**Halton Children and Young People’s**

**Voluntary Sector Forum (CYPVSF)**

Minutes 25th February 2015

Castlefields Community Centre, Runcorn

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

**In Attendance:**

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| **In Attendance:**  Rachel Doyle - HBC  John Bucknall – HBC - Chair  Tracy Ryan – HBC  Helen McPeake – Wellbeing Enterprises  Sean O’Hare – MAKO  Joyce Reilly – HPC  Claire Lomax – HPC  Jennifer Powell – Nightstop  Kelly Waring – Nightstop  Alison Gleave – H&SHVCA | **Apologies:**  Karen Tonge – Halton Table Tennis  Mal Hampson – Halton Speak Out  Carla Boden – CRI  Leanne Mallison – Innovate Volunteering CIC |

NB: Actions are highlighted in **bold**.

1. **Previous minutes and matters arising**

The minutes from the last meeting were amended to reflect that J Duff had not been invited to attend – Rachel Doyle to contact J Duff to invite to the meeting in March 2015.

1. **SEND Local Offer Group**

This was launched on 01.09.14 and a promotional leaflet and action plan were circulated to the group.

The SEND Local Offer Groupprovides a user-friendly one-stop shop for children and young people with a Special Educational Need and/or Disability, their parents and professionals to quickly find out about information, support and advice available across education, health and social care from ages 0 to 25 and how to access it.

The Send Local Offer Group would like to set up a working group to help progress work which would assist to update the website. They would like a representative from the VSF to join. It was asked whether the representative had to be a named individual or could it be an organisation. It was confirmed that it would be fine for an organisation to join and send different representatives.

Organisations are asked to have a look at the website and action plan and contact Tracy Ryan if you feel you can help. It would also be useful to find people willing to promote the SEND Local Offer Group to inform the Community of what it is. Tracy asked that if any organisation is planning any events where she can set up a stand to let he know.

<http://localoffer.haltonchildrenstrust.co.uk>

Accounts have also been set up on Facebook and Twitter.

Mako confirmed that they are holding a celebration event soon – Mako to send details to T Ryan.

It was asked how often the group would Tracy is open to ideas, possibly– once every 6 weeks? It was agreed that the timing would be important to accommodate parents, Young People etc, could possibly have a couple of meetings in order to cover times people could attend.– The idea of YP attending virtually was raised.

It was confirmed that there is a feedback form on the website (which is undergoing change) it is not currently widely used because people can’t find it.

Halton Play Council expressed an interest in joining the group.

Contact Details for Tracy Ryan are as follows:

[Tracy.ryan@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracy.ryan@halton.gov.uk)

0151 511 8661

1. **Feedback from Boards**

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| **Meetings** | **Organiser/ contact** | **VSF Representative** |
| **Halton Safeguarding Exec  Board**  No Update | Tracey Holyhead [Tracey.Holyhead@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracey.Holyhead@halton.gov.uk) | Michelle Forder [Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk) |
| **Halton Safeguarding Board**  No Update | Tracey Holyhead [Tracey.Holyhead@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracey.Holyhead@halton.gov.uk) | Sam Dutton  [Sam.Dutton@catch-22.org.uk](mailto:Sam.Dutton@catch-22.org.uk)  Donna Wells [d.wells@addaction.org.uk](mailto:d.wells@addaction.org.uk) |
| **Halton Children’s Trust**  Meeting due on 5th March 2015 – Theme of meeting will be OFSTED inspection action plan which is now in the Public domain.  Young People co-chair this meeting. | Tracy Ryan [Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk) | Norma Hornby [boatproject.76@btconnect.com](mailto:boatproject.76@btconnect.com) |
| **Children’s Trust Executive Group**  No update | Tracy Ryan [Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk) | Michelle Forder [Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk) |
| **Early Help and Support /Closing The gap**  A new group is being set up – remit taken over by early int strat group –It will meet on 9th March – important to get a member on that board – contact Mark Grady after 9th March | Tracy Ryan [Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk) | **VACANCY** |
| **NEET Strategic group**  Main focus of this group – looking at issues around YP and behaviour – hw it is impacting on YP being excluded from School/Training – meeting next week - Tuesday | Claire Gurney [Claire.Gurney@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Claire.Gurney@halton.gov.uk)  Paula Edwards [Paula.Edwards@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Paula.Edwards@halton.gov.uk) | Alison Gleave [agleave@haltonva.org.uk](mailto:agleave@haltonva.org.uk)  Norma Hornby (deputy) |
| **Youth Opportunities**  Main focus – Teenage pregnancy rates – Halton rates are reduced for 3rd year running – under 16 also dropped by 60% - alcohol addiction under 18 – reduced –  Meeting trying to be led by YP – struggle to get agenda items but will continue – next meeting around homophobia – current issue within schools | Christine Dooley [Christine.Dooley@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Christine.Dooley@halton.gov.uk) | Norma Hornby [boatproject.76@btconnect.com](mailto:boatproject.76@btconnect.com) |
| **Workforce development Date:**  New strategy developed - Is on trust website – also a plan to do induction training again – encourage any new staff – opportunity to tweak the format – more of a refresher for existing staff – look at dates on the child trust website/training – | John Gallagher [John.Gallagher@halton.gov.uk](mailto:John.Gallagher@halton.gov.uk) | Michelle Forder [Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk) Norma to cover Jan 2015 – August 2015 |
| **Anti-Bulling Group /Esaftey**  Rachel to contact the group and arrange for Ian Pye to join | Susan Paine [Susan.Paine@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Paine@halton.gov.uk) | Ian Pye [ian@makoeducation.co.uk](mailto:ian@makoeducation.co.uk) |
| **Child and Family Poverty group**  Next meeting March | Debbie Houghton [Debbie.Houghton@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Debbie.Houghton@halton.gov.uk) | Norma Hornby [boatproject.76@btconnect.com](mailto:boatproject.76@btconnect.com) |
| **Commissioning Partnership**  Next Meeting In a couple of weeks – youth provision  Any services – John Bucknal to feedback in future | Tracy Ryan [Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Tracy.Ryan@halton.gov.uk) | Michelle Forder [Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Michelle.Forder@halton.gov.uk) |
| **Placement provider forum**  No feedback available | Sam Murtagh [Sam.Murtagh@halton.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.Murtagh@halton.gov.uk) | Ross McCooey to investigate if Core assets already attend and if they could be the VSF rep |

1. **AOB**

The new Youth Provision contract has been out to tender – the winning provider has not been announced yet – There has been a £200,000 cut in the budget – this will affect the universal end rather than targeted – this provider should be announced in next week or 2 – it is due to start in June 2015

John Bucknall will be sending out dates for the Integrated Youth Support Training asasp.

Level 3 accredited drug and alcohol awareness training will be offered out soon – this is free to providers.

Barnardo’s Hear4U Service closes on March 31st 2015. Barnardo’s are no longer accepting referral into that Service. The new contract will not start until June 2015 – This leaves a gap between April and June. The LA has sent out a letter to inform Partners and Schools. Any YP identified with a need during this period should be referred to the Early Help and Support Team. These details will be forwarded to the group.

Additional funding has bene awarded within the new Barnardo’s Contract – Emotional Health and Wellbeing for Children In Care. This will increase capacity and reduce the current waiting list.

Wellbeing Enterprises has received some funding via Children In Need – They will be working with Young People with Mental Health Issues. The Service is a closed service and referrals will be received via CAMHS and Barnardo’s. They will be providing pre-intervention support whilst waiting for other services but will be bringing in other local organisations in the Borough. The initial Wellbeing review will be a one to one for 30 minutes. This will obtain the YP’s background life situation, focussing on their positive skills and talents to build up self-confidence. The YP will have the opportunity to start a creative project based on their own skills with a view to eventually presenting and co-designing courses. Volunteer scheme – when YP are confident they will be able to go out to schools to help other YP. The Service will be going live next week – initially with reviews in Thorn Rd moving on to more community based settings.

It was asked if there was any current training around self-harm – the plan is that a new tier 2 service will be delivering those types of training. Numbers are going down for hospital admissions. Information is held on the Trust website – a pathway is being developed on the EHWB Board, NICE guidelines on self-harm. John Bucknall will forward to Tracy Ryan to publish on the Local Offer.

Nightstop – Offer Counselling, Anger Management and Emergency Accommodation – A Sleepover event is being held on 6th March 2015, Posters were circulated to the group. Nightstop to forward a copy of the poster electronically and Rachel will forward with the minutes. This is a free event and any donations are welcomed! It was suggested that Nightstop register with Fareshare – FareShare does not provide food directly to individuals. Instead, they deliver food to over 1,711 local projects and charities across the UK, such as homeless hostels, day centres for older people, women’s refuges and breakfast clubs, who provide food and other support to their beneficiaries.

Nightstop are also running a women’s group called ‘Women at play’ they meet weekly and have play dates – they look at self-esteem, empowerment etc. New posters are currently being developed and will be brought to the group at the next meeting.

[**http://www.fareshare.org.uk**](http://www.fareshare.org.uk)

Mako Education have workshops running in Widnes , they are now Arts Award qualified! They can now offer a qualification up to GVSE equivalent –

H&SHVCA - Planning for Volunteers week is going well– It will take place in the first week in June 2015 – A variety of activities planned. Canal Boat Adventure have donated some canal boats, 2 boats will be taken out for lunch, there is a promotional event on the Tuesday, timeslots can be booked, quiz evening – a group will be going to Llandudno, there will be a possible repeat of Haltonbury event with local musicians. All of the information will be on the website. A Volunteers Co-ordinators meeting – informal discussion group is held on– 3rd march 11.30 bring your own lunch and network etc.

HPC – Waiting to see if 2 projects will have their funding extended. The largest contract was awarded for 3 years. The play schemes delivered in February half term went well.

A question was asked at the INVOLVE forum this week – What provision is there in the Borough for predominantly boys who don’t want to do sport or football.

Mako Education have this sort of provision however they are fully booked at the moment.

Wellbeing Enterprises offer a scheme called ‘Lead the Change’ where parents can put forward ideas and be awarded funding to take it forward. Full details within link below.

[**http://www.wellbeingenterprises.org.uk/funding-available-to-get-your-wellbeing-idea-off-the-ground**](http://www.wellbeingenterprises.org.uk/funding-available-to-get-your-wellbeing-idea-off-the-ground)

HPC - every half term and summer holidays.

There is a Saturday Service at Simms Cross – 12.30 to 3.30 for 5 to 12 year olds.

**Date of next meeting:**

**(Joint Community Practitioners and CYP VSF Meeting)**

**Wednesday 18th March 2015 – The Boardroom, Municipal Bldgs, Widnes**

**10-12**