

# Kent Children's Trust & Local Trust Arrangements

July 2007

Issue No. 2

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## Introduction

**WELCOME** to the second edition of the Kent Children's Trust (KCT) bulletin, designed to keep all those who work in a service for children and young people up to speed with the development of Children's Trust arrangements in Kent.

Communicating with all those involved in this change agenda is a huge challenge. Alongside this newsletter and the website I encourage all teams to make an opportunity for discussion at a team meeting. You are also warmly invited to attend one of the multi agency staff briefings in October. It is really important that you are able to ask questions and raise issues and we have linked to a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section on the website. Please email your questions to Michelle Gambell so we can keep the FAQ relevant and up to date.

Please note the Children's Trust web pages are refreshed fortnightly. You will find minutes and papers from the Kent Children's Trust County Board together with information about the Local Children's Trust (LCT) Pathfinders. Stay in touch with developments by visiting the "useful links" section of this newsletter.

If you have a holiday planned for the summer, have a good one!

Joy Ackroyd, Trust Development Manager

## Children's Health Commissioning Division

A new Division dedicated to Children's Health has recently been created within Kent County Council's (KCC) Children, Families and Education (CFE) Directorate, to reflect the commitment to improving health for all children and young people, in partnership with Kent Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and other agencies.

The Division is developing under the leadership of Richard Murrells, as an Associate Director of both PCTs and KCC's CFE Directorate.

The Division brings together a team from Health to deliver this work, as part of the new Children's Trust arrangements at both county and local levels. The small strategic team is supported by 6 Joint Development Managers (JDMs) who are locally based (see margin overleaf). The Trust will support joint projects and activities that seek to reduce child health inequalities and promote social inclusion.

### What we want to achieve – Improving health outcomes for children and young people

Within the framework of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) and the development of more holistic planning and commissioning of services for children and young people, there are a range of plans and targets we are working on to support children's health:

- To promote healthy and active lifestyles for all children and young people.
- To reduce health inequalities for children and young people in Kent.
- To improve the emotional and mental health, resilience and self-confidence of children and young people.
- To identify children and young people (aged 0-18) with emotional and/or psychological difficulties at the earliest possible stage and respond with the most effective support.
- To improve the co-ordination, availability and accessibility of CAMHS.
- To reduce the use of harmful drugs and alcohol among young people and increase access to drug/alcohol targeted prevention and treatment services.

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▪ Linda Denne:  
(from 27<sup>th</sup> July)  
JDM Sevenoaks &  
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Linda is to be based  
at Kings Hill. More  
details available  
from Trish  
Dabrowski.

▪ Dartford &  
Gravesham  
JDM post is going to  
NHS national &  
internal advert plus  
KCC internal. In the  
meantime contact  
Trish Dabrowski.

- To reduce unwanted teenage conceptions and sexually transmitted infections and improve access to young people's sexual health services.
- To improve joint planning, services and outcomes for vulnerable groups of children and young people.
- To improve services for children and young people who are disabled or suffer from long term health conditions.

We are also working with the new KCC Public Health Unit to develop and consult on a Public Health Strategy for Kent's children and young people. Key to this work is developing evidence-based outcome measures for all health services.

The draft Strategy for Public Health in Kent is up for consultation and demonstrates the commitment of local authorities and primary care trusts in Kent to improving the health of the people living in the county. The following link will take you to the consultation document:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/publications/council-and-democracy/public-health-strategy.htm>

**\*Each Joint Development Manager (JDM) has a focus area they will lead on pan-Kent as follows:**

- Inclusion - Early Years, and Child Health Surveillance: Claire Barham
- Inclusion - Health Services for Primary School Children: Linda Denne
- Inclusion - Health Services for Young People (including Transition): Heather Keen
- Looked After Children & Health Promotion for All (including dental): Caroline Friday
- Children with Disabilities and Long Term Conditions: Martin Cunnington

## Children's Centres and Extended Schools

### The Government's vision is that:

"Children's Centres and extended schools are designed to become, over time, universal access points for integrated services for children and their parents at the heart of their local authorities. They will give parents and children access to the services they need – either on site, or through referral to more specialised services. Children's Centres and Extended Schools will be at the heart of Kent's local children's trust developments" (DfES; Governance Guidance for Sure Start Children's Centres and Extended Schools).

- There are currently over 90 Kent schools offering access to the full range of extended services, with at least an additional 90 schools expected to be able to do so by September 2007.
- There are currently 20 Childrens centres across the county with an additional 52 planned to be in place by March 2008.

Extended schools and children's centres will be central to local children's trust arrangements. The table below sets out core services which the government expects to see made available to children and families in or through all Children's Centres and schools by 2010. Many of these are activities which schools have been offering, in varying degrees, for many years. Others have been developed and piloted by a growing number of pioneers, including Sure Start Local Programmes. Local Children's Trust arrangements will support Children's Centres and schools to develop and expand their current provision so that they offer access to all the core services.

Extended Schools	To offer or provide access to:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Study support and out of school activities – including homework clubs, 'catch up' classes, Gifted and Talented programmes, sports and cultural activities.</li> <li>▪ Childcare (8am to 6pm, all year round) either on the school site or with supervised transfer arrangements. ('Childcare' is different in practical terms for secondary schools).</li> <li>▪ Parenting support – access to local and national information on parenting support services, family learning opportunities, etc...</li> <li>▪ Swift and easy referral to wider services – including CAMHS, speech and language therapy and other multi-agency services.</li> <li>▪ Community use – opening up school ICT, sports and arts facilities to local communities beyond the school day.</li> </ul>

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### For information on the LCT pathfinders:

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Children's Centres	To offer or provide access to:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Early learning and childcare, and support for a childminder network.</li><li>▪ Family Support and Parental Outreach – information on parenting, drop in groups and opportunities to access parenting support and education.</li><li>▪ Child and Family Health Services – antenatal and post-natal services and child health services.</li><li>▪ Links with Jobcentre Plus – information about employment, education and training.</li><li>▪ Quick and easy access to wider services – staff in Children's Centres are well placed to identify and refer those children and families who need additional help to the full range of support services.</li></ul>

While these are the core services to which every child and family should have easy access, schools and Children's centres will have the flexibility to design services, with participation from their local communities, which are right for local situations and which improve outcomes for children and young people. [For more information, contact Sean Carter \(Tel: 01622 694987. Email: sean.carter@kent.gov.uk\)](#)

## Kent Children's Trust Parent Support Strategy

The Every Parent Matters agenda has been embraced by Kent Children's Trust. In November 2006 the Trust commissioned the development of a strategic framework for parent support. This document will outline the principles and priorities for the development of parent support across Kent and will inform a Parents' Charter which will be developed in partnership with parents.

The strategy will be designed to be relevant for all parents and carers, detailing pledges that will form the basis of an action plan for services and organisations working with and for parents in Kent. The development of the strategy document is being supported by a multi-agency steering group, made up of statutory, non statutory and voluntary sector partners, reporting to the Trust.

In March 2007 a consultation event was held for professionals, agencies and a range of groups with a strong interest in working with and supporting parents. The purpose of this event was to stimulate thinking about the core principles of a Kent Parent Support Strategy. The feedback from this event has informed the development of the draft vision and principles that will underpin the drafting of the strategy itself and will help to shape consultation with parents.

Partners have been hugely supportive in the process and have allowed us to access the groups of parents and carers they work with. Their help and support has proved invaluable, providing a clear steer to shape the strategy and ensuring the participation of all stakeholders. Local Children's Trusts across Kent will carry forward the Parent Support Strategy building on existing work with parents and ensuring engagement with those groups of parents who are harder to reach.

July and August 2007 will see an intensive period of consultation with parents and carers across the County. We will focus on how parents view their role in supporting their children in being healthy, staying safe, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and enjoying economic wellbeing. [If you would like to get involved with that process then please contact the extended services team on 01622 694944 or email diane.trollope@kent.gov.uk.](#)

## The National Evaluation of Children's Trust Pathfinders

Thirty-five children's trust pathfinders were established in 2004, running until 2006. A full evaluation report about their experiences and outcomes can be found under the "useful links" section of this newsletter. There is also a link to a summary available on Clusterweb.

### The headline messages state that children's trust pathfinders have:

- acted as a catalyst for more integrated approaches;

## Useful Links:

**Every Child Matters**  
[www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/)

**Kent Children's Trust**  
[www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/childrenstrust.cfm](http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/Children/childrenstrust.cfm)

**National Evaluation Of The Children's Trust Pathfinders Final Report**  
<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/nect/>

**Clusterweb Summary Of The Children's Trust Pathfinders Final Report**  
[http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/docs/polsum\\_trust.st.doc](http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/docs/polsum_trust.st.doc)

## Next Steps:

- July 07 onwards: Multi agency training in CAF and LP
- Sept 07–Jan 08: Briefings with all children's services/partners
- September 08: LCT arrangements in all localities

## Logo Latest:

Thanks to those who voted for their preferred choice of Trust logo. Unfortunately, there was no clear favourite so we are going "back to the drawing board". We'll keep you informed of future developments.

- drawn together a variety of statutory and local services;
- begun developing expertise in joint commissioning services across traditional boundaries;
- sometimes found it difficult to engage partners in key sectors, notably where there are funding difficulties or complex accountability frameworks;
- enabled joined-up approaches to workforce development and training;
- facilitated the development of new types of professionals who are able to work across long-standing organisational and professional boundaries;
- reported early signs of local positive outcomes for children and young people;
- learnt the complexity of change management in children's service provision.

## The Local Children's Trust (LCT) Pathfinders

The LCT pathfinders have all developed a local Children and Young People's plan setting out how services working together aim to improve outcomes for local children and their families. These local plans cover the 5 outcome areas of Every Child Matters (ECM) and support the strategic objectives in the Kent Children and Young Peoples Plan (CYPP). In developing the local plans, Pathfinders have engaged with children, young people and parents. The plans can be seen on the Kent Children's Trust web pages.

Learning from the pathfinders is being captured in an evaluation study to inform the development of local children's trust arrangements across Kent. Early feedback has identified some key enabling factors:

- Existing multi-agency engagement serves as building blocks
- Focus on children rather than services
- Focus on outcomes for children
- Professional commitment

Further information about the evaluation will be provided at the October briefings.

## Kent's Joint Area Review - keeping you up to date...

Preparations continue for Kent's Joint Area Review (JAR) which is undertaken by a multi disciplinary inspection team and assesses the quality and impact of services for Children and Young people across all agencies. Inspectors will be undertaking fieldwork in Kent during the two weeks beginning January 28. They will visit a wide range of projects and service settings, where they will talk to staff, children and young people, parents and carers. They will also talk to focus groups including the above and to representatives of all agencies delivering services to Children and Young People.

The specific areas they want to investigate will be identified around the end of October but we already know they will look at Safeguarding, support for Looked After Children and those with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities as well as Service Management.

We are currently gathering intelligence from areas that have just completed their JARs and will be presenting this and outlining the implications for Kent's preparations at the briefings in October. In the meantime if you want to know more contact either Eileen Mckibbin or Chris Carter on 01622 696792 and 694986.

## Children's Trust Developments: Multi Agency Staff Briefing Dates (2007)

Anyone working within a children's service is invited to a staff briefing as detailed below. The purpose is to provide an update on our developing arrangements and to give you an opportunity to engage. You will need to book your place by contacting Jenna Nicholson (Tel: 01622 694195 Email: [jenna.nicholson@kent.gov.uk](mailto:jenna.nicholson@kent.gov.uk))

Date	Time	Venue
2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2007	PM	Manor Hotel, Gravesend
4 <sup>th</sup> October 2007	AM	t.b.c
9 <sup>th</sup> October 2007	PM	Lecture Theatre, Sessions House
11 <sup>th</sup> October 2007	PM	Ashford Chamber of Commerce
12 <sup>th</sup> October 2007	AM	The Marine Hotel, Tankerton
15 <sup>th</sup> October 2007	PM	University of Greenwich, Kings Hill