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| **Dorchester Locality**  **Local Alliance Group**  **Minutes**  **Thursday 22nd June 2023 – County Hall and Microsoft Teams Online** |
| **Meeting attendees:** |
| **Chair:** Sian Merriott  **Attendees**:  Karen Weir (Wessex Multi-Academy Trust) Kate Parkman, Alison Williams, Sue Wilson, Vicky Burrows, Nicola Blair, Rebecca Watson (programme lead family hub), Mary Rossant (health visiting clinical lead), Vicky Burrows, Holly Jenkinson, David Alderson, Paula Golding, Sam Robinson, Sian Merriott, David Dinsmore, Jayne Lewis, Nicky Blair, Stella Jones, Lisa Gray (Education Challenge Lead), Georgina Bartlett (PCN)  **Minutes**: Laurel Burn |
| **Apologies:** |
| Naomi Mason, DPCC, Wendy Lax, Tracey Hindle, Sarah Stockham |

| **No** | **Item Minutes** |  |
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| **1** | **Welcome, Apologies & Introductions** |  |
| **1.1** |  |  |
| **2** | * Rebecca Watson gave a presentation on family hub development within Dorchester locality. * Overview of context of family hub led by department of education. Funding to pilot ways of working and innovative ways to work together. Further partnership working and build on established relationships and commitments. Grant funded programme with set of requirements from department of education. How families know about services and how they are enabled to access them – data and information sharing working across organisations in a more creative way and evidence-based practice. * Set criteria – building requirements connect families to the right support if they are dropping in and seeking information advice and guidance. * Detailed mapping around the current service offer so things are accessible via the family hub. Requirement that we offer health visiting. * Family hub framework and family hub expectations * Based on rural nature of Dorset and varying needs – 4 approaches to delivery – partnership approach is the preferred approach * It’s not possible for families to drop into hubs – too rural – so a community approach is preferred. * Implementation plan letting people know about family hub agenda and how it could be implemented. * LAG seen as important oversight group. * Identified Dorchester Library as potential site for a family hub. * David Dinsmore raised that access to services in Lyme Regis is a real issue * Ali asked whether Rebecca was aware that there is also a transformation in mental health project. Rebecca confirmed that Helen Duncan-Jordan is on the project board. Ali will take this model back to the transformation group in mental health. * The group were asked to consider Dorchester Library as a space. Stella asked if we would be using the smaller rooms and Rebecca confirmed that we would. The plan is to open at the end of the summer, into the autumn 2023. Working with library colleagues. * How we can engage colleagues – partners’ workshop to explore broader thoughts about what the hub should look like. We were asked whether we considered this to be helpful – Sian confirmed that it would be of interest to some. Paula explained that we need to have really good partnership engagement for this project. * Service mapping to identify gaps. Families often struggle to access the right support. Workforce development opportunities, trauma informed practice, continuing development, share good practice, planning and delivery of services. Take up of services within the area. * Louisa asked how close we were to ‘signing on the dotted line with the Library’ – how operational teams begin to make relationships. Nicky said from the library perspective, really looking forward to getting involved. Paula said need to get involved in the workshops. Rebecca is coming up with a proposal of how they can use the space. Rebecca said almost at that stage – she visited the library last week. * Paula suggested we did the workshop at the library – action for Rebecca. * Pulling together programme – Rebecca to come back to Louisa and Paula about this. * Stella asked what happens when the library is closed . Rebecca confirmed that support would be available through the virtual online offer and national-approved helplines. * Paula - Natural place to go, no stigma. * Generally felt to be exciting | **Action: Rebecca Watson** |
| **3** | Minutes of the last meeting were approved. |  |
| **4** | * Sue Wilson gave a presentation on best start in life – improving school readiness/ready to thrive. * Some of our pre-schools are saying they don’t have space until next September. * One childminder is graded outstanding, but a day nursery is graded as inadequate. Sue explained that under the local provider agreement, we can withdraw funding, but there isn’t space in remaining day nursery. We have a duty to work with a setting that is less than good, but we RAG rate and work with all settings. * Portage – children with SEND of possible SEND or chronic health condition, working towards EHC Plan. * We have set up early years performance meetings with West Locality. |  |
| **5** | * Ready to Thrive project – received the money last minute, working with home-start - £20,000. * To get parents ready for their children going to school * Helen Horsley is happy to have this as a rolling programme (Home-Start) Vicky said happy to have 1:1 visits but because money was received late, only one setting referred children. Sue Jones and Helen are writing a bid to come to LAG for children coming to school in 2024. * Team around Dorset Special School – one particular first school that is taking children with special needs. Hoping it will hold them in mainstream school. Paula asked whether we could spend it Sept/Oct, but Sue thinks it must be spent by August. Stella asked if the opportunity group put children forward, but Sue confirmed they hadn’t yet. * How managing portage is changing due to increase in numbers of children with the levels of need. * Government funding – some settings can’t offer the 15 hours funded childcare. * Communication issue due to Covid, masks etc * Setting that requires improvement can’t take a funded two-year-old. Louisa clarified that the setting needs to be good or outstanding to be able to support the child. * Paula confirmed that there is Dorset Education Board representation from the council – Liz Curtis-Jones. |  |
| **6** | Update on priority groups   * Kate Parkman – sub group for youth – David Alderson, Emma Scott, Josh Why – how young people know about what is available to them, how they access reach without hand holding youth worker. Willdoes outreach bus – Friday night outside the library – to be booked through summer holidays and into the winter months. Louisa asked if the library were unsure about youth, but Nicky said they were keen for the bus to come. Contextual safeguarding training completed at the library. Kate has gained a grant EET education employment and training. Carousel sessions at THS. Karen to raise this with Nick at THS. Specific sessions on mental health and wellbeing at THS. |  |
| **7** | LAG funding  £100,000 – this money should be evidenced well and used well   |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Provider | Cost | summary | Priority link | agreed | | DLC/ Dorchester Middles/Secondary | £20,000 | Attendance Family Worker for Severe/ Persistent absence  20-40 students  Employing a person – there have been challenges about money being used to fund someone. Paula thinks this is a good idea – Paula will come back to LAG about this – Agreed outside of the meeting on 23/06/2023 | Inclusion/ emotional well being | Yes | | Kingfisher Learning Centre | £3000 | Improve environment to improve accessibility for children with additional/mental health needs Different, positive impact for lots of children. | Inclusion | Yes | | Prince of Wales | £3000 | Healthy and affordable cooking project. 48 families over a year. Expansion of current project to include families. Something different. | Best start in life | Yes | | Relate and Wessex MAT | £19,980 | Counselling to improve mental health  74 children  Broader remit than mental health support service in school, no counselling in CAMHS. Ali was in favour. Lisa - Biggest need | Inclusion/ Emotional Wellbeing | Yes | | St Osmunds | £3000 | Forest School transition project. Year 5 students - pupil premium, anxiety and school avoidance | Inclusion | Yes | | St Osmunds | £3000 | Summer  school transition project - 60 (increase from current project for 120) year 5 and year 6 pupils - last week of summer hols. PP, poor attendance and attainment. . Declined summer school because it is an existing project and would be duplicate funding. |  | No | | Studio School | £3025 | Locker project - 85 children. Declined – school should fund |  | No | | Puddletown St Mary's | £3000 | Summer school - 40 year 5's transitioning to year 6 | Inclusion | Yes | | Studio School | £3012 | Summer school - year 6/7 - 15 students - 2 weeks | Inclusion | Yes | | Dorchester Youth Centre | £12580 | GRT project - school/family link working  Gypsy Roma traveller at Piddlehinton Camp, need for youth worker to link children into education, tested – children in school regularly. Development on this. Funding existing staff. Consortium with schools. | Inclusion | Yes | | Total | £67,572 |  |  |  | |  |