

**Notes of Early Years Steering Group Meeting held on Tuesday 17 March 2009
at 2.00pm Auchterderran Centre, Cardenden**

Present:

Duncan Simpson, Service Manager, Young People's Service (Chair)
 Mairi Ferris, Early Years Co-ordinator, Community Services
 Eric Anderson, Fife Constabulary
 Janis Walker, Pre-school Educational Home Visiting Service
 Lynn Gillies Voluntary Sector Children's Forum
 Mandy Mayo, Scottish Preschool Play Association
 Theresa Stevenson, Social Work
 Elly Alexander, Education Service

Attending: Linsey Brown, Information Assistant (Note taker)
 Jane Mason, Education Service

Apologies: Garry Crosbie, Senior Manager, Education Service
 Jane Crawford - Scottish Childminding Association
 Rhona Cunningham, Gingerbread.
 Val Hatch, NHS
 Maxine Moy, NHS
 Donna Manson, Education Officer
 Fiona Power, Children's Services Advisor

	Action
<p>1 Welcome / Apologies</p> <p>Duncan welcomed all to the meeting and asked that those present introduce themselves.</p> <p>Apologies received from Garry, Fiona, Donna, Rhona and Jane</p> <p>It was noted that this meeting clashes with Child Protection Meeting. Dates of EYSG to be re-circulated and adjustments made if necessary.</p>	<p></p> <p>LB/MF</p>
<p>2 Feedback on task set at meeting of 17 February</p> <p>Mairi fed back to group that 'pyramids' are still being emailed to her and that these would be collated and brought to the next meeting.</p> <p>Mairi will send out a reminder email with a deadline date 31st March for responses.</p> <p>This will be carried forward to next meeting</p>	<p>MF</p> <p>C/F</p>

3 Progress update on mapping

Mairi fed back on a meeting with Chris Mitchell Head of Corporate Research. Chris will support the work needed to provide comprehensive data for the early years and an Outline Brief was drafted.

Outline brief was handed out and there was discussion into priorities and gaps.

Mairi will make amendments to Fife Outline document and email to everyone for further comment before forwarding to Chris Mitchell.

MF

It was agreed that Mairi would highlight this work to other relevant groups for input to avoid any duplication of work.

MF

Chris Mitchell indicated that Corp Research would be able to provide basic early years data for the 1st EY Strategy (2009-10) with the analytical work taking place over the course of the next year. If using the Aberdeen Audit as a basis, is there any information that the EYSG would prioritise? This would allow a work plan to be established and information provided in sections over the year.

Mairi to email Aberdeen document for feedback.

MF

Children's Services Plan early years priorities – Outcome indicators

The Getting It Right in Fife (GIRIF) group are pulling together the CSP 2009-10 and the EYSG have been asked to submit Outcome Indicators for the priorities identified in January:

- A Coherent Approach
- Helping children, families & communities to secure outcomes themselves
- Using the strength of universal services to deliver prevention and early intervention.

	<p>It was agreed that it was difficult to identify outcome measures at this stage however; text will be needed in the CSP to highlight the Early Years Strategy and the work needed to identify/develop measurable indicators. Several indicators are already in the CSP & SOA relating to early years. Mairi to contact Bryan Kirkaldy regarding this.</p>	MF
	<p>It was reiterated that the EYSG needed to link with other groups such as GIRIF, the Parenting Group, Corporate Parenting etc to ensure a coherent approach. Mairi to discuss with Garry.</p>	MF
5	<p>Joint Health Improvement Plan – Early Years priorities</p>	
	<p>Mairi highlighted to the group that at the last GIRIF meeting two JHIP priorities previously remitted to the Children’s Services Group had now been remitted to the EYSG for monitoring. Short-term indicators for these are required. It was agreed that Mairi contact Sarah Ballantine/Vivienne Brown for further background information and feedback.</p>	MF
6	<p>Early Years Strategy</p>	
	<p>The group discussed the draft Action Plan and made amendments and recommendations. Mairi to incorporate these and email group for further comment. It was highlighted that if the Early Years Strategy is to be put forward for Committee in May at same time as CSP 2009-10, the draft would need to be with Ken Greer for the end of April. It was agreed that Mairi would work on this and get comments back from the group by email/phone, as the next meeting date is not until 5 May. Mairi will confirm progress of CSP Committee Report and discuss with Garry.</p>	ALL MF
7	<p>AOCB</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Education Developments: Paper circulated. Jane highlighted that due to commitments in the Concordat along with drivers in the Early Years Framework, Education were looking to develop their early years delivery to meet these needs. The Education Service would be asking nurseries to opt in to a pilot model from summer 2009. The proposed changes would mean that partners would be able to access the same training opportunities as education colleagues. A paper is being submitted to Committee in April. Group members acknowledged the developments and gave support. Garry/Donna to update at next meeting. 	GC/DM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Early Years Conference: Group members given information about a national conference on Implementing the Early Years 	

Framework to be held in Edinburgh on 20 May. Mairi & Duncan are attending.

- Mairi updated that work had started with Michelle Sweeney, Creative links and Sandra Martin, Education Service to enable young children & families to have a voice in the development of the Early Years Strategy through creative consultations over 2009-10. Funding would need to be identified and secured to do this work. The consultations would be for the EYSG under the banner of the Big Shout. Mairi would keep group updated.
- Duncan advised that the National Youth Framework is being published on 27 April 2009. Briefing to be brought to next meeting.
- Tackling Inequalities event: Mairi has been meeting with Robert McGregor, Sinead O Donnell and Vivienne Brown to look at holding a Fife event to look at how the Early Years Framework, Equally Well Implementation Plan and Achieving Our Potential link together and how the Fairer Fife Framework provides a local mechanism for this work. Scoping paper circulated for information/comment.
- Play Strategy: Mairi updated that there had been some renewed focus in the development of a Play Strategy and key people had been meeting to draw up proposals. Mairi to report back at next meeting.

MF

DS

MF

8 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 5th May 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Tutorial 3, Auchterderran Centre, Cardenden