

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE STEERING GROUP MEETING – 27 APRIL 2009

Present:

Charlie Adie	Motiv8 (Chair)
Louise Boyle	Home Start
June Christie	MENCAP/Portsmouth Parent Partnership Service
Emma Corina	YMCA
Jacqui Dixon	HCVYS
Barbara O'Sullivan	CFfP
Richard Soutar	Enable Ability

In attendance: June Hancox (CFfP – Minutes)

1. Welcome

Charlie Adie (CA) welcomed members and invited them to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2009

The Minutes of the meeting held on 9 March 2009 were agreed without amendment.

3. Matters Arising from those Minutes

Page 1, Paedophile Information meeting: CA confirmed he would attend this meeting and report back.

ACTION: CA to report back from Paedophile Information meeting

Page 2, first action point: Barbara O'Sullivan (BJOS) confirmed that she had emailed Richard Harvey but had not yet received a reply. It was agreed that this action now be removed. In addition CA requested that the new address for the Young Carers Centre in Orchard Road, Southsea, be mentioned in the next Alliance newsletter along with Carers Day which would be held on 11 June at the Mountbatten Centre.

Page 2, third action point: BJOS had no further news.

Page 2, last action point: LB confirmed that no timeframe had been given at the Commissioning Workshop.

Page 3, first action point: CA asked that BJOS delay circulating the Alliance's Annual Report until a new one was produced.

Page3, third action point: There had not been any meetings re Play Pathfinder for some time but lots had been happening including new playgrounds. BJOS would continue to request an update. June Christie (JC) mentioned that Lynne Rigby, PDF Co-ordinator, also received a newsletter.

ACTION: BJOS to request an update on the Play Pathfinder

4. Report on Business Plan (including Finance)

BJOS went through the list of objectives which she had circulated.

ACTION: June Hancox (JH) to resend the Business Plan to the Alliance

BJOS summarized each objective as follows:

1. The Alliance is effectively governed: It was doing well with regular meetings and reporting in to the Community Network. No need for a huge suite of policies but might wish to consider one around the declaration of representatives' interests.

2. The Alliance is sustainable: Funding for three years had been made available by PCC for a full time Alliance Co-ordinator. This was good for sustainability but the amount of money may not cover all the costs of the Alliance's activities.

3. The Alliance provides good quality accredited representation to a range of cross-sector partnerships: The Alliance had held elections and publicized opportunities for representation so this was working well. However, BIOS hadn't kept in touch with non-CYPA Steering Group representatives for their reports and involvement.

4. The Alliance is as broad-reaching as possible: It was good that 13 Training Needs Analysis mapping forms had been received from BME groups. The Alliance could be more pro-active at looking at the seven diversity strands which included equal opportunities.

ACTION: BIOS to circulate the seven strands of diversity

5. Communications and consultation ensure the VCS is supported, informed and involved: The Alliance communications strategy is significantly dependent on CFFP moves in this direction. The appointment of the new Alliance Co-ordinator should improve the quality of the newsletters.

6. Effective Development and Delivery of CWD Programme: Some of the developments anticipated in the Business Plan had not come about due to shortness of time; the programme had not been agreed until December and the CWD launched in January. Fifty three TNA forms had been returned and this compared favourably with Brighton. BIOS was disappointed that the Working Group had "fizzled out" and there was a need to re-engage. The last meeting was attended by Sam Wilkinson (PCC), Fiona Mabbott (TRACs at CFFP) and herself. BIOS was preparing a report based on the mapping which would help to develop the programme for the year.

7. The Alliance is proactive and enterprising in relation to new opportunities: The result of obtaining funding for the Co-ordinator was excellent proof of proactivity but the Alliance could still be more proactive and it was hoped that whoever came into post could address this.

CA thanked BIOS for her overview and requested that any comments be sent directly to BIOS. The seven objectives are a helpful way of monitoring the Alliance.

CA asked what the situation was with regard to the recruitment of the Co-ordinator and BIOS said that Mik Norman (MNo), Deputy Chief Executive at CFFP, was the key liaison person with Hayden Ginns. As far as she was aware, MNo had yet to write up the Job Description with the intention of advertising in May but she didn't have any

further information on dates. CA said that the Steering Group needed to be kept informed and would have expected to see dates by now. Members of the Steering Group should see the Job Description before it's signed off and also nominate a representative to be involved in recruitment and be part of the interview panel. Richard Soutar (RS) and Louise Boyle (LB) were willing to be involved and CA requested that BJOS acted as gatekeeper for comments on the Job Description so that this group didn't stand in the way of progress. Salary for the post was likely to be £26/28,000, based in CFFP's offices and employed by CFFP. It was likely the postholder would be line managed by MNo.

ACTION: BJOS to inform MNo of the Steering Group's requests

Children's Workforce Development Group: CA thanked BJOS for an excellent update and agreed the Working Group needed to be resurrected. AT EC's suggestion it was agreed that future meetings of CWD Sub-Group would follow on immediately after the Alliance Steering Group meetings to facilitate those on the Steering Group who wanted to be involved and who had some distance to travel. BJOS would include an invitation for others to come forward in the next newsletter.

ACTION: BJOS to include invitation to join CWD in next newsletter

Finance Sheet: BJOS went over the details with the caveat that the figures used were not yet official. There had been a great underspend in CWD due to delays in getting the money to the Alliance but this would be carried through to the current year. BJOS explained that the delay had been caused by the money being paid to PCC instead of directly to the Alliance as happened in other areas. BJOS was looking, in consultation with Fiona Mabbott, at the possibility of using some of this money to provide training in Leadership Development partnered with a government initiative. She would also shortly be looking at how to spend the current year's money and confirmed that it would be the same amount as last year but did not have information about future years. CA commented that this was a very healthy budget with a big pot of money which would need to be accounted for transparently and there would be high expectations of returns for the money. It would need to be part of the Annual Report in order to show that the Alliance was governed efficiently. Various ideas were mooted as to how the expenditure should be set out in future and Jacqui Dixon (JD) suggested waiting for the Co-ordinator to be in place before making any decision.

4. **Representation Grid and Membership**

BJOS said that although the grid was not provided today there had been no major changes in the last six weeks. CA had spoken to Carole Damper the previous week and she didn't know if she could commit the time for Children's Trust Board (formerly Children & Young People's Strategic Executive) but would get back to CA with a decision by the end of the week and he would pass this information on to the group. CD's decision would determine CA's future position on the Board.

5. **Reports from Representatives**

JCG: BJOS reported that there had been a lot of feedback from the Children's Trust Board which had met the previous day. There were a lot of questions about the role and function of the Children's Trust and JCG. She went on to say that there had been concern re declaration of conflict of interests in strategic meetings – a subject which had been brought up at the recent PCN meeting a well. The meeting planned for 19

May may yet be changed. Other topics covered included the 'Think Family' paper (Rachel Dalby) and Substance Misuse strategy (Cherry Sullivan).

Children's Trust Board: CA went over his report from the meeting held on 21 April and BJOS said that much of this agenda had been developed the following day at JCG. It was good to see that issues raised at Children's Trust Board in relation to the Children & Young People's Plan had been noted and acted upon.

CIPS: RS said this had been a big meeting with both the Integrated Managers present. Concern was expressed about the lack of lead professionals in attendance eg social workers. The locality based model was discussed and people had different expectations which lead to confusion and discontent.

Integrated Youth Support Service: CA said that the agenda had been similar to CIPS and recognized the need to move towards commissioning. Now that IYSS had been set up there was a need to focus on the experience of young people living in the service with a more holistic approach to service delivery. The one-stop shop, 'Go for It', would be re-opening at Medina House in Cosham, and a second shop would be next to Portsmouth & Southsea railway station.

6. **Plans for Briefing Event – 17 June**

It was suggested that, in order to attract more people, there should be a "new face" as speaker – perhaps someone from the voluntary sector. BJOS suggested that the event could focus on one particular age group and would send out suggestions for comment.

ACTION: BJOS to send proposals

7. **Election of Chair**

Following discussion, LB agreed to take the Chair with support from BJOS, JH and the new Co-ordinator, and was voted in unanimously. Her first duty was to present a thank-you card to CA on behalf of the group and CA responded that it had been an honour to serve as Chair and he had enjoyed his tenure.

ACTION: BJOS to arrange meeting with LB for induction

8. **Dates of Future Meetings:** **Monday 8 June, 11 am**
Monday 20 July, 11 am

9. **Any Other Business**

BJOS: The first Networking Lunch would take place on Thursday 30 April, 12 – 2, at CFFP, and would bring together colleagues from the sector. There would be a speaker from the Community Contact Point, Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service.

CA: There would be an opportunity for those who worked in Hampshire and had tendered for work from Hampshire County Council to share their thoughts with the Hampshire Alliance on Wednesday 29 April.

10. There being no further business the meeting closed at 1.15 pm.

