



**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January Minutes**  
**4:30 – 6:30**  
**Room L Civic Offices**

Present: Amy, Isabel, Soraya, Leonie, Ben, George, Ben, Dan, Tobi  
Visitors: David Hart, Sharon George, Andrew Olive, Hayden Ginns, Charlie Adie, Bruce Marr & Brian Schimmel.

Apologies: Andy, Eliza, Amy, Phillipa, Lauren

The meeting was a joint session, from a number of people from the Integrated Youth Support Services (IYSS) Steering group who are working towards improving meaningful dialogue with the young people of this city so that we can have some kind of impact on the policies that affect us, and to allow us to have a greater voice in the structure. This has previously been considered an area that needs improvement. They also came to discuss the arrangements of the Children's Trust Board and Joint Commissioning Group, and the possibility of a place for person(s) of the Portsmouth Youth Parliament on it.

We were told (and given handout) about the council Children's and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2009-2011. There was a given number of factors that influenced the formation of it for example: data on child outcomes and service performances, and the 2008 Joint Area Review Inspection, and also the views of young people themselves, but this again was identified as an area of weakness that is now being addressed more fully. The new CYPP includes 13 priorities and 23 commissioning plans.

The Priorities:

1. Improving Health with the subdivisions: teenage conception, substance misuse, obesity and breast-feeding.
2. Improving emotional well-being.
3. Improving outcomes for children with disabilities.
4. Improving educational attainment including: Early Years Plan, school age attainment and raising attainment by 19.
5. Improving access to education, including school absences, fixed term exclusions and anti-bullying.
6. Promoting pro-social behaviour with subdivisions: youth offending and domestic violence.
7. Enabling young people to engage and enjoy, including NEET, take up of positive activities, and supporting young carers.
8. Improving outcomes for looked after children.
9. Supporting Parenting.
10. Improving safeguarding.
11. Developing the children's workforce.
12. Improving governance and commissioning.

Comments on the priorities included that PYP was considered to be one of the priorities, but there already considered to be too many. It was said that some of the priorities had overlapping goals which may later be combined. Also mentioned was the fact that a lot of the priorities targeted vulnerable children and young people and although this is a good thing, this doesn't proportionally present the needs of the youth as a whole. Our manifesto shares the same focus on health although there is less of a focus on culture, except in the IYSS lead group in priority 7.

Children's Trust Board is the most influential part of the services for youth, and has about 15-20 representatives from health, schools, colleges (Portsmouth and Highbury) the police, the community etc. This Board reports to the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). This board is necessary by law, and when asked by Leonie whether a possible change of government in May would affect this, Hayden Ginns replied, no, although the budget is expected to be cut. Currently, £120 million is spent in Portsmouth on children and young people services, and although a lot of this money is fixed in how it is spent, there is still quite a lot of room for manoeuvre.

The Joint Commissioning Group reports to the Children's Trust Board as a kind of intermediary step, necessary because the 16 hours of meetings per year of the CTB is not enough for all to be achieved, and the CTB delegates to the JCG.

It was also noted that the services had a huge number of acronyms which made things hard to understand for people who are not used to it, this was discussed, and mentioned that having young people participating in meetings allows for explanation of terms, which is beneficial to all.

The purpose of the joint session was to allow the people working in the services to reach and communicate with the young people of Portsmouth in a non-tokenistic way, via PYP – which is considered an umbrella group to all young people's groups and schools etc. It was asked of us if this was true, and we replied yes, to a certain extent: we were more representative of young people than other organisations, but we are constrained by people feeling afraid to come to meetings and from lack of awareness. To begin with, there were more people interested, but this has been difficult to maintain. We agreed that while we were not nearly wholly representative this was something we were aware of, and not satisfied with, and work will be ongoing to outreach to as many people as possible, by visiting them etc.

Next was discussion of different models of how PYP could feedback and share views with the different Boards etc. The first suggestion was that PYP chose 13 representatives to go to each of the different priority meetings, but this was considered to be quite a large and ultimately unfeasible model, as the meetings take place within the school day. Meetings were said to occur either 4 or 6 times a year. As well as this, it was felt by the young people that our input would be less considered and diluted by different reports from the priority groups onwards to the JCG and then to the CTB.

The second model had the same issue of dilution of input, and had the impracticality of one person going to all of the priority groups because of school etc.

It was also suggested that the priority groups should come and present to PYP, but this was felt to be not as strong a communication method between the two groups, and also that they would be more difficult and infrequent to organise.

The third model had a better consensus, as it allows us to feed directly, via a chosen advocate or two (to allow for good consistency of participation – the people would always know what was going on, although this would take some time to get used to, and also if one couldn't make the meetings etc.) to the IYSS, CTB and JCG, instead of through them. It was asked whether we would like to also feed onto other priority

groups, and the first one was suggested, as it concerns health as it was one of our manifesto focuses, but we also did not want to take on such a huge amount all in one go.

On considering who could be the advocate(s) on these boards, it was suggested that a gap year student, who would get paid, could do so, but there was a general uncertainty of whom this could apply to in PYP, except Leonie who mentioned that she was potentially interested, pending exam results.

Reaffirmed that PYP is for 11-19 year olds primarily although exceptions could be made for up until 25 for advocates etc, and that we currently were not looking for representatives aged below 11 years, from the primary COPS although this is definitely an option later on.

End of Joint Session.

Break in meeting

Discussion of Leila's leaving PYP, and her new job, then talking about and completing the Terence Higgins Trust evaluation form, for the money they awarded us to make the sexual health and relationships videos. We promised to get the video out to all young people of school age.

Brief discussion about re-election of UKYP representatives, and ideas about making it an online election, to increase participation as last year's one was a bit of a let-down in terms of attendance, especially after all the work Leila and Kat had done.

All Leads of the 3 manifesto working groups were given info on the possible future projects and have been asked to look over info and arrange with in groups to start meeting with services involved.

Manifesto groups

1. Health- Lead (Leonie)
2. Culture- Lead (Ben D)
3. Money/Jobs- Lead (Andy) – Ben M temporarily took on this role as Andy was absent from meeting

Health will be focussing on:

- Your Welcome and supporting the new health focus group
- Sexual Health DVD Project (complete editing of film) and session plans for schools
- Work with Health Towns Project and support what they do.

Culture will be focussing on:

- PUSH and the projects they have available & City Museums (can be joint)
- Global Magnets (2012 games)
- Under 18's nights (up to group if still want to continue with this)

Money/Jobs will be focussing on:

- Young Money and supporting the application process
- 3in1 Card and Transport
- Radio Show (this can however have all PYP included in show, needs a group)

to take it forwards) (George to support please)

These groups and linked projects are not set in stone and if yp in each group feel they can support other group projects then please feel free to do so.

Amy is happy to support any areas of this and has suggested that each group arranges to meet up and discuss in more detail, this can be agreed between them with the lead getting the ball rolling.

Next meeting February 16<sup>th</sup> (half term) provisionally booked in for 4.30 start this can however be changed if YP want in day.