

ANGUS CHILDREN'S SERVICES EXECUTIVE GROUP

NOTE OF MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2 APRIL 2009 IN ST MARGARET'S HOUSE

Present

Jim Anderson	Director of Education, Angus Council (Chair)
Alan Campbell	Chief Superintendent, Tayside Police
Robert Peat	Director of Social Work & Health, Angus Council
Steve Urquhart	Planning Officer (Children's Services), Angus Council (items 5 & 6 only)
Danny Webster	Strategic Support Officer, Angus Council (items 5 and 6 only)
Susan Wilson	General Manager, Angus CHP

Apologies

Ron Ashton Director of Neighbourhood Services, Angus Council

1 NOTE OF MEETING OF 3 NOVEMBER 2008

Agreed as an accurate record.

Matters Arising

a) Community Nurse Role

Susan Wilson reported that there were continuing concerns: NHS Tayside had written to the Scottish Government, formally outlining these concerns.

b) Child Protection Training Budget

It was noted that some of the funding for this had been agreed through the Fairer Scotland Fund. In these circumstances, it would be helpful if Gordon McIntosh could undertake to write to the four "agencies" concerned confirming the level of funding being sought in 2009/10.

Action RP

c) Choices for Life

Robert Peat reported that DAAT had agreed to make funding available for some Angus pupils to participate in the 2009 event on a pilot basis.

2 COLLABORATIVE COMMISSION PLAN FOR CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN TAYSIDE

As a follow-up to previous discussions, Susan Wilson had circulated two helpful documents, namely:

- a paper submitted to the NHS Tayside Board on 21 August 2008
- an extract from the minute of the meeting of the Tayside Board of 21 August 2008.

Reference was made to the desirability of trying to put in place appropriate parental support mechanisms in a holistic way so that all agencies are working in an effective partnership. The explicit reference in the paper to this approach was welcomed, as was its general thrust.

3 JOINT PROTOCOL WITH NHS ON RESIDENTIAL PROVISION

A range of papers had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Their contents were noted, as was the commitment for a meeting to take place involving Susan Wilson, Jim Anderson, Caroline Selkirk and Gordon McIntosh (representing Robert Peat) – on Friday 17 April 2009.

It was agreed that the papers which had been circulated for this meeting would be copied to Caroline Selkirk by Susan Wilson in advance of the proposed meeting.

Action SW

4 NOTE OF MEETING OF QIPM GROUP OF 12 DECEMBER 2008

The note of this meeting had been circulated in advance of the meeting. Its contents were noted.

Robert Peat noted the reference to “concerns in relation to SW&H and NHS membership of the Training Coordination Group.” It was agreed that Robert and Jim would make further enquiries.

Action JAA/RP

5 GETTING IT RIGHT FOR EVERY CHILD (GIRFEC)

A warm welcome was extended to Steve Urquhart and Danny Webster for this item on the agenda.

A briefing paper had been circulated in advance of the meeting and Danny Webster tabled a summary of the key messages arising from the conference held on 9 March 2009.

A very interesting discussion ensued, the outcome of which was:

- the Executive Group fully endorsed Recommendations 1 to 4 in the Briefing Paper, namely:
 - adopt GIRFEC values and principles and develop an ICS plan for Angus which reflects the core GIRFEC components
 - adopt the Highland model of “named people for all children and young people within Angus” (NB: In endorsing this principle, some potential practical difficulties were noted.)
 - implement the role of the “Lead Professional”
 - implement the GIRFEC Common Practice Model and Tools within Angus
- in order to take forward the fifth recommendation it was agreed that consideration should be given to establishing a new post, with a post-holder (possibly seconded) who has a remit to lead the process of devising prioritise and plans for the phased implementation and associated staff development of GIRFEC across Angus. Jim Anderson undertook to try to put together the first draft of a Job Outline which would draw upon existing structures as well as drawing upon the Highland pathfinder experience.

Action JAA

6 JOINT (SHARED) ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Jim Anderson made reference to the specific requirement in the follow up to the Angus Child Protection Inspection. That should be taken forward as part of our GIRFEC agenda and this was agreed as an appropriate way forward.

7 SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT – ARRANGEMENTS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS

Two progress sheets had been circulated in advance of the meeting in terms of the **2008/09** Single Outcome Agreement. The contents of these documents were noted.

8 IMMINENT CHANGE TO MEMBERSHIP OF EXECUTIVE GROUP DUE TO RETIREMENT

Jim Anderson reminded colleagues that he had intimated his retirement to Angus Council and that this retirement would take effect on 31 August 2009. In the circumstances it was agreed that Robert Peat should take on the role of Chairman of the Children's Executive Group with immediate effect, this position to be reviewed once Angus Council has appointed a new Director of Education and that person has become established in the new post.

9 OTHER BUSINESS

Links with Elected Members

It was noted that David Sawers (Chief Executive, Angus Council) had written to chairs of thematic partnerships on this matter on 19 March 2009.

Angus Council had agreed that a nominated Councillor should be the link elected member for each thematic partnership. In the case of Children's Services, that link Councillor is to be Councillor Peter Murphy.

It was agreed that Jim Anderson and Robert Peat would arrange to meet with Councillor Murphy in the near future to establish an effective modus operandi.

Action JAA/RP

10 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 24 June 2009 at 2.00pm in St Margaret's House.