

Tripartite Youth Services Meeting

10 November 2011

Notes

| Present: | | Local Children's Partnership | |
|--------------------|--|--|-----|
| Charlie Adie | The Alliance Vice Chair/Chief Executive Motiv8 | Gosport Co-Chair | CA |
| Carol Allington | | Fareham , Chair | CAL |
| Dave Ashton | Hampshire County Council (HCC) Children's Services Department (CSD) Youth Support Services Manager, East Hampshire | | DA |
| Claire Branson | HCC CSD Senior Development Officer Commissioning | | CB |
| Brian Corral | HCC CSD Youth Support Services Manager, New Forest | | BC |
| Steve Crocker | HCC CSD Assistant Director of Children's Services | | SC |
| Ria Emery | HCC CSD Youth Support Services Manager, Havant | | RE |
| Tony Lee | HCC CSD District Manager | | TL |
| Ally Lee-Dudley | Alliance Trustee/Chief Executive Youth Clubs Hampshire & Isle of Wight | Alliance Rep., Petersfield, Liss & Liphook | ALD |
| Ian Milsom | Alliance Development Manager | | IM |
| Mike Simpson | Alliance Trustee/Chief Executive Winchester YMCA | Alliance Rep., Winchester | MS |
| Christine Thresher | | Basingstoke Everest/Fort Hill, Chair | CT |
| Mel Walker | Area Manager Hampshire, Catch 22 | | MW |
| Lisa Willis | HCC CSD Strategic Workforce Development Manager | | LW |
| Sally Woods | HCC CSD Youth Support Services Manager, Hart and Rushmoor | | SW |

Apologies:

Local Children's Partnership

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|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Jonathan Andrew | Manager Fairbridge Solent | |
| Jane Armstrong Jayne Ashberry | | Rushmoor, Chair Havant, Extended Services |
| Jenny Bonsor Tim Boschi | | Gosport, Co-Chair Basingstoke Area Children's Strategy Group (BACS), Chair Alresford, Chair |
| Fern Calver Malcolm Cooke | Assistant Director, KIDS South East | Alliance Rep., Fareham |
| Debbie Dean | HCC CSD Youth Support Services Manager, Eastleigh/Winchester | |
| Mark Dixon | Alliance Chair/Chief Executive, Youth Options | |
| Steve Handforth | HCC CSD Area Director Western | |
| Jane Kent | | Bordon, Chair |
| Mary Lilley Cara Parker | Area Operations Manager, National Childminding Association | Havant, Chair Alliance Rep., Hart |
| Peter Stokes | HCC CSD Community Development Facilitator, Winchester & Eastleigh | |
| Paul Williams | Alliance Trustee/Chief Executive, Winchester Area Community Action | Alliance Rep., Winchester |

1. Welcome and introductions

SC chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions took place around the table.

2. Notes of the previous meeting and matters arising

The notes of 27 September 2011 were agreed, subject to amendment. This was to note that the fourth bullet point on page 5 should read "...links to the Qualifications Curriculum Framework (QCF) for Working with Young People".

CAL expressed concern with the timescale for decisions on transitional funding and asked that this be minuted.

3. YSS commissioning update

IM provided information about individual/organisational attendance at the October YSS information events organised by The Alliance and asked for a CSD view of how effective these had been. **SC** felt that the events had been worthwhile and that there was positive feedback to this effect from voluntary sector attendees.

CB updated on the commissioning process. Some feedback received in relation to the draft service specifications and this has informed final service specifications.

Window for expressions of interest now closed. There has been a positive response with 51 organisations registering an interest.

Draft specifications have now been taken down from Hantsweb and will be replaced with final specifications on 14 November 2011. A series of voluntary sector briefing events will take place on 16, 17 and 18 November, providing an opportunity for questions and answers on the final specifications, and for service providers to network with potential partners.

Terms of Reference (TOR) for Evaluation Panels have been drawn up and meetings will be arranged for the latter half of January 2012. TOR and other papers relating to the Evaluation Panels will be shared with The Alliance. **IM** – how will voluntary sector input to the Evaluation Panels be achieved? **CB** – HCC CSD recommendations for Panel membership include a voluntary sector representative.

In the course of a broad ranging discussion about Youth Support Services commissioning, the following issues were raised:-

MS - there is a perception in the voluntary sector that HCC is trying to get a lot for their money in terms of targets. **SC/TL** - this has been addressed in the final service specifications.

CAL - who will scrutinise the quality of service delivery? **CB** - pointed to the quality control elements within the application process, and to the work being done by **LW**, in conjunction with The Alliance, to co-ordinate a training programme for staff and volunteers in voluntary sector provider organisations. **CB** - 2012/13 is a transitional year and the process will be reviewed prior to the second phase of longer-term contracts.

CAL - transitional funding and the new Community Development Facilitators (CDFs) being in post in November 2011 (rather than April 2012), not conducive to YSS continuity. **SC** - outlined the decision timeline imposed by the need to achieve budgetary savings in the current financial year, and pointed to the positive influence on continuity of having CDFs in place earlier.

HCC

CA – has there been a formal response to consultation respondents and will these be collated and published? **CB** - this information will be published on Hantsweb.

CA – to help promote provider partnerships, will details of those organisations that have expressed an interest be published? **CB** – a decision has been taken not to published this information. **MW** - this may work against the collaboration and sharing of resources that the Local Authority is trying to achieve. **CB** - the November briefing events will provide an opportunity for those organisations interested in forming partnerships to make contact with each other. **SC** – HCC will consider the points raised in this particular discussion. Community Development Facilitators will also be able to facilitate provider networking and partnership working.

HCC

4. Workforce development

In the course of this agenda item **LW**:-

- updated on the ongoing collaboration with The Alliance on the draft 'Proposed route for working with young people in the Voluntary Sector';
- outlined the latest draft and advise that this may be amended further in the light of feedback from the October consultation events;
- informed that an early date has been set to look at Community Development Facilitator roles and training needs;
- advised that an HCC CSD Learning & Development colleague will be dedicated (half-time basis) to link with the voluntary sector and looking at training skills needs to meet YSS grant requirements.

There was a wide-ranging discussion of the need for and routes to a professional youth work qualification. Differing views were expressed as to whether there was a market locally for this. Possible providers of a professional youth work qualification were also discussed, these including, locally, Winchester University. Distance learning, via Open University and YMCA George Williams college, is another possible route. YSS providers are being asked about their workforce development needs within the body of the grant application form and this may add to a store of knowledge about the demand locally for a professional youth work qualification.

5. A voluntary sector perspective

Issues raised :-

- **Full cost recovery in relation to YSS Lot budgets**
CB - data not presently available to enable costing of services on a full cost recovery basis. Service budgets based on sums

allocated by LCPs. Prescription around service hours has been removed, allowing providers to be realistic in specifying the service which they can provide within available budgets.

- ***Insurance requirements in context of YSS commissioning, particularly professional indemnity insurance***

CB - this information will be shared with service providers at the briefing events which commence on 16 November 2011.

- ***Alliance representatives' engagement with Local Children's Partnerships (LCPs)***

MS - raised the broad issue of voluntary sector engagement with LCPs and highlighted the ongoing engagement difficulties experienced by Alliance LCP representatives. **MS** - HCC should encourage LCPs to engage with Alliance representatives. **SC** - LCPs continued to work towards effective local participation. Requested specific examples of difficulties being experienced by Alliance representatives.

Alliance

- ***How can The Alliance help potential voluntary sector YSS providers?***

CB – there is already evidence of organisations matching up.

6. A Local Children's Partnership (LCP) perspective

CT - gave a perspective as a new Chair. Concerned about losing members due to current focus on youth support services commissioning. **SC** - pointed to the Children's Centres Tenders, the CSI Grant Programme and the SEN & Disability Pathfinder, all of which will serve to restore breadth.

MW - asked how LCPs are coping with their role and what support is available. **CT** - advised that Basingstoke Everest/Fort Hill is partly funded for administrative support. **CA** – Gosport has appointed an LCP coordinator and this gives the partnership capacity to engage partners and carry out its remit. **CAL** – Fareham has also appointed a coordinator. **SC** - HCC looking at how to support LCPs.

The discussion highlighted LCPs heavy workload, the commitment of LCP members in coping with this, the many examples of effective partnership working and the importance of building relationships with partner members. In the context of the latter, **MW** pointed to the LCP webpages on Hantsweb providing only LCP membership lists. Suggested that accessibility could be improved by highlighting key individuals within each partnership and providing contact details. **MW** - pointed also to the low engagement of LCPs at this meeting. **TL** - links to LCPs are achieved through the Youth Team Managers and District Managers who do regularly attend this meeting.

7. AOB

None.

Date of next meeting: Thursday 26 January 2012, location Winchester, venue to be confirmed.