



## KCT Board meeting 4 March 2011

### Summary of decisions and outcomes from this Board meeting

#### 1. Safeguarding Improvement Plan and Interagency Threshold Criteria for Children in Need

- The Board debated the final **draft Safeguarding Improvement Plan** and asked that the specific targets from the Improvement notice be added. All partners committed to implementing the Improvement Plan and a report on progress was requested for the next Board meeting. A stronger and clearer working relationship between the KCT and the KSCB Boards was identified as critical. Partners also requested **feedback on the rate and appropriateness of referrals** to children's social care from their agency - it was felt that feedback would really help agencies to improve the pattern of referrals.
- The **Interagency Threshold Criteria for Children in Need** developed by the KSCB was **agreed** and a programme of district workshops to roll out the criteria was endorsed. Partners committed to releasing frontline staff to attend and to ensuring the effective operation of the criteria within their respective agencies. It was agreed that the Board should monitor the engagement in the district workshops and the impact of the new thresholds on universal services. The challenge for schools was particularly highlighted.
- The **central role of CAF**, team around the child and lead professional was stressed and all partners were reminded of the commitments made at the December Board meeting: to identify a champion for CAF, to monitor effective use of CAF within their service and to promote CAF as the assessment 'tool of choice'.

#### 2. Urgent review of KCT strategic arrangements

- The Board were advised that Malcolm Newsam and Jenny Whittle had called for an **urgent review of KCT strategic arrangements** as set out in the draft Safeguarding Improvement Plan and in line with the Kent Forum changes. The review will ensure that the KCT strategic partnership arrangements are highly focussed, streamlined and effective in improving outcomes. The Local Children's Trust arrangements would continue to develop together with the new locality Boards.

#### 3. Emotional Health and CAMHS action plan

- **Progress to implement** the emotional health and CAMHS action plan was shared. Questions were raised about ownership and accountability for the action plan. The Board were advised that the Child Health Commissioning team are driving the plan but the KCT had made this area a top priority and partners should be taking responsibility for 'making this happen' within their agency. Plans to bring LA and PCT resources together for joint commissioning were shared and the Board were advised of an **investment £45,000 by WK PCT to improve access for 16 - 18 year olds**.



- Board members highlighted the **significant risk to tier 2 emotional health services** from funding cuts and changes and were advised that a commissioning register is being developed. The need to stay connected to 'issues on the ground' was emphasised.
  - Plans by public health to undertake a detailed needs assessment of emotional and mental health were shared.
3. CYPP - a strategic framework for partnership planning and action
- The **draft strategic framework** was shared and partners agreed to provide feedback. Attention was drawn to the top priorities for year 1, 2011-12 and the *tickets to success* which describe the way the way we need to work together: *localism, clear pathways, early intervention and prevention, family focus, workforce development, equality and diversity*.
  - It was agreed that the new framework should be 'sense checked' against developing national policy and funding changes and a greater sense of risk to outcomes should be communicated through the document.
  - The extensive planning work at local level was highlighted and Board members were encouraged to view and comment on the draft Local Children's Trust Board plans at:  
[http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/kct\\_lct\\_boards.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/kct_lct_boards.cfm)
4. Marsh Academy multi agency hub
- Proposals for the development of a **combined inclusion centre, adolescent resource centre and community provision** was shared. Partners were advised of potential barriers particularly regarding highways requirements. Partners and in particular County Councillors present were asked to support the development by seeking solutions to current barriers.
  - The Board wholeheartedly endorsed the development as a practical example of joint working to meet the needs of local communities, vulnerable families and individuals. The need to improve sharing of good practice and local development across agencies was stressed.
5. 14 -19 Strategic Developments
- The **significant changes in 14 - 19 provision** were highlighted including school governance, scrapping EMA, full entitlement until age 19 by 2015. The potential impact for young people in Kent was explored. The KCT Executive were asked to consider the specific recommendations from the Wolfe report and implications for the CYPP.

For further information on these items please see:

[www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/kct\\_latestmeeting.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/kct_latestmeeting.cfm)

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