

SWINDON CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD

THURSDAY, 19 JUNE 2014

PRESENT: Liz Holmes (Chair), Councillors Fionuala Foley and Michael Bray, Kathie Bryan (Head Teachers), Valerie Johnstone (Governors), Mike Howard (LSCB), Michelle Maguire (CAMHS), John Gilbert, Board Director Commissioning, Children and Adults, Paddy Bradley, Head of Economy and Skills, Sue Wald, Head of Commissioning, Children and Adults, Cherry Jones (Acting Director of Public Health), Jo Olsson (Interim Head of Children and Families), Katy Staples (SACRE), Louise Campion (Principal Officer, Health & Wellbeing).

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cindy Matthews, Kate Rowe (Sure Start), Debbie Kalynka (Primary Headteachers), David Dawson (Diocese) and Scott Taylor (Fire Service).

1. Minutes

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

2. Public Question Time

No public questions were asked at the meeting.

3. Swindon SACRE Annual Report 2012-13

The Board received a report from the Director of Law and Democratic Services detailing the work undertaken by the Swindon Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) for the period September 2012 to August 2013. Ms Katy Staples, SACRE Advisor, referred to the annual report, commented on the work undertaken by the group and the importance of linking SACRE work with other Bodies to aid the safeguarding of young people within the borough.

The Board welcomed the report and discussed the following issues:

- The reduction of pupils sitting RE Exams. The Board noted that the number of pupils taking RE in Swindon was below the national average and that a reduction of curriculum time for this subject may be a contributing factor.
- Future dialogue between Swindon Association of Secondary Headteachers (SASH) and SACRE in order for SACRE to assist headteachers in meeting their religious education statutory requirements.
- Possible discussions between students and schools to ascertain reasons for low take up of RE at schools.
- The provision of religious education and collective worship training for governors provided by SACRE.

Resolved: (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That further updates be submitted at a future meeting of this Board.

4. Ofsted and Care Quality Commission Inspections

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Board Director, Commissioning submitted a joint report setting out (a) the findings of two major inspections of Children's Services in Swindon and (b) reports on the actions planned to meet identified areas for development.

Ms Jo Olsson, Interim Head of Children, Families and Community Health, introduced the report and explained that it covered both the Care Quality Commission Inspection and Ofsted Inspection Findings. She commented on the findings and how these would be incorporated into action plans.

Ms Olsson responded to the Committee's questions and comments in respect of the following points:

- Review the difference in formats between the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission action plans to ensure ease of monitoring.
- Further to Point 5 of the Ofsted Action Plan, how the local authority would be able to monitor the complexity and work commitment being undertaken by partners to reflect their key roles in delivering service outcomes.
- Action plans tackle areas that need immediate improvement and how this would translate into shaping future early help and intervention work.

Resolved: (1) That the findings of the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission inspections and action plans be noted.

(2) That the Board Director Commissioning and the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, be delegated the responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the action plans, involving the Education, Health and Caring Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in areas particularly important to the Council, including the strategic priorities identified at 4.1.4.

5. Children's Trust Board Performance Report

The Board Director Commissioning, Children and Adults and the Head of Commissioning, Children and Adults, presented a report updating the Committee on the final performance outturn for Children's Services for the period to June 2014. Ms Jo Olsson, Interim Head of Children and Families stated that the report had been structured to highlight the strengths and challenges of work to be undertaken.

In response to a comment regarding the redistribution of resources, Ms Olsson referred to the plans being directed to target resource particularly towards Early Help and Intervention services.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

6. The Quality Account 2013-14 - Children's Community Health Services

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Board Director Commissioning, Children submitted a joint report regarding the Quality Account for the period 2013/14. Ms Louise Campion, Principal Officer, Health and Wellbeing introduced the report and referred to the Quality Account as a means for the public to make informed decisions regarding local services. She referred to the structure of the guidance and the audit programme.

Ms Campion responded to observations on the following issues:

- Lack of information regarding “The Voice of the Child” in the Quality Account, particularly regarding the “added value” provided through the delivery of services by school nurses in secondary schools.
- Clearer demarcation of services provided by the Local Authority (LA) and the NHS in order to promote work undertaken by the LA as a community health provider.
- The need for clarity on service provision regarding integrated health demand must be communicated more effectively to local community in order for them to understand who provides what service.

Resolved: That the report be noted.

(2) That the Chair be requested to provide a written comment regarding the submission of the Quality Account report to the Board for its consideration.

7. Health Visiting – An Update On Our Local Service

The Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and the Board Director Commissioning, Children submitted a joint report updating the Board on the changes in Health Visiting nationally and how these have been implemented locally. Ms Louise Campion, Principal Officer, Health and Wellbeing, described the quality, effectiveness and impact of the local services and drew the Board’s attention to challenges faced as a provider to deliver the target number of Health Visitors by March 2015. She referred to the training and recruitment of extra health visitors that has been on-going over the past two years and advised that this was the final year of implementing the national “Call to Action” programme for transforming Health Visiting provision in Swindon.

The Board welcomed the report and commented on the following points:

- Clarification on meeting the target of recruiting and training health visitors.
- Competitiveness of the health visitor recruitment market and its impact on Swindon.

Resolved: (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That a report on the progress over the last year of the programme be submitted at a future meeting of this Board.

8. Breastfeeding Update

The Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Board Director Commissioning, Children and Adults and Acting Director of Public Health submitted a joint report concerning the delivery of the Swindon Breastfeeding Strategy, including performance over the past twelve months and covered information on the challenges to improve breastfeeding rates in Swindon. Ms Fiona Dickens, Public Health Programme Manager, explained that data was recorded just after birth and again between six to eight weeks after birth and this was a national mandatory requirement. This allowed comparison of data nationally and with statistical neighbours. She explained that enquires were being made with NHS England regarding data to be collected, and referred to the UNICEF Baby Friendly initiative that is being implemented in the Swindon Borough Council Children, Families and Community Health services and well as in the Great Western hospital. This initiative supports mothers who choose to breastfeed.

Ms Dickens responded to the Boards queries regarding the following topics:

- How lack of health visitors affected data recording and on the work being

undertaken with GPs to enable them to record breastfeeding data at 6- 8 weeks.

- Clarity on total number of women interviewed in relation to the percentage figures recorded.
- Realistic target provision for the 6 to 8 week recording.

Resolved: (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Acting Director of Public Health be requested to include the Board's suggestions for improvement into the Breastfeeding Action Plan for 2014/15.

9. Children's Centres

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Board Director Commissioning, Children and Adults submitted a joint report updating the Board on the progress of the Children's Centres restructure and the tendering processes to date.

Ms Joy Kennard, Strategic Commissioner, Children and Families, referred to the performance of Children Centres over the period 2013/14 and commented on the number of changes implemented over the past year and their impact on partners and stakeholders. She referred to the sharing of information across different recording platforms, Ofsted Inspections, work undertaken within cluster areas to ensure funding reached families in need and on the regular monthly meetings with Children Centres regarding their action plans.

Ms Kennard responded to members' questions and observations on the following issues:

- Children Centres holding food bank vouchers for issue to families.
- Schools acting as critical partners in supporting vulnerable families as they are often able to spot first signs of difficulty and can work closely with Children Centres.

The Chair referred to questions submitted by Cllr Matthews regarding registrations from registrars, initial Child Protection conferences, Children in Care and Children in Need meetings. Ms Kennard and Mr John Gilbert, Board Director Commissioning, responded at the meeting and agreed to submit a written response to Cllr Matthews.

Resolved: That the Board supports the continued plan to improve the performance of Children's Centres across Swindon and for individual partner organisations and agencies to take actions to support the improvements as required.

10. Swindon Children's Trust Board Meeting Plan 2014 15

Mrs Liz Holmes, Chair of the Swindon Children's Trust Board, submitted a proposed meeting schedule for the Municipal Year 2014/15. Councillor Foley commented on the poor attendance at the current and previous meetings and explained that a review of attendees may be required in order to ensure feedback and information from the meeting was appropriately disseminated. Mr Mike Howard, Chair, Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) also referred to his concerns regarding the poor attendance of key agencies to the LSCB meetings.

Resolved: (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the Chair and Mr Howard, (LSCB) review who should be attending

the meetings and issue appropriate invitations and/or ask for nominees to sit on both Boards.

11. Minutes of Local Safeguarding Children's Board

The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Board Director Commissioning, Children and Adults, submitted a joint report setting out the minutes of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) meeting of 11th March 2014. Mr Mike Howard, Chair, Swindon Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), presented the report highlighting matters of particular significance including posters on Thamesdown buses regarding the Cyber Bullying Awareness Campaign and the Feeling Safe Survey, which was the successor of the Tell Us Survey and which was being directed at primary and secondary schools.

Resolved – That the report and the minutes of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board meeting of 11th March 2014, be noted.

12. Minutes of Joint Commissioning Board (Adults & Children)

The Cabinet Member for Children's Service and the Board Director Commissioning submitted a joint report setting out the minutes of the Joint Commissioning Board (Adults and Children) meeting of 4th March 2014.

Resolved – That the report and minutes of the Joint Commissioning Board - (Adults and Children) meeting held on 4th March 2014, be noted.

13. Dates of Future Meetings

It was noted that meetings of the Board are scheduled for the remainder of the Municipal Year 2014/15 as follows:

Thursday, 11th September 2014 at 3.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.

Thursday, 4th December 2014 at 3.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.

Thursday, 12th March 2015 at 3.00 p.m. in Committee Room 6.