

Tonbridge and Malling – Local Children’s Partnership Group

Meeting 4 – Notes/Actions

Friday 30th September 2016: 09:30 to 12:00

The Chamber, Tonbridge Castle

(Meeting Chaired by Mark Raymond, TMBC Corporate Services Manager & Maria Heslop TMBC Cabinet Member for Community Services)

<p>Present: Maria Heslop, Glenn Page, Mark Raymond, Gill Fox, Andy Jones, Tony Griffiths, Mick Haselden, Rob Marsh, Jane Heeley, Kas Hardy, Stephen Gregg, Karen Coffey, Nick Fenton</p> <p>Apologies: Deborah Stanton, Mark Ginsberg, Anne Charman, Heidi Ward, Angela Borsos, Alison Finch</p>	
<p>1. Welcome and introductions</p>	<p>Chair (Mark Raymond)</p>
<p>2. Apologies, previous minutes and actions</p> <p>Notes agreed. Matters arising addressed on the agenda.</p>	<p>Chair (Mark Raymond)</p>
<p>3. Feedback from School Attendance Sub-Group</p> <p>This meeting was held on 21st July. It was noted that there is a wide range of issues underpinning low school attendance from transport and access issues through to parenting, mental health / emotional wellbeing and drug and alcohol problems.</p> <p>Data is available on individual schools to identify where the greatest challenges lie. However, there are some difficulties with sharing information about absence rates by individual schools without their consent.</p> <p>Glenn Page has been co-ordinating some work with St Stephen’s Primary School in Tonbridge, looking at attendance, targeted support and community engagement.</p> <p>Nick Fenton pointed out that some of the dashboard data relating to school attendance might now be slightly out of date. It was agreed that some more focussed work on the data – looking at which schools have the biggest challenges with attendance and where necessary start a dialogue with them about taking a multi-agency approach to addressing issues. Glenn Page will undertake this work with Cathy Edwards from KCC’s PRU Inclusion and Attendance Service (PIAS).</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Glenn Page to meet with Cathy Edwards from PIAS to explore data trends and where appropriate follow up with individual schools with a view to engaging them in sub group. 	<p>Glenn Page / Mark Raymond</p>

<p>4. Dashboard & Priorities</p> <p>The group discussed themes identified on the dashboard as being of concern for Tonbridge & Malling. The dashboard highlights levels of absenteeism in secondary schools and the rates of early help referrals in relation to mental health issues.</p> <p>Mark Raymond had carried out some comparison with other districts and highlighted numbers of children on a CP Plan, numbers of Early Help Notifications, Domestic Abuse Notifications and Teenage Pregnancy as worthy of more exploration.</p> <p>It was agreed that the rates of children with CP Plans needs to be seen in the context of Tonbridge & Malling and Tunbridge Wells forming a ‘double district’ for Social Services and when seen that way, the numbers are not greatly at odds with those in districts such as Dartford for example. It was also felt that high levels of referral to Early Help (including for mental health) could be a good thing as issues are being identified and addressed early – rather than escalating to crisis point.</p> <p>Overall, it was felt that some of these areas needed further exploration. In addition to the work Glenn Page will do in looking at school attendance data, the following actions were agreed:</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Kas Hardy to pull together some data on teenage pregnancy rates in Tonbridge & Malling looking at trends going back over the last few years, the total numbers in each year and comparisons with other districts. (To Be presented at next meeting on 2nd December) ➤ Mark Raymond to link with the Community Safety Unit to provide an overview of DA incidents and issues. (Invite a representative to address the group at our next meeting on 2nd December) 	<p>Mark Raymond / Glenn Page</p>
<p>5. Early Help Grants</p> <p>Andy Jones gave a presentation on the progress to date of the current grant recipients and outlined the timeline for the next round of grants. (Presentation to be distributed with minutes.)</p> <p>It was agreed that our priority should be based on wanting a service(s) that will promote positive relationships and address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEET young people in the district • Teenage conception rates • Domestic Abuse <p>It was agreed that at the time of awarding the grants, this group could specify particular areas, needs and outcomes it would like to see addressed in awarding the grants. (I.e. We have until January to identify some of the key issues and themes behind the headline issues)</p> <p>Time table for award of the 17-18 grants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ LCPG priorities to be identified by 28th October 	<p>Andy Jones</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Advert placed by 1st November ➤ Deadline for submissions 31st December ➤ Commissioning Team carry out due diligence checks in early January ➤ 9th-13 January – LCPG sub-group members score the bids individually ➤ 16th-20th January – LCPG Sub Groups meet to agree grant awards ➤ W/C 23rd January KCC governance process ➤ W/C30th January – Letters sent out to successful providers <p>It was agreed that the sub group for scoring and selecting bids will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glenn Page • Kas Hardy • CSU Rep (to be confirmed) • Gill Fox • Mick Haselden • Andy Jones <p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Glenn Page to draft up the wording for the priorities with Andy Jones to ensure it is compliant with Helen Cook’s expectations. ➤ Glenn Page to set up sub group meeting for w/c 16th January. ➤ Andy Jones to invite the grant recipients to attend the LCPG meeting on 2nd December to provide an update 	
<p>6. Troubled Families</p> <p>Glenn provided a couple of slides to illustrate the challenge that KCC is facing in meeting its Troubled Families target for 16-17. (To be distributed with the minutes). A recovery plan is in place to address the shortfall during the next two claims windows – November and March.</p>	<p>Glenn Page</p>
<p>7. Safeguarding</p> <p>Safeguarding training for Taxi Drivers is being rolled out across the county. (Following Tonbridge & Malling’s lead!)</p> <p>Placement of some families from south London has caused some strain for housing services in some areas of Kent</p> <p>Some issues relating to ‘change of use’ rules for care homes mean that they don’t have to go through planning procedures and this has led to some inappropriate placements for children in care</p> <p>CSE – 26 complex case investigations taking place. CSE Awareness day taking place in March.</p> <p>TMBC continues to host safeguarding training for KSCB – partner agencies are welcome to attend.</p>	<p>Gill Fox</p>
<p>8. Children / Young People Who Go Missing</p> <p>KCC receive notifications from the police of all children / young people who go</p>	<p>Karen Coffey</p>

<p>missing. Each child / young person and their families are interviewed by an early help worker or social worker. (This must be carried out within 72 hours.) Follow up work is carried out in accordance with KCC safeguarding protocol and the Kent Family Support Network as necessary. Numbers are relatively low in Tonbridge & Malling. E.g. Between August and 26th September 16 we have had 9.</p>	
<p>9. Dates of next meeting: Friday 2nd December – YMCA Tower House, Vale Rise, Tonbridge, TN9 1TB</p>	