



MINUTES

Meeting:	INCLUSION PARTNERSHIP BOARD	Date:	13 February 2009
Present:	John Scott, Head of Access and Inclusion, North Tyneside Council		
	Jane Johnston, Head of Public Health Services, North Tyneside PCT		
	Pat Lackenby, Head of Locality & Preventative Services, NTC		
	Stuart Youngman, Integrated Services Development Manager, NHS North of Tyne		
	John Waldron, Manager Learning Support, North Tyneside Council		
	Linda Turner, Head Teacher, Glebe School		
	Alison Proudfoot, Head of SALT, North Tyneside PCT		
	Sandra Thompson, ISA Project Manager, North Tyneside Council		
	Julia Craddock, Extended Services And Workforce Remodelling Adviser, NTC		
	Susan Leonas, Social Work Manager, NTC		
	Ian Walton, Transition Planning Officer, NTC		
	Dave Barras, Service Manager (Cldt), NTC		
In Attendance:	Pat Scott (Minutes)		
	Pat Ardis-Neil (Parent Steering Group)		
	Russell Stronach (Parent Steering Group)		

John Scott opened the meeting with introductions and thanked group for attending this first meeting with new membership and welcomed Jane Johnston as co-chairperson. JS explained that after consultations with multi-agency partners it was decided to look at the structure of this Board and its members and in order for the Board to make decisions it was necessary to have the right people at a strategic level. JS emphasised the need for the correct representation and to have lead officers/project leads to submit action plans that provide clear milestones that will deliver the outcomes expected by the Board. In terms of structure, this group would report to Children's Trust and be tasked by them to do pieces of work.

JS explained that Russell Stronach and Pat Ardis-Neil were invited as guests today representing Parent's Forum as parents of children with disabilities in North Tyneside. They will feed information back to the Parents Forum Steering Group and discuss long term arrangements re parent representation. RS informed he and Pat are members of a Steering Group, which arranges bi-annual conferences for the parents of children with disabilities. The Steering Group also organises focus groups (currently 5) on key issues. The Steering Group would be the point of contact and is at the heart of the forum.

1.	<u>Apologies for Absence</u> Apologies were received from Dr David Jones, Mike Vincent, Heather Dodd, Anne Cassidy and Annette McGlade.	Action
2.	<u>Minutes of Last Meeting/Matters Arising</u> (8.12.08) The minutes were agreed as an accurate record. AP circulated a briefing paper which gave background and findings of DCSF reports – the Bercow Report: A review of the Services for Children	

	<p>and Young People (0-19 years) with Speech Language and Communication needs and details of the Government's response "Better Communications": An action plan to improve services for children and young people with SLCN, together with key actions to be undertaken over the next 3 years.</p> <p>AP stated that the DCSF consultations had an unprecedented number of responses, over half of which were from parents and families themselves. The SLT service in North Tyneside was actively involved in the consultation encouraging service user's participation, taking part in focus groups held in the region and submitting evidence of good practice and was commended in the report.</p> <p>AP informed of local action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Tyneside PCT in partnership with the Local Authority have lodged an expression of interest with the DCSF in achieving pathfinder status. • A local review of all services for children with SLCN is to be undertaken under the leadership of the Clinical Manager for Speech & Language Therapy (North Tyneside PCT): AP • A process of system alignment is underway as part of the local review, which will lead to a greater degree of collaborative working and process simplification. • A parent focus group will be formed to support and inform this work. • Work is currently underway to deliver the Inclusion Development Programme across prioritised early years and primary settings. • Progress will be reported via the Inclusion Partnership Board. <p>AP circulated copies of "Better Communication", an action plan to improve services for children and young people with speech, language and communication needs.</p>	
3.	<p><u>Confirmation of New Membership of Board</u></p> <p>JS referred to circulated sheet stating that the Lead Senior Manager and Stakeholder representatives would be the key players and decision-makers and Lead Officers would link into group whilst they were involved in a particular project. All multi-agency stakeholder representatives have been invited to join the Board and final confirmation is still required for Learning & Skills Council and Parent Forum representatives.</p> <p>JS stated that if there was a glaring error and somebody had been omitted, or anyone has a particular view regarding membership, to let him know.</p>	All
4.	<p><u>Development of Integrated Disability Service</u></p> <p>SY gave an update on work regarding moving towards an Integrated Children's Disability Service, this is a huge undertaking, which ties in with Aiming High. SY informed that the Children's Trust want a management structure and framework that would drive the programme forward. Heads of Service from LA and Health have been asked to be involved. JS/Pat Lackenby will be supported by Gill Quille and Julia Craddock, Jane Johnston from Health side will look at Primary Care, supported by Heather</p>	

	<p>Dodd and Stuart Youngman. Representation is required at highest level across all organisations to look at how we manage each service and identify terms of best practice. SY has visited several Local Authorities including Brighton & Hove to look at Children's Services and Northumberland where they have put child health under direct management of Director of Children's Services.</p> <p>SY advised that he has now gathered all information and the next stage is to complete a gap analysis that will show what we look like and what the gaps are between best practice and us.</p> <p>SY referred to Referral Pathway diagram and explained how the development of Inclusion Partnership Board would bring integration across agencies with shared Disability Service Reviews and Improvement Plans, which would join up services and optimise pathway.</p> <p>RS asked about PCT provider's services, JJ explained how PCT management is structured.</p>	
5.	<p><u>Confirmation of Priorities for Improvement Programme and Lead Officer Actions</u></p> <p>JS referred to the Improvement Programme and nominated Lead Officers. JS would like Lead Officers to report to Inclusion Partnership Board on a regular basis with an action plan and timescale so Board can follow progress of each project, provides support and identify barriers and remove where necessary.</p>	
6.	<p><u>Update from Lead Officers Transition</u></p> <p>The Aiming High for Disabled Children Programme aims to improve the transition into adulthood for disabled young people. Several local authorities, including North Tyneside, have been identified as already going beyond minimum standards and have received additional funding to build on their good practice as a result of this. To implement the programme locally, a steering group has been established. This steering group is also leading on the implementation of the National "Getting a Life" Programme, both programmes having similar objectives which include developing transition processes for young disabled people underpinned by person centred principles. This in turn should lead to person centred transition outcomes such as participation in their own communities, with employment opportunities for them being pivotal to this. IW explained Health Action Plans would be available to young people and families in the Spring 2009.</p> <p>IW produced graphics re transition and talked through a pathway to adulthood that includes employment as a real option. RS stated the work seems to be focussing mainly on employment. He thought a better focus would be independent living, with employment as a bonus. DB explained "Getting a Life" is a Government project fixed at working towards employment. IW stated Active Citizenship would encompass both independent living and employment. JS asked if IW/DB if they are already getting right level of engagement from those involved? IW said they have a fair amount of engagement.</p> <p>JS asked what has been feedback from professionals, young people and parents? IW stated it was early days but he has had good response from</p>	

families. JS wondered if parents who have had previous experience find this positive? DB/IW stated that families have said they can see an improvement. Contact IW for further information.

Indicative Budgets

DB explained how the allocation of adult social workers to work alongside Children's Team is having a positive effect on transition. Work is underway to provide individual budgets for young people turning 18 as and from April 09. DB stated there is some good partnership work going on and a much more joined up approach than in the past.

Work Experience & Employment Opportunities – JS is leading on Equality & Diversity and looking at opportunities within the LA and Health as employers. JS said we should be setting a good example and he is chasing up options.

IW said some models were being explored and DB informed about 20-20 being promoted, job carving – carefully designed to break down barriers. In process of employing people with disabilities into posts (up to 20). Paul Hanson has been particularly helpful. IW/DB explained Project Search, an internship model (into the NHS) developed in America. UDB stated that he is not making any progress with NHS and has been unable to break into the Health Service. JS informed that Heather Dodds would be contact person. JJ said she would like to have further conversation about this with DB/IW.

PAN added there are a lot of jobs in hospitals that people with disabilities could do. JS said we should be setting an example as biggest employer in the borough. RS stated that people with Autism do not necessarily have learning disabilities and the National Autistic Society has people working in Accounts, IT, Reception, ie. doing proper jobs. JS said there is a lot of potential to get people into viable jobs and minor adjustments could be made for those with disabilities.

JJ/DB

DB said there have been issues where referrals have been made to adult services (CLDT) where young people have high functioning ASD. DB has sent out a memo re guiding people through the process. There is a need to identify these young people and have a more systematic response and each case being looked at individually. IW is identifying this group. DB is organising a meeting for stakeholders in March 09 to discuss the issues. LT works with young children. LT stated the definition of Disability across agencies holds back services for children. There are significant difficulties between LA and Health definition of Disability and a real barrier to young children. DB stated there is no easy solution but it is good to be able to talk about it.

Learning & Skills Council- JS attended Regional Sub Group meeting re learning and disabilities. Group looking at whether there is a need for person responsible for brokerage for young people with learning difficulties. JS asked IW/DB if more money was available how would it best be used? IW/DB to liaise and get back to JS.

IW/DB

	<p>JW informed of piece of work via regional SEN Hubs to support Aiming High transition support. A Regional Adviser is to be appointed to support transition support. £25k to be allocated to region. IW/DB working with Regional Group and will inform how £25k will be used.</p> <p>SY pointed out that we need to look at whole system and bring it all together.</p>	IW/DB
7.	<p><u>Summary of Actions Agreed (SY)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to ensure each project is being properly planned. Some have more detailed action plans than others. In order to avoid duplication, Inclusion Partnership Board need to be involved in the Action Plans. • SY explained terms of reference of group – to move away from fragmented groups and have people at right level to link through Children’s Trust arrangement. Have to agree action plan and make sure Aiming High issues are delivered. • In terms of Service Improvement Projects, as a group must ensure projects listed are the right projects. They have derived from review of Aiming High and need whole ethos of Aiming High, Steering Groups, Conferences etc. Need to produce action plan to go into CYP Plan. Role of group is to demonstrate and evidence progress being made and that AH agenda is being met. Membership is important, within core group. • Lead Officers are those who are being tasked by group to a specific project and to produce an action plan that can be monitored and reported back to Children’s Trust Board. Need to ensure lead officers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) sign up correct people (b) confirm acceptance of officers for their projects (c) produce action plan that shows gaps and issues and how to start working on this. • Need to join up action plan with Parents Steering Group so it is clear how they can contribute, • How we move forward – produce action plan and progress. If lead officers have problems they can report to Inclusion Partnership Board for assistance. <p>Sandra Thompson stated she is shown as Lead Officer, CAF. ST informed that CAFs are already monitored by a board of their own as well as Government and include all children, not only children with disabilities. SY stated it is important to make sure IPB know about CAF in relation to children with disabilities and make sure it is part of an integrated service. ST to give CAF update at next meeting.</p> <p>Communications across all services – clarify expectations of leads. SY suggested for next meeting Lead Officers should bring Action Plans together with key objectives of their project.</p> <p>AP asked if there was a standard pro-forma to use. SY to circulate CYPP Be Healthy, Disabled Children’s Action Plan pro-forma for lead officers to complete and return to him.</p>	<p>ST</p> <p>Leads</p> <p>SY</p>

	<p>PAN asked what Parents Steering Group should do? SY suggested JS/Key Officers to speak to Parents Steering Group re Inclusion Partnership Board membership, the role and remit and how PSG can be kept informed and aware and contribute to progressing the agenda.</p> <p>PL queried some of the wording under “Multi-Agency Stakeholder Representation”. SY agreed to re-circulate amended Be Healthy Outcome document to provide clarification.</p> <p>JS said we now have a structure in place and a lot of progress has been made over the last 18 months. JS said he is proud to be working with the Parents Steering Group and thinks they can make a real difference.</p>	SY
8.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer of LSC responsibilities to Local Authorities – transfers back to Local Authorities – JS has been asked to join LDD Sub Group and Tyne and Wear Sub Group. JS needs information from Adult Social Care/Transition colleagues. There are areas around funding of specialist provision beyond age of 16, social care, travel, education etc. Need to discuss how these should be funded and need to look at Agreement and which elements need to be funded by whom. • Development of OT Services – recently met re pooled budget. Service to get money from Aiming High to create OT post and be able to further progress shortage of provision. SLA has been finalised and is being checked by Legal Department before signing off. There has been a massive in-road into OT waiting list – hope to be down to 18 weeks by April. Will also help AH Agenda. Looking into Short Care Breaks etc. • Daslne – JS received letter re contribution. JS explained there is a database, which gives a record of children in the region with ASD. When this was first set up North Tyneside made a contribution. Last year and the year before NTC was unable to contribute. JS thinks there is a strong case if we can find the money. JS/JJ to discuss possibility of contributing £5k into £30k regional pot. SY pointed out that we do not have a database with a full list of children with disabilities within the borough and he thinks this is more important. JS/JJ to liaise. • Aiming High for Disabled Children – JW circulated paper of the National Core Offer, which is a statement of the standards that families with disabled children can expect across the country from local services. • Parents Steering Group – JW informed of 3rd Conference to be held on 27 March at the Grand Hotel Tynemouth, JW stated parents are organising and determining agenda and invitations will be from them. • Conference for Young Disabled People – IW informed of Conference to be held on 28 May. • Child Health Strategy – AP informed that Strategy was released yesterday. • Pat Ardis-Neil thanked the Board for inviting her and Russell Stronach to attend as guests today. 	JS/JJ

9.

Dates of Future Meetings

**Tuesday 14 April – 10.00am – Room 4.02, Quadrant
Friday 19 June – 10.00am – Room 3.09, Quadrant**