

Briefing Note

Agenda item 10

Cheltenham Borough Council

Social and Community O+S – 6th April 2009

Cheltenham Children and Young People's Partnership

Update from the Vice-Chair, Cllr. Anne Regan

This note contains the information to keep Members informed of matters relating to the work of the Committee, but where no decisions from Members are needed.

1. Background

- 1.1 Cheltenham Children and Young People's Partnership (CCYPP) was established in October 2007 as one of the six thematic partnerships sitting under Cheltenham Strategic Partnership. Over the past 18 months, the partnership has developed its governance arrangements and action plan to ensure that it can add value to the work of local partners.
- 1.2 This note informs members of the committee of progress to date.

2. Governance Arrangements

- 2.1 The partnership had adopted a terms of reference that sets out its vision, membership and how its structure will operate and this is attached as **appendix A**.
- 2.2 The partnership elected Charles Welsh as Chair in January 2008 and later appointed Cllr. Anne Regan as Vice-Chair. In terms of CBC representation, the Deputy Chief Executive acts as the senior officer on the partnership, and is supported by the Head of Stronger Communities and the Healthy Communities Partnership Manager. The partnership is coordinated by one of the Partnership Officers who ensures that the partnership has linkages with the other CSP partnerships.
- 2.3 In addition, the partnership has two elected representatives from the voluntary and community sector; Cordell Ray represents the VCS sector engaged with young people, and Alison Kelly represents the VCS sector engaged with early years and children.
- 2.4 The partnership meets every two months and meeting information is publicly available on the CSP website.

3. Action planning

- 3.1 The partnership has adopted a draft action plan for 2009-10 (**attached as appendix B**) that sets out the key priorities for the year ahead. This has been informed by both priorities set by the CSP that emerged from the November stakeholder event, but also from the latest data and needs analysis.
- 3.2 The action plan is structured around the five every child matter outcome areas.

- **Be healthy** - enjoy good physical and mental health and live a healthy lifestyle
- **Stay safe** - be protected from harm and neglect and grow up being able to look after themselves
- **Enjoy and achieve** - get the most out of life and develop broad skills for adulthood
- **Make a positive contribution** - to the community and to society and not engage in anti-social or offending behaviour
- **Achieve economic well-being** - so that they have a good start in life and are able to achieve their full potential and secure employment

3.3 Although some of the details of the action plan need to be populated by partners, it provides partners with a framework to guide activities.

4. Partnership activities 2008-09

4.1 In 2008-09 the partnership was involved in a number of activities.

Youth Offer Funding:

4.2 CCYPP was allocated £20,000 from Gloucestershire County Council to help support the strand of the youth offer 'Places to go – things to do'. The partnership allocated the funding through a small grants round. Applications for funding were considered under the following 5 themes;

- Increasing participation in arts, sports, recreational or socialising opportunities for young people
- Aimed at 13-19 year olds (up to 24 years with learning difficulties)
- Be run by or in direct partnership with a Voluntary or Community Group
- Run during the Summer or early Autumn 08
- Contribute to the reduction/prevention of at least one of the following, community bullying, underage drinking or youth anti social behaviour

4.3 The closing date for applications was Friday 13th June 2008 and 19 applications were received. The applications were evaluated by a sub group of the Children and Young People Partnership, against the 5 criteria. 10 projects were successful and awarded funding, those projects included;

Organisation	Description of Project	Sum Awarded
Kiss My Face Productions	Affordable, safe and enjoyable music events for young people	£5000
Cheltenham Youth for Christ	3 day sports event	£690
Onside	Summer holiday football programme	£1600
St. Pauls Football Club	To enable St Pauls Football Club to continue its work with young people	£1000
Chinese Children and Parents Association	Two week music club for young people that don't speak English	£2800
Whaddon Residents Association	Whaddon football tournament and activities in the Summer holidays	£230
Chill	BME targeted community activities in a variety of creative mediums	£3000
YMCA	Arts workshops over the Christmas holidays	£2000
Fairgame Theatre	Drama comedy and dance workshops over the Christmas holidays	£2500
Chinese Children and Parents Association	Event for young people to celebrate the Chinese New Year	£1500
	TOTAL:	£20,320

- 4.4 The partnership is now working on proposals for allocating Youth Offer funding in 2009-10.

My Place Funding

- 4.5 The partnership coordinated a bid for My Place funding which was to have been used to secure a new young people's facility at the Hardwicke Campus. Unfortunately the bid was not endorsed by the county children and young people's strategic partnership. The partnership continues to work with both Cheltenham YMCA and The Rock who have shown interest in submitting bids for future rounds of My Place funding.

Children and Young People's Event

- 4.6 The partnership worked with GCC to hold a consultation event at Cheltenham Ladies College on 8th October 2008 to identify key issues for local groups. The headline issues that came out from the afternoon workshops were:

- Community bullying was a concern and agencies having a consistent approach was seen as important.
- Parenting support of all kinds needs to be more widely available
- The introduction of the independent safeguarding authority was causing concern to agencies
- Underage drinking
- Need for family space so that families can enjoy time together
- Barriers around the Common Assessment framework
- Perceptions of anti social behaviour among young people.

- 4.7 This feedback has been used to shape the CCYPP action plan.

Common Assessment Framework

- 4.8 The partnership has been determined to work with partners to raise the uptake of the CAF process with Cheltenham partners. It has worked with GCC officers to understand the barriers to uptake and then work with partners to try and address these.

- 4.9 Improving use of the CAF process is a particular priority for the partnership and more work will be undertaken in 2009.

Play Strategy and Play Pathfinders

- 4.10 The partnership has established a sub-group to develop an updated play strategy by June 2009 for the borough; this will be partnership document that will be developed with key stakeholders to take into account current provision and the aspirations of the local community. Agreed priorities for the strategy are:

Aim one: To increase participation of children and young people

Children participation through play
Tackling obesity and emotional wellbeing
Access to arts and music

Aim two: To support all families to become happy and healthy

Family Play – (especially for families with children U5's)
Places to play – concentrating on family friendly community open spaces
Parenting support

Aim three: To create playful communities that are strong and sustainable.

Environmental play
Reducing anti social behaviour and bullying
Promoting community cohesion through play

Festivals and events

- 4.11** The partnership has also worked with CBC to agree which parks should benefit from the play pathfinders funding which has been allocated to Cheltenham.

Supporting sub-groups

- 4.12** The partnership has been represented on a number of theme groups including Domestic Violence Forum, Anti Social Behaviour Group, Youth Workers Network to ensure that the interests of children and young people are represented. The partnership has also supported the five area groups that sit under the partnership.

For further information, please contact

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