee voiced their commitment and support to the project and endorsed its

MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY. 8 OCTOBER 2012

aims and development.

The Chair invited Alex White, Community Development Manager at Tottenham Hotspur Foundation to speak about the Eighteen Project, funded by the GLA and match funded by Haringey and Waltham Forrest councils, aimed at providing 1-2-1 mentoring support and signposting for identified young people in care and care leavers living in Barnet, Haringey and Waltham Forest. Referrals to the project were received from the Virtual School and it had a number of success stories which the local authorities involved were an instrumental part of. The Eighteen Project ultimate aim was to build confidence and get Young people into education and paid employment.

The Eighteen Project was looking to secure funding for its next phase of work and was developing a toolkit to enable the project to be replicated by other football clubs.

The Committee was interested in finding out about how the project was meeting its set milestones and whether there had been an increase in physical participation by young people involved in the project. Also as education was the focus behind receiving the funding, how would the project meet the funding criteria when it was sports based? The Committee learnt that the project was meeting milestones and the GLA were flexible with the sports element of the project as it was seen as a tool to enabling access to education.

Information on potential European funding opportunities was shared. It was explained that, as the project included getting young people into work, it could be eligible to apply for the employment element of European funding .Also the ability to obtain match funding would put the project on a strong position. Information on access to this funding was available from the London Council's website.

The Committee noted that mentoring was a strong component of the scheme and mentors were paid by the project to ensure that this provision was consistently available to young people. There were between twenty and thirty part time mentors who also worked in other areas of the programme.

It was noted that there was a targeted programme for girls and female mentors available to them.

The Committee continued to hear about the initiatives of the Virtual School, such as the local reading scheme supported by local community organisations and the library, aimed at inspiring younger children in care to engage in learning. The Virtual School understood the lifestyle of a child or young person in care and planned events according to them and their carer's availability.

The Virtual School team were congratulated on their work in supporting looked after children and young people in their academic achievements

MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MONDAY, 8 OCTOBER 2012

	this year. The Committee were interested in comparing these academic performance figures to national figures. This information would be available to the Committee in the New Year when figures were published. The Virtual School were not complacent about these results and saw their role in supporting looked after children in their educational achievement as a continual journey. They were currently focussing on the pathway to key stage 3 to drive up results further.	AC
	Some housekeeping issues regarding the Virtual School website highlighted were: updating the care matters report and term dates for 2012/13.	AC
CPAC190	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC	
	The press and public were excluded from the meeting for consideration of the following items as they contained exempt information as defined in Section 100a of the local government Act 1972(as amended by Section 12Aof the Local Government act 1985),paras 1&2 namely information relating to any individual and information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.	
CPAC191	ACADEMIC PROGRESS REPORT FOR HARINGEY CHILDREN IN CARE 2012	
	As per CPAC189	
CPAC192	PROGRESS REPORT FOLLOWING A RECENT OFSTED INSPECTION OF A COUNCIL CHILDREN'S HOME	
004040	The Committee considered the action plan relating to the findings of a recent OFSTED inspection of the council's short stay children's home.	
CPAC193	ANY OTHER BUSINESS	
	The Director of Children's Services would distribute to Committee Members, by email, research collated on permanency options for them to consider and comment on before the December meeting when the Permanency strategy is considered.	Dir CS

Cllr Ann Waters

Chair

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE &CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2012

Councillors Allison, Brabazon, Bull, Dogus, Reece, Scott, Solomon, Stennett,

Stewart and Waters

Apologies Councillor Adamou

Also Present: Libby Blake, Marion Wheeler, Lisa Blundell, Wendy Tomlinson, Moira

Lammond, Geoffrey Burach, Hilary Corrick.

MINUTE		ACTON
NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	BY

JC01	APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIR	
	It was agreed that Cllr Stewart chair the Joint meeting of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee.	
JC02	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE(IF ANY)	
	Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Adamou.	
JC03	URGENT BUSINESS	
	There were no items of urgent business put forward.	
JC04	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	There were no declarations of Interest put forward.	
JC05	DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS/QUESTIONS	
	There were no deputations, petitions, or questions put forward.	
JC06	HALF YEAR PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORTS ON SAFEGUARDING AND LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN DATA	
	The Committee considered performance data and trends for an agreed set of measures relating to contacts, referrals, assessments, child protection and children looked after.	
	The agreed set of measures were grouped according to topic and enclosed at appendix 1, showing monthly data, performance against target, long term trends and benchmarking data where applicable. Both the Corporate Parenting Committee and Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee had considered performance information up to August 2012, in relation to their respective areas, at their recent meetings. With this in mind, the Chair asked the Assistant Director for Safeguarding to highlight any changes in performance since these	

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE &CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2012

recent meetings.

The Assistant Director for Safeguarding provided the following key performance information:

- The downward trend for children becoming looked after continued. The Committee noted that it was critical for this indicator to continue in this manner for the service to move forward with their early help agenda.
- The upward pressure on children placed on child protection plans was being closely examined and monitored by the service as this was out of step with statistical neighbours.
- There was a slight upturn in the number of looked after children being placed in the borough. Although, it was accepted that the number of looked after children placed outside the borough was still high.
- The Children's service were aiming to ensure that all looked after children had a permanency plan and were continuing to examine how each department had a role in supporting these plans.

Following queries from the Committee about the performance statistics, the following information was provided:

- With regards to initial and core assessments not being completed within timescales, the Committee were assured that all families would have been seen by a social worker within a certain amount of time. The Committee were further pointed to the service comments, included with the performance data, which showed that there was an improvement from the previous month. The Committee were assured that this was a high priority for the Children's service and they were striving to bring this up to top quartile performance. The Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee had also asked their Independent Member, Hilary Corrick, to undertake a qualitative audit into initial assessments that were completed out of timescale to understand the reasons for this. This audit would be considered at their meeting on November 22nd 2012.
- Adoption scorecard There were a number of key lines of enquiry which would require a response from different parts of the service. The Children's service was actively exploring how to better streamline the processes involving adoption. It was anticipated that a review of adoption processes should bring forward ideas for improvements together with the additional resources from the Children's Improvement Board would enable more adoptions to be made at a quicker pace. The Director of Children's service advised that there was a timescale chart being considered by the Children's Service Improvement board on a regular basis and this

set out the different timescales the service were working to for adoption. It was agreed to circulate this chart to the Committee.

LB

- The Independent Member of the Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee advised that the key to improving adoption rates was for adoption to be considered as an early option when a child comes to care. In her experience, when children become older it was more difficult to find placements.
- Although, there were a high number of contacts with the Children's service, through First Response, they were effectively able to sift through the contacts and make referrals which were likely to require an initial assessment and entry into social care. The director was exploring setting up a new team focussed on early help that will consider those contacts which do not meet the social care threshold but where early help through universal services will help a family not get to a stage where they need social care intervention. This would be discussed in the later agenda item.

JC07 CHILDREN'S SOCIETY CHARTER FOR RUNAWAYS

The Committee noted that one of the recommendations, of the Scrutiny Review of Children missing from care and from home, was that the council gave specific consideration to signing up to the Children's Society Runaways Charter. The Children's Society was calling on all local authorities to publicly sign up to the charter which contained a clear code for agencies with a duty to protect children who run away or go missing from home and care. The council already adhered to statutory guidance and Pan London Missing from Home and Care procedures for children missing from home and care placements.

The council were working with Barnardos on the Miss U project with a practitioner funded to provide support to runaways and children at risk. Therefore, as an existing working relationship with Barnardos existed, the service would need to gage whether there was a difference in the work required by the charter and the work that Barnardos did with missing children.

The merits of signing up to the charter were outlined together with the caution that the charter could be used in assessments of the Children's service and therefore the directorate would need to allocate additional resources to collate evidence and monitor adherence to the charter. Taking into account, that the service already had in place existing processes and procedures to adhere to the statutory and Pan London guidance, this would be an additional detailed assignment for the service to resource.

The Committee continued to given assurance about the level of priority

given to children missing from care with an illustration of the information shared in the weekly meetings between the Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Director of the Children's service.

A member of the Committee advised that children and young people missing from council children's homes had been a regular concern expressed at previous Scrutiny Panel meetings so the close weekly high level attention given to this issue was welcome. However, the low numbers of children/young people missing from placements was questioned as this was believed to have been higher in the past.

In relation to signing up to the charter, the Committee agreed that the main consideration should be that children are kept safe. It was reassuring that the Children's service were following statutory procedures and was tracking the children and young people that were going missing. However, as a separate but connected issue, it was felt that further assurance was needed on the process and risk assessments in place for children in care taking unauthorised leave from their placements as the past experience of some members had been that these children's whereabouts were predicted, rather than known by the care homes. These absences were equally as concerning as children missing from care whose whereabouts was not known. The Committee agreed that a report come back to the December meeting of Corporate Parenting Committee advising on the process and risk assessments in place for children in care taking unauthorised leave from their placements and also for children missing from care. The report should also provide a sense of the figures, over the year, for children missing from care as the figures were lower than previously reported.

MW

The consensus among Committee Members was that the main priority should be keeping children safe and as statutory guidance and Pan London procedures were being followed in respect of children missing from care they were satisfied that adherence to a separate charter, that would require allocation of additional resources, was not needed.

LB

JC08 HARINGEY 54000 PROGRAMME

The vision of the Haringey 54000 change programme was: Haringey a place where children and young people are known to thrive and achieve. The programme represented a changing relationship between the Children's service and families in the borough. The programme would balance services towards universal and good and outstanding early help that would sustain families, preventing the need for more costly services.

To achieve the required outcomes, the service was aiming to release resources currently invested in higher numbers of looked after children for an earlier offer of help. This would mean shifting the budget from high cost interventions towards efficient and effective preventative

services. The programme approach being taken to the changes, required in the service, had been developed in collaboration with practitioners running programmes in London Authorities.

An explanation was provided of early help and its priorities were set out as well as the policy guiding this work. It was noted that this was not limited to the age of the child and could occur at any point in a child's or young person's life. The Children's Service was engaging with users to find out what early help means to them to properly inform the strategy.

The policy attached was in draft form and an updated version would be sent out to Committee members. The final policy was expected to be considered by Cabinet in March. It was important to note that, the Permanency Policy would work alongside Early Help Policy and would be about finding permanent families for looked after children so they spent a less time in care.

LB

A member of the Committee highlighted the significant reductions made to Children's Centres in 2011 as this would need to be factored when taking forward the offer of early help. Comparisons were made between Islington council's offer of children's centre services and Haringey's offer. In response to this, it was pointed out Islington receive higher funding for early years than Haringey and are in a position spend more on children's centres. The Children's service had been required to make past reductions to the children's centres budget as there had not been the funding in place to continue with the size of the service. The Children's service was not excluded from making budget reductions in the coming financial years and it was also not yet known if there was flexibility in the DSG grant and EIG funding to spend more on children's centres but use of these funding streams would be explored.

Continuing the discussion on children's centres and their role in early help to families, the issues listed below were highlighted. The Director of Children's services agreed to provide a written response to the Committee as information relating to budgets and savings would need to be accessed.

LB

- Had there been a review following the 50% reduction in funding to children's centres?
- The position on children's centres access to framework i.
- In the budget reductions to children's centres in 2011, there had been a significant budget allocation to external services and it would be useful to find out how this money was being spent and monitored.
- A significant proportion of Sure Start money had been top sliced for family support services and it would be important to find out the efficacy of the services being delivered as family support encompassed a number of different services working together.

JC09 MULTI SYSTEMIC TREATMENT PROGRAMME - EDGE OF CARE - PROGRESS REPORT

Geoffrey Baruch was asked by the Assistant Director for Safeguarding to attend the meeting to present information on Multi Systemic Treatment (MST) Programme, a DFE funded project. Moira Lamond was also introduced to the Committee; she was working directly with council on this initiative aimed at mainstreaming intervention for young people on the edge of care.

MST was initially developed in the US as a treatment programme for young people displaying antisocial behaviour and aimed at reducing youth criminal activity. The outcomes of the programme are cost savings by decreasing the public cost from youth criminal activity such as imprisonment, and putting young people into care.

The theoretical basis behind MST examines the factors leading to delinquent behaviour and involves a therapy team working with the families. The team target multidiscipline risks in a comprehensive yet individualised way. The caregiver's co-operation is paramount to the long term positive outcomes for the child. There will be daily activities for the parents to complete to change the system in the family and ensure the intervention successes are sustainable.

There was a contractual relationship between with the council and the Brandon centre initially for a year for two therapists to work with 9 families. These families demonstrate extreme entrenched behaviour which statutory services have not been able to work with.

Moira Lammond explained that in practical terms, MST is a home based therapy with the therapist visiting the household and keeping regular contact with family for a time limited intervention. The aim is to keep children and young people with extreme behaviours on the edge of care at home or out of custody. The intervention can last from 3-5 months and can range from 35-75 appointments with each family. Examples were given of the different issues and the types of families that the therapists dealt will deal with. The recent achievements of the project in Haringey included:

- 2 children in care coming out of care and returning to their families
- Positive interventions at school
- One child successful in not getting excluded from school
- A pupil at the Octagon centre had progressed to college education
- Schools participating in the therapy and working with the therapist on behavioural plans

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE &CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2012

The families spoke to the therapist about the different approaches each statutory agency had when working with them .Also how the necessary input of statutory services could also make the families feel less in control.

In response to questions, the Committee learnt that:

- Currently a therapist will work with between 4-5 for families and if the council wanted to increase the families getting this specific help they would need to procure additional therapists.
- The work with the families is conducted in the home and there is no clinic to attend. Although, there is variety of interventions, this is a pragmatic therapy based on the needs of the family.
- The project had been running for 6 months and the cost of the intervention was £9.5k per child. Most of the cost for the first year is funded externally with the remainder of the funding coming from both Haringey and Waltham Forest council's.
- The referrals to MST were decided by the Assistant Director for Safeguarding following consideration at an internal safeguarding board meeting where high risk, complex, and challenging behaviours being displayed by families are considered.
- There was linkage with the troubled families' project and principles in use were similar and involved intensive work with the families.
- The Council were fortunate in that the therapist team included a specialist in substance mis-use, one of only two teams in the country.
- The therapists were usually trained in clinical psychology or were Social Workers with a master's degree. However, in addition to their professional qualifications, they were trained using the MST model before working with families. Successful working with families was closely related to the MST model.
- The therapist will take over, from the statutory agencies working with the family but will regularly confer with the agencies about their work and gain information from them about the family.

The Assistant Director for Safeguarding commented that she had been impressed at the level of engagement the therapists had displayed and how quickly they had been able to engage with the chosen families and begin working in their homes. However, as this was a new project, it was too early to tell if the changes in behaviour, facilitated by the therapist, would be sustainable once they left and the family were transferred back to universal services. The Committee agreed that it

MW/ Clerk

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE &CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2012

	It was clarified that the cohort of children and young people referred to the Youth, Community and Participation service did not require the same high level of care as the young people accessing the MST programme. Although the Youth, Community and Participation had received £400k in funding this could still not support a broader youth service offer. The Youth Community and Participation service would continue as a partial service providing targeted universal services.	
JC11	NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS	
	There were no new items of urgent business.	
JC12	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC	
JC13	NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS	
3010	There were no new exempt items of urgent business.	
1044	·	
1044	NEXT MEETING	
JC14	NEXT INIEE TIME	

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF CORPORATE PARENTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE &CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PRACTICE COMMITTEE MONDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2012

Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

Document is exempt

This page is intentionally left blank