

North Locality Local Alliance Group Meeting
Minutes
20 March 2024
at 10.00am held as a Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Meeting attendees:

Chair: Cllr Carole Jones (CJ), Elected Member for Sturminster Newton and Trustee of The Vale Pantry
Attendees Kath Saunders (KS), Head of Locality and Strategy; Karen Perryman (KP), Regional Manager, Talk About Trust; Jamie Keast (JK), Home-Start Blackmore Vale, Kim Rickford (KR), Headteacher, The Forum Centre; Tim Wells (TW), Future Roots; Tazmine Bartram (TM), Social Prescriber, Blandford Group Practice; Kate Parish (KP); Tom Crisp (TC), Digital Transformation & Wellbeing Lead, Blackmore Vale Partnership; Tracey Digby (TD), Dorset Mind CYP Transformation Lead; Natalia Steppa (NS), Mind, Brain, Body, Community Interest Company; Paul Mattocks (PM), Sturminster Newton High School; Kelly Critchell (KC), North Dorset Parent Carers group; Sara Stringer (SS), Mental Health Group; Kelly Knight (KK), Headteacher Harbour Vale; Debbie Walton-Smith (DW-S), Archbishop Wake Primary School; Jane Varndell; Gemma Roberts; Karen Blatch

Minutes: Paula Trim(PT), North Locality Business Support Team

Apologies:

Morna Spence, CAMHS Support in Schools Team Lead; Heidi Padfield, Stalbridge Primary; Jack Buckland, Help & Care; Rev Mary Gubbins; James Stanford, St Gregory's Marnhull; Mary Rossant, HV Clinical Lead; Chris Spackman, Community Volunteer, Young Enterprise; ; Nikki Blair, Libraries Service; Karen Johnson, Social Prescriber; Laura Everett-Coles, Public Health; Paul Lavis, SAST; Melanie Costas, Rural Mental Health Matters; Emma Board, SENDCo, St Mary the Virgin Primary; Cllr Jane Somper; Amanda Conolly (SM North Ed & EH); Zoe Monaghan, Service Manager for Social Care; ; Roisin Lynch

No.	Actions	
2.3	Any volunteers for the role of Vice Chair should contact Cllr Carole Jones.	ALL
5.2	Partnership Site joining information to be sent to members	RD
10.2	TC to advise if Stour Connect is available for the next Partnership Meeting	TC
12.1	Kath Saunders to forward the link in relation to Dingley's Promise	KC

No	Item Minutes
1	<p>Welcome, apologies and introductions</p> <p>1.0 Cllr Carole Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited everyone present to introduce themselves and give details of their current biggest challenge.</p> <p>1.1 JK advised that recruiting new volunteers was difficult</p> <p>1.2 JV said that promoting the Library service was a challenge</p> <p>1.3 KS stated that supporting Early Years Settings in dealing with increasingly complex needs was a challenge</p> <p>1.4 KR felt that the volume of Young People requiring support was escalating</p>

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	<p>1.5 PM echoed this and said the number of young people requiring support but not meeting thresholds was unprecedented.</p> <p>1.6 KR said that spreading the word regarding the activities and support they provide was a challenge.</p> <p>1.7 GR reported the volume and complexity of issues was rising particularly in relation to School avoidance.</p> <p>1.8 TB advised that it was a challenge to find mental health support for those not meeting the threshold for CAMHS</p> <p>1.9 TW echoed the increasing number of referrals and was also looking to expand the offer to 16+ as it had been noted that a number of YP were struggling to find a purpose.</p> <p>1.10 TC reported that he had been struggling to find resources to help those not meeting criteria</p> <p>1.11 TD reported on funding issues and an increase in self-harming and a lack of self confidence</p> <p>1.12 Kate P reported that a lot of YP had more than one need but only one condition could be dealt with at a time</p> <p>1.13 Karen P reported that they had expanded their work to encompass cannabis and vaping and could provide resources for this.</p> <p>1.14 SS advised an increase in providing support for gender identity.</p>
2	<p>Confirmation of New Chair – Cllr Carole Jones</p> <p>2.1 Cllr Carole Jones had offered to Chair the North Locality Local Alliance Group but would be happy to stand aside if there were any other volunteers.</p> <p>2.2 Kath Saunders said that there had been very positive feedback after CJ had Chaired the previous meeting, and with no one else forthcoming it was agreed that CJ would be the Chair.</p> <p>2.3 Volunteers were encouraged for the role of Vice Chair. ACTION – Contact Carole if interested - ALL</p>
3	<p>Minutes of last meeting, 29 November 2023 and actions</p> <p>3.0 Families First for Pathfinder presentation – send out link with minutes - completed</p> <p>4.0 Send out an edited copy of the chat with the minutes – completed</p> <p>5.0 Send out Mental Health Working group notes with minutes for new members – completed</p> <p>5.1 Invite Tazmine Bartram to the January MH working group - completed</p> <p>5.2 Invite new social prescribers to future meetings – completed</p> <p>5.3 Share parenting workshop programme with members - completed</p> <p>7.0 Share date of next meeting of Teenagers at Risk of Exploitation meeting – not received</p> <p>8.0 Members to consider whether they can offer a venue or be part of the working group for the Partnership event in March – discussed under item 10</p> <p>Produce a directory of LAG members – all present were in agreement to being included</p>
4	<p>Presentation from Dorset MIND (Tracey Digby)</p> <p>4.1 Tracey gave a presentation which is attached.</p> <p>4.2 The group size is between 8 and 12 young people based on referrals for low to moderate needs.</p> <p>4.3 Discussion was taking place with Monica regarding offering the service in the North.</p> <p>4.4 £5,000 per year would be required to fund up to 36 young people.</p> <p>4.4 TD would have further discussion with Cllr Carole Jones.</p>

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5	<p>Presentation of Partnership Site and Excel contacts sheet (Sarah Middleton tbc)</p> <p>5.1 Sarah Middleton was unavailable.</p> <p>5.2 Partners were encouraged to make use of the site and the details and links would be recirculated. ACTION – joining information to be sent to members RD</p>
6	<p>LAG Inclusion Fund updates</p> <p>6.1 JK reported that LAG funding had been used to help support School readiness in Gillingham, Sturminster Newton, Shaftesbury and Blandford and it was hoped it could be rolled out to Sherborne in September.</p> <p>6.2 KC reported that she had received some very positive feedback from parents who had attended Groups and Activities. KS requested feedback to be sent so that it could be promoted.</p> <p>6.3 Cllr Carole Jones reported that bigger premises had been identified for the Vale Pantry and it was hoped that Breakfast and Homework Clubs could be established.</p>
7	<p>Mental Health working group update (Kath Saunders)</p> <p>7.1 The next meeting was due to take place on 17th April and invitations could be sent to anyone wanting to attend.</p>
8	<p>Poverty working group update</p> <p>8.1 This was very much work in progress, and it had been noted that debt was still a significant issue and a rise had been seen in Section 21 notices being issued.</p>
9	<p>Teenagers at risk of Exploitation working group update (Zoe Monaghan/Sam Lawrence)</p> <p>9.1 No update was available.</p>
10	<p>Future Partnership Event – 12 June 2024</p> <p>10.1 It was suggested that meetings going forward be in person and any offers of venues would be appreciated.</p> <p>10.2 It was hoped the next meeting would take place at Stour Connect – ACTION TC to arrange.</p> <p>10.3 The theme would be Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing</p>
11	<p>Dates of future meetings</p> <p>Wed 12th June 2024 (re-scheduled Partnership Event)</p> <p>Dates would be arranged for the remainder of the year.</p>
12	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>12.1 Dingley’s Promise – KS reported that this was some good workforce training with a mix of workshops and online modules. ACTION: KS to forward the link from Liz Curtis Jones.</p> <p>12.2 TW would provide a presentation at the next meeting regarding the Exploitation Group.</p> <p>12.3 A Paper was being prepared for Cabinet regarding Family Hubs. Blandford had been named as the main Hub but consultation was still taking place regarding possible locations. A further update would be provided once more is known.</p>