## South Lakeland Local Committee

### Children and Young People’s Working Group

Kendal College, Milnthorpe Road, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 5AY
9.30 am – 12.30 pm on 23 August 2010

### Notes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Item</th>
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- Cllr. Clare Feeney-Johnson (Chair)
- Cllr. Brenda Gray
- Cllr. Roger Bingham
- Cllr. James Airey

### Apologies

- Cllr. Geoffrey D Cook

### In attendance

- John Swainston – Locality Director - East
- Dianne Whitehead – Area Support Manager
- Jeff Tweddle - Community Involvement Worker
- Noel Camm – Children's Centres and Extended Services Strategic Manager
- Kath Calvert - Locality Officer (South Lakes - Job Share)
- Hillary Stephenson – Portfolio Holder for Communities and Wellbeing at SLDC
- Margaret Belk - Partnerships and Communities Officer SLDC
- Enid Fraser – South Lakes Federation
- Margaret Bancroft - Strategic Manager
- Mary Wilkinson - Senior Childcare Officer (East)

| 2. | Disclosures of Interest |  |

Brenda Gray, Clare Feeney-Johnson and Roger Bingham declared their interest with reference to the fact that they were South Lakeland Local District Councillors.

| 3. | Notes of last meeting | Agreed as accurate |

| 4. | Matters Arising from Notes of Last Meeting | None |

| 5. | Enhanced Support – Margaret Bancroft |  |

Margaret provided an overview of the report.

Funding of £14,000 is requested for 2010-2011 (as per the funding allocated 2009-10) to ensure appropriate provision for children with special educational needs, disability and additional support needs in childcare and non-maintained early education settings in the South Lakes area. Margaret explained:

- The outcomes and difference the funding makes
The legal implications
The background to the funding for the scheme last year
The Strategic planning involved, including staff training and resources
Reducing inequality and targeting vulnerable children affected by poverty and disadvantage
Easing the transition of young children to school placements
The Early Years and Sure Start Grants funding streams that are currently utilised

Members were also requested to nominate a representative to attend the Enhanced Support Reference Group or receive feedback via an officer.

The Chair asked if the other two funding streams had been tapped into. Margaret confirmed that they had.

Members sought clarification on the ages targeted by this funding. Margaret stated that this scheme concentrated on the Early Years under 5’s.

Members expressed concerns about assessing multiple disabilities and the possibility for overlooking the learning disabilities associated with or indirectly affected by other disabilities. Margaret highlighted the good practice exemplified by her team and explained the matrix management scheme employed. MB explained the close liaison and experience that she shares with her team and that which is encouraged with both internal and external sources. MB illustrated how children’s cases are handled and the way in which the Early Support Programme is used to exchange information with families direct.

Recommendations

- That £14,000 to be allocated for Enhanced Support for 2010/11 from the Children and Young People’s Fund.
- That Cllr Feeney Johnson be nominated as the Local Committee representative on the Enhanced Support Reference Group with Cllr Bingham as substitute.

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6. SL Youth Work Delivery Plan – Kath Calvert

Kath provided an outline of the report and explained how Connexions Cumbria Ltd have been commissioned to deliver youth work and positive activities in South Lakeland. Members were updated on the current situation, the types of activities, facilities and services delivered. Insight was also provided on what young people are accessing within the Members Wards.

The data presented within the appendices was reviewed by the group.

Kath explained the current position with targets and what is being achieved. Due to efficiency savings made in this area and developing the ability for contract holders to input data into the system direct. A technical issue has prevented the collation of current figures for dissemination with Members. As soon as this has been rectified and a test of the work carried out, performance and outcome information will be made available on the first quarter of 2010.

Members noted how the Ulverston figures revealed disappointing involvement. Members stressed their dissatisfaction the contract monitoring for the western part of South Lakeland is not reported to South Lakeland and asked again for this to happen. The Chair agreed that knowledge of the participation of the numbers of young people that have used services is fundamental to the decision process. Elected members need to know what the position is with Education and Youth provision. The group noted that only funding for 25% of the population is available. Members queried the data collated and asked if the figures reflected both private and publicly schooled youngsters. Officers confirmed that the numbers had been taken from the CCC system and none were privately educated.

The Chair expressed concern for educating young people by including ethnic or multicultural global issues within Youth Participation Events. The South Lakes is recognised
for having one of the lowest multi culturally diverse communities in the country. How do we go about embracing diversity within the curriculum context?

Officers confirmed that multi cultural work is being adapted into youth work programmes. Evidence is available that this is taking place. JS requested that the next CYSS report includes a section dedicated to equality and cultural work.

KC was asked to seek clarification on whether the IYSS South Lakeland budget covers all of South Lakeland, or just those parts of South Lakeland which are in the East Locality. She was also asked to check whether the monitoring information for the western part of South Lakeland is being reported to Barrow Local Committee. If possible, that information should be included in the report from the August working group which goes forward to South Lakeland Local Committee in September. It must be included in all future reports to SLLC on Youth Work delivery.

| KC | KC and DW |

7. Joint Youth Council/Local Democracy Week, Exploratory Discussion (Deferred from previous meeting) – Enid Fraser

JS introduced this as an exploratory discussion. The group was requested to discuss the ways in which a formal Youth Council might be developed. JS posed the question of whether or not it might be a valuable enterprise worthy of a portion of the budget dedicated towards it. The possibility of a part time worker being employed to develop this area was considered but a Participation Worker is already being recruited for the East Locality.

The Chair relayed to the group that the SL LC has already expressed a keen interest in establishing a Youth Council. It was suggested that a local democracy week event this year would get things started.

The intention discussed by the group is to establish the first robust Youth Council in the SL. How can we work together to progress this?

Officers discussed existing plans for the possible way forward. A summary for a proposed consultation event for young people on their priorities for the Local Committee Plan for 2011/12 on either 18\textsuperscript{th} or 19\textsuperscript{th} of October 2010 was circulated with Members. The aims, objectives, overview and activity workshops were discussed.

Enid Fraser explained her research conducted with the South Lakes Federation into the student voice and Student Councils. Students are understanding more about their own learning and how they are taught. 11 Million Takeover Day activities were discussed and how productive and impressive the young people were in expressing an interest in developing a Joint Student Council.

MB identified that training is needed by young people to facilitate this effectively. Training workshops have been planned for Sept/Oct in order to prepare for Local Democracy Week. Links with Brathay were discussed.

Members suggested that ‘rurality’ might be an issue for the proposed event; transport from rural areas is a big issue. The group discussed the possibility of schools playing host. Encouraging young people over the age of 18 to participate is also important.

Members were very enthusiastic about the suggestions put forward by the paper. Pupil power works well when pupils are empowered to make decisions. Successful youth organisations are often driven by young people and not Councillors. The message needs to be clear that Councillors are there to participate in the workshops but not lead.

The Chair expressed interest in the proposals put forward and would have appreciated the document being circulated with the group earlier. Integrated working on this project is crucial. The Chair suggested that the group make some recommendations towards
allocating a budget towards this project to move things forward. A real budget with real issues to tackle would add value to the Youth Councils progress and enthusiasm.

Members expressed a concern for how pupils will be selected for participation in these events. The risk is that the usual engaged selection of outstanding and articulate pupils will be put forward for inclusion. We need a wider selection of pupils from all walks of life to participate for true democracy to take place.

JS requested that partners and officers within the group work together to discuss budgets and report back to the group. A third workshop is needed.

EF commented that silent groups are critical to democracy; we really don’t want the head boys and girls to be hand picked. Members added that this is not intended as a school competition; it is intended for looking at what is good for society and not what is good for individual schools.

MB encouraged the group to think about other youth organisations and the training available for young people, particularly for the hard to reach. Examples such as Young Advisors and Young Farmers were put forward.

Members were keen for the 16 plus to be included in proceedings; these are individuals with very real needs and possess important views that must not be missed. This is about educating the majority.

It was agreed that a sub group was needed to take this forward. The Chair requested that one person from each group reports back. JT will co-ordinate a meeting. The following volunteered their involvement – Cllr Feeney Johnson, Cllr Stephenson, Enid Fraser, Margaret Belk, Kath Calvert

**Recommendation**

- that a South Lakeland Youth Conference take place on the 19th Oct 2010. This is designed as a starting point for the possible future of the Young Persons Parliament. This should include representatives from SLDC and Parish Councils.

A future agenda item is planned to progress this on the 9th Nov.

JS requested that Sandgate school and Sandside Lodge School be included.

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<th>Children’s Centres Advisory Groups and Member Allocation – Noel Camm</th>
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Documents were circulated with the Members that explained the member allocation to each of the four Advisory Groups. A list of the Children’s Centres within the remit of those Advisory Groups was explained, and the relative geographical coverage provided.

The recent Ofsted inspection influenced the consolidation of the administration centres only, the numbers and provision of Advisory Centres and Children’s Centres have not changed just the admin.

Cllr James Airey – expressed concern that he had not received any invitations and requested that his details were checked. NC to check that all names, future meeting dates and names are correct.

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<th>Early Years Grants Applications – Mary Wilkinson</th>
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Mary provided a brief synopsis of the report.

Daisies Day Nursery, Kendal, are applying for funding to develop part of their play area. They currently have no access to a grassy or wildlife area. They have requested £2,450.

Rascals Day Nursery Ltd, Ulverston, are applying for funding for outdoor play equipment to meet Ofsted inspection recommendations. The report stated that there is currently limited access to outdoor play equipment and in order to increase opportunities for children to enjoy outdoor play they have requested £1,103 to buy bikes and other...
**Recommendation**

Members recommended that the following funding to be awarded:

- £2,450 - Daisies Day Nursery
- £1,103 - Rascals Day Nursery

MW highlighted a draft report currently in progress relating to the funding earmarked in the previous financial year for the improvement of attainment in South Lakeland. A detailed spending plan has to be included in the report, but was not available in time for this meeting. The Working Group agreed that if it was ready in time, it should go to Local Committee on 27 September, rather than waiting for the next Working Group meeting.

10. **Young Person’s Transport Budget – Rob Terwey (Standing Agenda Item)**

DW reported that Local Committee had decided in July that the concessionary fares scheme would operate with a full seven-day concession, except at school travel times (ie. not before 09.30 and not between 15.00 and 17.00).

This has been agreed to feature as a standing item on the Children and Young People’s Working Group agenda for the group to receive regular updates on the current progress of this project.

11. **Local Committee Budget, a Summary of the Budget Position – Dianne Whitehead**

DW – provided an overview.

Further Early Intervention projects are to be developed with the funds allocated. JS to liaise with DW.

Early Years overspending mentioned, the recommendations were that the full amount was not awarded, but this has unfortunately been the case. The members agreed not to ask the two groups involved for the money back. Officers gave assurances that measures were now in place to stop a recurrence.

**Recommendation**

- That the remaining £500 earmarked for Ulverston Mind in the 6-12 budget should be ‘decommitted’.
- That an additional £1,183 be earmarked within the Early Years budget.

DW – Ulverston Mind evaluation to be re-circulated with the group.

5. **Future Meetings and Agenda Items**

Future agenda items to be appropriately numbered within papers.

- Child Poverty Strategy – David Stephen’s agenda item to be considered at the 9th Nov meeting?

Members discussed the Waste Management, Working with Schools project – Neil Garrow. The Chair considered whether the group needed to learn about its progress. A possible item for 9th Nov?

Members requested a Multiple Needs item; JS confirmed that the LDD team is to produce a report/Pow...
Any final bids for this financial year need to come to the November meeting.

6. **Any Other Business**

   JS asked whether it was likely to expect Members to commit funds to two additional requests.

   1. S Wilkinson from The Queen Katherine School has requested finances to employ an additional teacher for 1 day per week to support the transition of 7 students transferring to The QKS.  
      **Recommendation**  
      - that no grant be made.

   2. CDEC - funds for photocopier, £3000 requested.  
      **Recommendation**  
      - that no grant be made.

   MW – requested a note within the minutes stating that Joey’s Playgroup of Milnthorpe will commence developing their outside play area by mid September.

7. **Next meeting Tuesday 9 November 9.30 – 12.30, Room 23, County Hall, Kendal**