



KCT Board meeting 15 December 2010

Summary of decisions and outcomes from this Board meeting

1. Safeguarding and emotional health and CAMHS are top priorities

- The Board debated the Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked after Children Service and agreed that addressing the recommendations was a top priority for all partners. The scale and complexity of the issues was recognised and the Board called for a culture change across children's services to ensure that safeguarding is central to all decision making and delivery. They committed to supporting the Improvement Plan and the proposed Improvement Board to drive progress at strategic and local levels. The improvement plan would be circulated shortly.
- A stronger working protocol to improve the working relationship between the KCT and the KSCB Boards was agreed. Work to implement the protocol was shared including an agreement to share representative forums for the voluntary and community sector.
- The emotional health and CAMHS action plan was endorsed and partners agreed to nominate lead officers to join the task group. The Board requested clear targets and outcomes as part of the action plan to ensure progress could be tracked and mitigating actions agreed where necessary.

The Board highlighted the significant risk to tier 2 emotional health services from funding cuts and changes and were advised that a risk assessment is underway.

2. New CYPP to drive improvements in outcomes

- Partners recommitted to launching a new CYPP from April 2011 as the work plan of the Trust. Most crucially partners agreed that the new plan must be underpinned by joint commissioning plans to be resourced on a multi agency basis. It was agreed that the new plan should be 'sense checked' against developing national policy and funding changes.
- The CYPP would provide a steer for strategic and local action within the framework of the Vision for Kent ambitions. It was noted that local work to identify district priorities was underway and the KCT Executive would review progress in January.

3. Integrated processes

- Partners recommitted to the effective operation of the Common Assessment Framework, the lead professional and the team around the child as key mechanisms to meet the needs of children, young people and families. The Board recognised that we must improve the effective use of these tools and that this would require resources from across the Partnership.



- Specific actions were: follow up with Kent Fire and Rescue, all LCTBs to drive forward local action and a stronger push on training to build confidence across the workforce.
- It was agreed to bring an item on the impact of the recent cuts to grant funding to the next Kent Children's Trust Executive.

4. Teenage Pregnancy

The Board noted progress in reducing rates of teenage pregnancy (TP) and providing more 'real time' data. The following actions were agreed:

- To support an application for future funding.
- Lead commissioner to write Health, CFE Specialist Services, Youth Offending Service and CFE Learning Service regarding specific actions.
- LCT Boards to drive forward the district TP targets and report progress to KCT Executive.
- The Boards recommended that the title Sex and Relationships Education be changed to Relationships and Sex Education.

The Board asked for a progress report in mid 2011.

5. Kent Partnership (KP) and Vision for Kent (VFK)

The Board received an update on the changes to the KP architecture and agreed the following feedback:

- The overall aim to streamline and focus the partnership was welcomed but the restricted membership of the new Kent Forum was not felt to be supportive of effective partnership working particularly with the voluntary and community sector.
- The Board were committed to ensuring a relentless focus on the needs of children, young people and families and felt this should not be restricted to ambition 2 of the new V4K.

6. Independent Chair for the KCT Board

It was agreed that the KCT Board should appoint an independent chair - this would be an expenses role only. The work of the Change for Children team to define this role for the LCTBs would be used as a basis for developing a role description for the KCTB Chair. Rosalind Turner reported that this move was supported by Katherine Kerswell, Group Managing Director of KCC.

For further information on these items please see:

http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/kct_latestmeeting.cfm

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