

Children's Trust Governance

Recommendations

The Children's Trust Board

- i) Considers the national guidance on the governance of Children's Trust at the development day 10th June
- ii) Supports the proposals for local governance and agrees to their implementation
- iii) Agrees that each partner will need to identify the capacity for at least one chair so that they can lead a CTLPIP effectively

Background

The Children and Young People's Plan identifies a high level risk as being governance and accountability and states:

'The governance of the work of the Children's Trust Partnership is complicated and still evolving. A national review is in hand in recognition of this. Performance management and decision making may

- *lack clarity;*
- *lack rigour;*
- *become tortuous.*

Action: *review during 2008/09 starting with a development day on 10 June, and to be supported by national review.'*

The national guidance is now available and a hard copy is attached. It can also be found at

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/downloadableDocs/Childrens%20Trust%20Statutory%20Guidance.pdf>

There is a consultation on this. We will discuss in more detail 10th June. Fundamentally the guidance supports our direction of travel and should give us comfort that we are operating at the level desired. It does not, however, particularly help us to take matters forward; that is in our hands.

10th June has been established for the Executive and the Board to identify issues and ways forward. Keith Moultrie from IPC (Institute of Public Care) will facilitate the day.

Local Governance

Discussions have been in hand for some time on the development of local governance and a task and finish group was appointed to come back to this meeting with proposals. These are below. These arrangements will replace current arrangements of Children's Trust Local Planning and Implementation Groups and Children's Trust Local Forums and should be implemented as soon as possible.

These proposals were considered and agreed by the Executive 6th May. Areas that still require clarification are administration and a constitutional process for the appointment of the chair. It is recognised that governance will need to be reviewed in light of experience and potential future changes.

The Children's Trust Local Planning and Implementation Partnership (CTLPIP) responsibilities are to:

- Ensure planning and delivery is devolved as locally as possible whilst maintaining coherence and delivery of Children and Young Peoples Plan and Local Area Agreement*
- undertake the more detailed local needs analysis through:
 - informed interpretation
 - adding local knowledge to the strategic needs assessment of the Joint Commissioning Team
- enable effective targeting of resources to local priorities
- develop work plan in response to the needs analysis which aligns to the CYPP (allowing for local differences) which is agreed with the Children's Trust Executive, aligns with the local strategic plan and develops the Local Area Agreement as appropriate
- implement the work plan, monitor its delivery and report progress and issues to the Children's Trust Executive
- provide quality assurance for local working practice
- encourage and develop engagement of children, young people, parents and carers in local planning, delivery and evaluation
- co-ordinate local working to make best use of resources
- develop good local communications
- enable integrated working at a local level
- support delivery of integrated processes

In terms of working practice the CTLPIPs will

- be an executive of managers with a district mandate;
- be based on the areas of the District Councils;
- the chair (or agreed representative) will represent the CTLPIP on the Children's Trust Executive
- there will be a named representative on the Local Strategic Partnership as a formal link
- link work directly with Local Learning Communities and AXS clusters
- establish and support wider stakeholder group (Children's Trust Local Stakeholder Forum) which functions in order to
 - provide a reference group
 - information share
 - aid communications

** the LAA priority for children and young people is narrowing the gap. By narrowing the gap we mean to improve the progress made by the lowest attaining 20% so that their progress matches that of others. It is intended that this is across the five outcomes and should reduce the inequities which currently exist and are widening*

Jointly the CTLPIP and CTLSF will:

- aid communication locally
- provide feedback on needs assessment, planning and evaluation

- support the engagement of children, young people and families in planning and evaluation
- support delivery of integrated processes
- devise a way of working that makes best use of their joint resource e.g. meetings following each other on the same day

Membership of CTLPIP

Members will be held to account, and will hold others to account, for the development and delivery of the local plan.

- Chair of constituent Local Learning Communities
- Representative of further education
- Officer appointed by District Council
- Manager(s) for health and social care appointed by assistant director such as lead public health nurse, PCT provider arm (CAMHS, JAT)
- Manager for Integrated Youth Support Services appointed by assistant director
- Manager for police or link to equivalent role in community safety
- Early Years representative agreed through Children's Centres Core Offer Management Groups
- District Councillor
- County Councillor representing county committee for area
- Representative of Extended Services in and around Schools
- Representative of parent forum for area (being developed as part of parenting strategy so representatives will have a mandate)
- Two representatives of the voluntary sector agreed locally
 - youth services
 - younger age group

In attendance:

- commissioning officer from Joint Commissioning Team
- administrative support agreed through the partnership

The chair will need the support of their home organisation in order to ensure sufficient capacity to carry out the role. Nominations should be made locally; the Executive will provide oversight in order to ensure that collectively the chairs broadly cover the partnership of the Children's Trust.

The chair, or other agreed representative, will be a member of the Children's Trust Executive.

If a member is unable to attend then a named substitute will be nominated.

Debbie Pritchard
7th May 2008