

# Local Children's Partnerships

- On a cold winter's day, a group of porcupines huddled together to stay warm and keep from freezing. But, soon, they felt one another's quills and moved apart. When the need for warmth brought them closer together again, their quills again forced them apart. They were driven back and forth at the mercy of their discomforts until they found the distance from one another that provided both a maximum of warmth and a minimum of pain. *(Buonfino and Mulgan, 2006)*



# The Opportunities:

- Necessarily, stronger collaboration
- Capacity building
  - 40% rise in number of children on CP plan in last 2 yrs
  - .....300 social workers
  - ..... 20,000 teachers
- Local intelligence (partners knowing each child in need)
- Local commissioning capability
- Better outcomes for children, young people and their families

# Local Children's Partnerships

- What are they?
- What will they do?
- Who is the LCP?
- Why change?
- What will it look like in Hart?
- When?

# **LCP's Core Function:** the delivery arm of the Hampshire Children's Trust at a local level

- **Children's Trust** (Children Act 2004) = cooperation arrangements and partnerships.
- enabled by the **Children's Trust Board** to
- deliver integrated services organised around the child / young person or family. (Laming – Child Protection is everyone's business) &
- produce and deliver a single, strategic, over-arching plan for improving outcomes – the **Hampshire Children & Young People's Plan** (09-12)

# Purpose and Function

- Local Children's Partnerships are being developed to support the Hampshire Children's Trust in delivering the Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan (09-12).

# Purpose & Function

- Hampshire Children's Trust will identify priorities across the County CYPP where improvements are necessary and it is envisaged local partnerships will reflect upon those issues in a local context and agree action to improve outcomes ..

...in addition to local needs / priorities

By

- coordinating and influencing delivery of local services (integrated)
- commissioning local services using pooled budgets (overtime)

## For example,

- Key Priority (CYPP 09-12) : Improving the educational attainment of vulnerable children, including children in care and children on free school meals
- Hart has the greatest achievement gap between children on free school meals and their peers at Key Stage 4 (40.8%)

# Core Membership (Statutory Partners)

- LA - all services that impact on children and families, (e.g. Housing)
- Youth Offending Teams
- Police and probation
- Strategic Health Authority
- Primary Care Trusts
- District Council
- LSC
- Connexions Partnership
- Job Centre plus
- Community and voluntary sector organisations
- Children's Services: including schools, academies, colleges

*(Local District Managers – challenge and support role to partnerships )*

# Function

- Ensure educational inclusion
- Strengthen and develop local networks to enable effective integrated working across children's services
- Develop a detailed understanding of local needs and outcomes for children and young people
- Identify the contribution of local partners to the priorities in the Hampshire CYPP through local action plans
- Manage and report on performance against the local plan
- Over time, co-ordinate early intervention and prevention work.
- Ensure participation of Children & Young people in service design, delivery and evaluation

# Why Change?

## Current Position (County)

- Eleven local Children & Young People Partnerships with broad engagement and links to Local Strategic Partnerships (Districts)
- Hampshire Children and Young People's Plan 2009-12 widely acknowledged and recognised
- Performance information emerging at a local level
- Partners are working together (Hart - CYPP)
- Schools are collaborating – EIP's

# But,

- County-wide arrangements lack consistency
- Engaging with schools in current arrangements across county has generally proved difficult (there are so many - 35 in Hart)
- General educational attainment continues to outstrip comparators – but attainment of vulnerable children remains an issue
- Overlaps and gaps (safeguarding)
- Limited links between local partnerships and the Hampshire Children's Trust



# Key driver & an opportunity

- *The Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009* strengthens partnership working by:
  - placing the CT Board on a statutory footing (1.4.10);
  - transferring responsibility for preparing and revising the CYPP from the LA alone to the Board (but Trust partners are still responsible for delivering it);
  - giving the Board responsibility for monitoring the commitments of each partner to the CYPP;
  - introducing a power to pool funds between partners.

- Extending (from 12.1.10) the number of statutory relevant partners with a **duty to cooperate** to include maintained schools, city technology colleges, academies, non-maintained special schools, further education and sixth form colleges and Jobcentre Plus;
- Ensuring that schools forums and relevant partners will have regard to the local Children and Young People Plan (CYPP)

**To meet the Act's requirements** (and maximise the opportunities) there is a need for:

- Stronger, clearer links between local partnerships and the Hampshire Children's Trust;
  - greater focus on performance management – CYPP targets;
  - Better local intelligence and understanding of needs
  - common approach to early intervention & prevention;
  - more consistent arrangements
- Via LCP (**Children's Trust at a local level**).. .
- Plus full engagement with all schools

# Configuration & development of LCP's

- To enable each and every school & college to fully engage and integrate (and taking account of the simple fact that schools have ease of access to the widest number of children & young people) it has been decided that, in Hampshire, the Local Children's partnerships will be configured on clusters of schools as their core rather than district council boundaries.
- Local partners have been considering the best local configuration to ensure that all partners can be fully engaged rather than representative arrangements

# The Trust Board has outlined 'preferred options'....

.....for Hart that there is one Local  
Children's Partnership

- with 3 local representative sub-clusters (or implementation groups) framed around the geographical locations of Odiham/ Hook, Fleet and Yateley/ Frogmore

# One Local Children's Partnership: three sub-clusters

Hart Local Children's  
Partnership

•Collaboration  
Arrangements  
Regulations 2007

Sub-cluster

'Chairs Group: to  
facilitate a District  
overview and liaison  
with LSP

Sub-cluster

Sub-cluster

- Local authority agencies: EPs,
- Inclusion Manager
- Locality Team
- Voluntary sector
- Extended services partnerships
- Work based training providers
- EECU
- Childcare providers
- Specialist Status
- SureStart..
- Children's Centres
- Connexions Service
- Local Health Trust
- etc

**‘layers’ were anticipated** and are emerging within some of the other districts:

- **Local Children’s Partnerships** involving all schools, colleges and all other partners within a defined local area fully engaged in the business cycle at a senior manager/senior leader level
- **Sub-group arrangements** to undertake detailed work in geographical areas or on a thematic basis reporting to whole partnerships
- **Mechanism(s)** to ensure the representation of each Local Children’s Partnership within the District Council based Local Area Agreement/Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) structure.



# The Trust Board

“we anticipate that the manifestation of the Children’s Trust at a local level will be the partnership that has the full engagement of all relevant partners, and that the arrangements to link to the LSP and any sub cluster arrangements are supportive of the work of the partnership”



# Next Steps

- To have identified an Interim Chair by 9.3.10 – Lynn Martin, Head of Hook Junior School
- Permanent chair will be needed
- Dialogue with partners about where they best fit (steering / co-ordinating group or with a sub-cluster)
- Establish meetings / business cycle (of needs assessment, consultation and planning)
- Summary level local delivery plan by 30th July 2010.
- Mid-year review – December 2010
- First self-assessment – April 2012

# The key areas for the work of Local Children's Partnerships

- Reducing teenage conceptions
- Reducing those not in employment, education or training
- Increasing the number of children in care in employment, education or training
- Improving the educational attainment of vulnerable children, including children in care and children on free school meals
- Reducing the impact of poverty on children's lives
- In addition to any local priorities.

# Questions / Comments?