

Minutes

Children's Integrated Commissioning Group

Tues 10th June 2009
Oldham Civic Centre

Present:	Anne Nikolaou	Oldham Council
	Linda Lewis	Oldham Council - Finance
	Ed Francis	Oldham Council
	Shirley Allen	Oldham Partnership Support Team
	Jill Beaumont	Oldham Council
	Adrian Ball	Oldham VCS Hub
	Keith McCabe	NHS Oldham
	Jane Hughes	Oldham VCS Hub

Apologies: Maria Greenwood
Mark Connolly Lihanne Nelson
Jonathan Lilliott Neil Stott

In the absence of a permanent Chair, Jill Beaumont agreed to Chair the meeting

1. Minutes of Last Meeting 5th May 2009 and Matters Arising.

Ed confirmed that Maria had accepted the invitation to join the group.

Ed confirmed that he was in dialogue around how we manage/monitor Think Family monies. Think Family funding covers the Action For Children Project which therefore is not a call on ABG monies.

2. Area Based Grant 2009/10

The spend profile for 2009/10 had been approved at the Children's Trust Executive Board on 4th June. There was approximately £118,000 currently unallocated with several business cases outstanding.

Linda Lewis raised the issue of the cut to ICT monies that had been paid last year. Ed and Shirley confirmed that there had been no agreement or returns evidenced last year despite extensive chasing up of the manager concerned. **Agreed that Linda look into this from the finance perspective.**

As at previous meetings, the issue of reporting performance and expenditure to the ICG was discussed. It was agreed that any evaluation activity should be prioritised to the high value/high risk projects.

Jill raised the issue of reports to the Children's Trust Executive Board as she felt that the ICG needed to be more accountable. Ed confirmed that the recent submission of the spending profile was an attempt to cover this gap.

2. **(cont)** A proposal to fund a project around infrastructure support to the VCS Hub was presented by Adrian Ball and Ed. The Business Case was still being worked up but a spending profile had been established and the aims of the project were considered by the ICG. The project included the pooling of resources with the Big Lottery funding that was supporting the work of the Oldham Children and Young People's Alliance. **The project was approved in principle with the Business Case to be submitted at the next meeting.**

It was agreed that Ed would chase up the outstanding Business Cases (Anti Bullying, Street College).

3. **Summer Activities Grant Programme**

Shirley gave the background to the recent initiative where organisations were invited to bid to provide activities across three age bands over the summer. The main aim was to contribute to community cohesion and the money had come from last year's ABG underspends. It was apparent that the available monies were insufficient for the level of interest particularly as it appeared that the Council's own Integrated Youth Service were to receive the majority as a topslice. Adrian confirmed that he was a member of the panel considering the bids.

After considerable discussion it was agreed that the ICG would commit £50,000 of it's ABG allocation to supplement the existing pot. This was on the proviso that bids from local VCS organizations covering the two younger age bands would be prioritised and any underspend would be returned to the ICG.

Agreed – Shirley Allen to progress transfer of £50,000 to Summer Activities Programme.

4. **DCSF Commissioning Support Programme**

Ed had previously circulated details of the programme and confirmed that some time in the autumn, Oldham would undertake the self assessment that would ultimately lead to an improvement plan and the ability to utilise bespoke consultancy support. This work would link in to the work around Children's Trust governance.

5. **Any Other Business.**

i) Porter Street.

The issue of current funding and monitoring arrangements regarding the supported accommodation at Porter Street was discussed. It was agreed that Ed and Keith would meet to identify who the current purchasers of services were and what respective financial contributions they made.

ii) Homestart.

Adrian raised the issue of Oldham Homestart and representations they were making around current funding challenges. The group discussed the issue of core funding organisations and how Councils had generally moved away from this. **Agreed Ed would make contact with Homestart to discuss.**

6. **Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 10th July 2009 1pm.**

