

CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD** held at Room 14, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford on Tuesday, 8 March 2016

PRESENT

Cllr C Hegley (Vice-Chairman)

Mr O Button	Principal, Queensbury Academy
Mr R Carr	Chief Executive, Central Bedfordshire Council
Shirley-Anne Crosbie OBE	Headteacher, The Chiltern School
Mr P Haddon	Headteacher, Holywell School
Mr G Jeffery	Head of Community Safety, Bedfordshire Fire Rescue Service
Mr J Lunn	Bedfordshire Police
Mrs M Mercer	Headteacher, Aspley Guise Lower School
Mrs A Murray	Director of Nursing and Quality, Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Mr S Phillips	Executive Headteacher, the Lawns Nursery Scholl & Children's Centre
Cllr M A G Versallion	Executive Member for Education and Skills

Others Attendees:	Ms S Chakrabarti	– Assistant Director, Public Health
	Ms A Coleman	– Partnership and Performance Officer
	Mr P Fraser	– Head of Partnerships & Community Engagement
	Mrs S Hobbs	– Committee Services Officer
	Mrs K Oellermann	– Assistant Director - Commissioning & Partnerships
	Ms J Piper	– CSP Manager
	Miss H Redding	– Assistant Director School Improvement

CTB/15/33. **Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hegley chaired the meeting.

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Dr Judy Baxter – Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Linda Bulled – VOCypf Officer, VOCypf
Ellen Burke – Member of Youth Parliament
Alan Caton – Chair, Central Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Children Board
Steven Dawkins – Member of Youth Parliament
Sue Harrison – Director of Children's Services
David Morton – Diocese of St Albans
Muriel Scott – Director of Public Health
Len Simpkins – Chair, VOCypf

Dr Judy Baxter and Frances Image had resigned from the Board. The Board took the opportunity to thank them for their work during their time serving on the Children's Trust Board and wished them all the best for the future.

CTB/15/34. **Procedural Business**

(a) Declaration of substitutes

- Sanhita Chakrabarti in attendance for Muriel Scott, Public Health.
- Jim Lunn in attendance for Gavin Hughes Rowlands, Bedfordshire Police.

(b) Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) Exclusion of the Press and Public

AGREED

that in accordance with Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 2 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Act:

- **Agenda item 9 – Update – National Working Group Pan Bedfordshire Review of Child Sexual Exploitation; and**
- **Agenda item 10 – Children and Young People's Plan – Quarter Three Performance.**

CTB/15/35. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Matters Arising**

AGREED

that the minutes of the meeting of the Children's Trust Board held on 3 December 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:-

- The Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report had been shared with stakeholders and partners. The Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group provided their governing body with a summary of the Annual Report to ensure that the priorities within the Report were reflected in the work undertaken by the organisation.

- Anti Poverty Strategy is being developed into a Council offer to support those on Welfare Reform.
- An update on the schools results data and the health referrals for early help assessments were provided in the quarter 3 performance report.
- Schools should be promoting the 5-19 School Nursing Service to their pupils.
- The Deep Dive on Youth Offending (first time entrants) and 2/2.5 Year Health Review had been added to the Board's work programme.

CTB/15/36. **Exempt: Update - National Working Group (NWG) Pan Bedfordshire Review of Child Sexual Exploitation**

The Board considered a report that provided an update on activity being undertaken in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) following the National Working Group (NWG) Pan Bedfordshire Review of Child Sexual Exploitation.

The NWG suggested six strategic recommendations to be taken forward and developed across Bedfordshire. In addition to this there were two specific recommendations for Central Bedfordshire:-

- Training and Awareness.
- Multi-Agency Working.

The Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board would continue to maintain oversight of the progress of the CSE Problem Profile, Strategy and Action Plan that were being developed.

Prevention work was being carried out to make children, young people and families aware of CSE and what to do if they had concerns.

AGREED

that the progress in relation to action resulting from the Pan Bedfordshire NWG Review including development of a CSE Problem Profile, CSE Strategy and Action Plan be noted.

CTB/15/37. **Exempt: Children and Young People's Plan - Quarter Three Performance**

The Board considered a report that provided an update on quarter three progress in delivering the priorities in the Children and Young People's Plan (March 2015 – March 2017).

The 2015 Key Stage 2 results for Central Bedfordshire had shown that 77% of pupils achieved level 4 or above in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. The Statistical Neighbour and national averages were both 80%. A Peer Review of the Local Authority Arrangements for School Improvement was taking place and the outcome would be presented to the Children's Trust Board at the meeting on 6 June 2016. Officers would be investigating different approaches to improve Key Stage 2 results.

The Peer Review would inform the refresh of the Partnership Vision for Education.

AGREED

- 1. that progress in delivering the priorities, targets and actions to address issues where performance was not on track to meet targets be noted; and**
- 2. that the outcome of the School Improvement Peer Review be reported to the Children's Trust Board meeting on 6 June 2016.**

CTB/15/38. Partnership Vision for Education

The Board considered a report that provided an update on the actions taken and being taken following the launch of the Partnership Vision for Education in September 2015. The discussion included:

- Actions to ensure children are school ready;
- Approaches being taken to improve attainment across key stages – in particular Key Stage 2 and for disadvantaged pupils;
- Changes in assessments.

In addition, 66 organisations had signed the Pledge, with a further 10 people responding as a separate representative of an organisation e.g. a Head and a Governor had responded individually. Therefore 76 signed Pledges had been received. Work was being carried out to engage with the schools that had not signed the Pledge and ensuring that those schools that had signed the Pledge were actively taking part in the educational improvement journey.

A programme plan had been developed to provide an overview of the programme structure and the approach being taken to deliver actions in the priority areas and sets out key deliverables. There were six programme work streams:-

- 1 – School Leadership.
- 2 – Achieving results in the top quartile in key stage tests including GCSEs and A levels.
- 3 - School Readiness.
- 4 - Improving health outcomes to support improving educational outcomes.
- 5 - Young people have the skills to be work ready.
- 6 - Commission new school places from good or outstanding providers to serve growing communities.

A mechanism was needed for capturing the actions coming out of the key milestones to enable the Children's Trust Board to review the data.

The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee at their meeting on 15 March 2016 would be discussing the Partnership Vision for Education. A request was made that the Governor Dashboards be available to view at this meeting.

AGREED

- 1. that the progress made to date in delivering the Partnership Vision for Education be noted;**
- 2. that further engagement be carried out with those schools that had not signed up to the Pledge; and**
- 3. that a mechanism for reporting the outcome of the key milestones and targets be developed.**

CTB/15/39. Recruitment and Retention of Teachers for Central Bedfordshire

The Board considered a report that provided details of the current issues in respect of recruitment and retention of teachers for Central Bedfordshire and an early indication of work taking place to address issues through the delivery of the Partnership Vision for Education.

A Recruitment and Retention Group would be formed, with representatives from each school phase, to develop a Recruitment Strategy. The Teaching Schools had been involved in publicising Central Bedfordshire. Work was being carried out with the other directorates at Central Bedfordshire Council to look at areas such as housing and regeneration to promote Central Bedfordshire as a good place to live and work to encourage applicants to apply for teaching vacancies in the area.

AGREED

- 1. that a further update on recruitment and retention of teachers for Central Bedfordshire be added to the Children's Trust Board forward plan.**

CTB/15/40. Active Participation Strategy

The Board considered a report that outlined progress towards the development of an active participation strategy and shadow Children's Trust Board for Children and Young People in Central Bedfordshire. The Strategy would provide for opportunity for children and young people to have their voice heard and have an influence in decision-making and being empowered to make decisions for themselves.

It was anticipated that the Strategy would be in place by the end of April 2016. The proposed Shadow Children's Trust Board for Children and Young People would provide a coordinated and strategic approach to engage with young people and ensure the Council and its partners were held responsible for delivery of services that improve outcomes for Children and Young People. The Shadow Board would be in place from June 2016.

AGREED

- 1. that the proposed development of an Active Participation Strategy for Children and Young People in Central Bedfordshire be noted.**
- 2. that the development and implementation of the strategy through securing engagement with professionals and partner agencies from across Central Bedfordshire be supported; and**
- 3. that a new Shadow Children's Trust Board for Children and Young People be formed in Central Bedfordshire.**

CTB/15/41. Standing Item: Update from other Boards

The Community Safety Partnership Strategy had been circulated to the Board, feedback on the Strategy could be provided to the Director of Children's Services.

CTB/15/42. Forward Plan

The Board received the Forward Plan for 2016/17.

AGREED

that the Forward Plan be noted, subject to the following items being added to the meeting on 6 June 2016:-

- Peer Review of the Local Authority Arrangements for School Improvement; and**
- Recruitment and Retention of Teachers for Central Bedfordshire.**

A request had been received from the organisation Special Needs and Parents (SNaP) to have representation on the Children's Trust Board. The Board agreed to invite SNAP (Special Needs Action Panel) to a future meeting to provide the Board with a briefing on the role of the organisation.

AGREED

to invite a representative from SNAP to attend and brief the Board on the role to their organisation.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 4.00 p.m. and concluded at 6.15 p.m.)