

Minutes

Children's Integrated Commissioning Group

Weds 6th February 2009

Meeting Room, Level 10, Oldham Civic Centre

Present:	Alan Lee (Chair)	Oldham Council
	Teresa Broadbent	Oldham Council
	Neil Stott	Oldham Council - Finance
	Ed Francis	Oldham Council
	Adrian Ball	Oldham HUB
	Shirley Allen	Oldham Partnership Support Team
	Teresa Broadbent	Oldham Council
	Lianne Nelson	Oldham Council

Apologies:	Simone Spray
Jane Hughes	Mark Connolly
Keith McCabe	Jill Beaumont
Anne Nikolaou	

MINUTES

1. Minutes of Last Meeting 7th January and Matters Arising.

2008/9 ABG – Freeze Panel.

Alan clarified the position and as a member confirmed that spend against ABG allocations was subject to approval via the freeze panel. This has increased the probability of underspends at year end.

Support to Young Carers

Invitation to tender to be placed on Oldham Partnership website imminently.

2. Area Based Grant 2008/9.

Shirley Allen confirmed that underspends were expected to contribute to the Chief Executive's 'warchest' in relation to the credit crunch. She confirmed the likelihood that the underspends against Children's Fund were likely to be approved for carry forward.

3. Area Based Grant Allocations 2009/10 and 2010/11.

Consideration was given to the confirmed allocations for the next two financial years. Shirley confirmed that a confirmatory letter would be issued the following week. The allocations were along the lines of what was expected including DCSF uplifts where appropriate. Ed Francis raised the issue of the uplift in PAYP Funding which still hadn't been resolved.

In respect of ABG allocations as a whole, Alan noted the increases in Communications and the Public Service Board, Shirley highlighted a related cut in Partnership Support.

Ed and Alan Lee to chase up issue of PAYP uplift with Jill Beaumont.

Ed informed the group of activity that was underway looking at cross cutting activities across the Blocks including the 'No Wrong Door' approach. He promised to keep the ICG aware of developments.

4. Business Case - Play Development.

Ed presented a Business Case on behalf of the Oldham Play Partnership which recommended a one year commission from OPAG as preferred provider. The group had previously been aware of the withdrawal of OPAG's funding from the Priority Programme funding pot. It was agreed by the group that the work undertaken by OPAG was a priority and that it was pragmatic to choose OPAG as preferred provider at this time. **The Business Case was approved in principle dependant on next year's ABG allocation.**

Adrian Ball raised the issue of transparency particularly around prioritisation and how Business Cases were generated, something he had raised before. Both Ed and Alan confirmed that he was making a valid point and that following the development of the Integrated Commissioning Strategy, there would be activity to engage VCS organisations in clarifying the process.

5. Early Childhood Services Funding 2009/10

Ed outlined how Maria Greenwood had requested that the ICG provide oversight into how the various funding streams received in Early Childhood Services were spent as part of an improved system of governance. This would mainly consist of the group having the overview of the spend and commissioning processes and also being able to align the funding alongside ABG. Teresa Broadbent stated her support of this request.

Agreed.

6. A.O.B.

Ed was aware of a briefing that was being prepared by Maria Greenwood regarding Oldham's current position on Neighbourhoods (Localities). He agreed to circulate to ICG members.

7. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 4th March 1pm – 3pm.