

Preston Community Network
The voice of the voluntary and community sector in Preston

Children's Trust VCFS Forum
Every Child Matters – VCFS Engagement Conference
20 April 2010

Gujarat Hindu Centre, South Meadow Lane, Preston.



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local focus national voice



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 9.30 Arrive, registration, refreshments**
- 9.45 Welcome and introduction to the day**
Sian Davis – Chair of Children’s Trust VCFS Forum
- 9.50 The Every Child Matters Agenda and Preston Children’s Trust**
Cllr Julie Buttle
Preston City Council Lead Member for Children and Young People
Chair of Preston Children’s Trust
- 10.10 The role of the Community Network VCFS Forum**
Sian Davis – Children’s Services Manager: Barnardo’s Moving On Project
Chair of Children’s Trust VCFS Forum
Julie Humphrey: Co-ordinator Preston Community Network
- 10.30 Break**
- 10.50 The Common Assessment Framework**
Ruth Gardener / Joanne Stephenson
CAF Support Officers
- 11.30 The Independent Safeguarding Authority**
‘Vetting and barring’ – what it means to third sector organisations and what you need to do.
Pauline Ruth: Children England
- 12.15 Lunch**
- 12.45 Doing it Right – Workshop: Safeguarding Policy for small voluntary and community groups**
Ann Potter Barnardo’s
- 1.45 Integrated Workforce**
Danny Walsh Project Officer - Integrated Working
Lancashire County Council
- 3.30 Close**

Thanks to our speakers/facilitators

Cllr Julie Buttle	Chair: Preston Children’s Trust
Sian Davis	Chair: Children’s trust VCFS Forum
Julie Humphrey	Co-ordinator: Preston Community Network
Ruth Gardener	CAF Support Officer
Joanne Stephenson	CAF Support Officer
Pauline Ruth	Children England
Ann Potter	Barnardo’s TLC
Danny Walsh	Integrated Working Project Officer – LCC

Introduction:

The voluntary, community and faith sector plays a role in both advocacy and delivery of services for children and young people. Its involvement in new mechanisms for the development and delivery of services is crucial if children and young people are to remain at the heart of community-organised activities and the community's management of its own future.

This conference, funded by NAVCA and Lancashire County Council, was organised by Preston Community Network to raise awareness of issues around the Every Child Matters agenda and to encourage local groups to get more involved and engaged with the Preston Children's Trust.



Cllr Julie Buttle Chair of Preston's Children's Trust

Workshop: 'doing it right'- safeguarding policy for small voluntary and community Groups



Anne Potter, of Barnardo's TLC: Doing it Right: safeguarding policies for small groups

Group 1

- Model child protection / safeguarding policy for new groups.
- Peer support for smaller groups through network.
- Free accessible safeguarding training for smaller groups.
- Annual organisational refresh, training support.
- Full lost recovery – budget for safeguarding.
- Knowing if policies are correct



Group 2

- Keeping policy updated, (Is it live?)
- What about young people as volunteers?
- What about volunteers with learning disabilities?
- Training programmes, policy & guidelines, website.
- Making sure that everyone is kept informed
- Different methods and approaches to engage volunteers



Group 3

- Ideally everybody to either be involved in creation / reviewing of the policy.
- Issues around disclosure / whistle blowing and how it's managed and supported.
- Confidentiality issues
- Training and education around disclosure with staff and volunteers.

- Organisation to make a decision 'on a needs to know basis'
- Champion organisation to support the VCFS
- Important to be part of network to gain access to training and resources.
- An agreed structure in place to support staff & volunteers in the procedures and policies.



Group 4

- Old – review regularly
- New organisation – finding out
- Adapting policies
- One off warning? need to revisit
- Policy to practice
- Staff complacency
- Different to meet us targets, i.e. time to consider and reflect.
- Past ref challenges - de-jargon.



Group 5

- Having confidence to write one – not rocket science
- Actually implementing it – people taking notice.
- Potential issues of getting checks done on some workers, e.g. immigrants. So ensure the policy or procedure is workable.
- Funding for training staff
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Group 6

- Knowing if the policies we have are correct



Sian Davis Children's Services Manager at Barnardo's Moving on Project and Chair of the Children's Trust VCFS Forum

Evaluation Analysis

Total returned = 23

Agenda Item	Very Useful	Useful	Average	Little use	No Use
Overall Event	10	4			
Topic: The Children's Trust and the ECM agenda	10	7	3		
Topic: Role of Community Network and Children's Trust VCFS Forum	10	9	2	1	
Topic: Common Assessment framework	16	7			

Topic: Independent Safeguarding Authority	21	2			
Workshop: Do it Right – safeguarding policy for small groups	16	6	1		
Topic: Integrated workforce	11	7	3		

	Excellent	Very Good	Good	Fair	Poor
Venue / Domestic Arrangements	5	13	3	1	

	Too advanced	About Right	Too Basic
Level of Course		22	

	Yes	No	Unsure
Has the training given you a better understanding of Every Child Matters agenda?	20	1	
Will this event enable you to improve practice in your organisation and improve your services to children, young people and families	18		2

Some of the comments:-

What aspects of the day did you find most useful and why?

- Finding out about different agencies for children
- Independent Safeguarding - very informative at a personal and charity- based level
- Independent safeguarding
- Networking – good chance to meet new people catch up with people
- ISA presentation – very informative



*'The Common Assessment Framework – very informative'
(Joanne Stephenson and Ruth Gardner: the Common Assessment Framework*

- The Common Assessment Framework – very informative
- Children’s Trust information
- All information given – good for implementation
- Integrated workforce – doing it right – they were all useful
- CAF – Easy to understand (simplest explanation)
- Good for networking
- All information was useful as it has given me a good deal to think about and a lot to implement
- I really enjoyed the group activities – it was needed to keep everyone focused after lunch
- Information re Children’s Trust. Preston update really useful.
- CAF update – interesting that more work is needed on this in the voluntary sector
- ISA presentation excellent – it explained a lot of the issues
- Learning about safeguarding and integrated working
- Children’s Trust information and integrated workforce information
- CAF and ISA
- CAF – the simple explanation of how it works after going on level 1 2 and 3
- Safeguarding and integrated workforce
- ISA and refresh on all CAF etc
- Everything as it was all informative
- ISA and CAF – workshops very helpful to work things through – liked power point displays and handouts – well presented and useful info

What aspects of the day did you find least useful and why?

- Nothing – each subject was worth listening to
- None – all useful
- Workshop didn’t generate much output
- Would like to have had more input on self assessment tool and what’s happening in relation to roll out, support, training etc
- Long day to digest all presentations
- Would have been good to finish at 2.30pm, many had to leave by then
- Although all information was important and useful it was a long day to digest all the presentations
- The whole day was really useful – good to network and share good practice.
- It felt like a whistle-stop tour – very useful but would have been excellent spaced over two days
- Some information had already been shared at other training session



Danny Walsh, Project Officer: Integrated working - Integrated Working in Lancashire’s Children’s Workforce’

Attendance List

	Name	Organisation
1	Salma Ali	Preston Domestic Violence Services
2	Sufina Aslam	Sisters 4 Sisters
3	Dave Aspinall	Preston Grip
4	June Barberel	P-PAL Circus Skills
5	Ali Barkley	Intact
6	Mrs A Barrowcliffe	Cancer Help Preston Ltd
7	Barbara Bidwell	Action For Children
8	Sapphira Bourne	Urban Exchange
9	Clare Burscough	Leyland Fire and Rescue Service
10	Sue Earnshaw	Signpost Multi Agency Resource Centre (MARC) Ltd
11	Edgar Clarke	Schools Out
12	Cllr Carl Crompton	Preston City Council / Lancashire County Council
13	Angela Flynn	Nacro Preston Youth Inclusion Project
14	Ann Gill	Home Start Preston
15	Rosie Green	PCC Neighbourhood Management
16	Claire Gooch	Lancashire County Council- District Partnership Office
17	Mr J Gorick	Cancer Help Preston Ltd
18	Mark Gutteridge	Community Futures
19	Lee Harrington	Disability Equality North West
20	Val Higginbottom	Fulwood Free Methodist Church
21	Evi Ioannidis	Foxton Centre
22	Brian Johnson	Lancashire Global Education Centre
23	Zeshan Hamid	Pukar Disability Resource Centre
24	Suzanne Newson	Moor Nook Estate Management Board
25	Kerrie Lancaster	Ashdale Community Association
26	Jo Lloyd	Preston Domestic Violence Services
27	Jinty Longstaff	Community Gateway
28	Sherril Lovatt	Play Inclusion Project
29	Iain Mackie	Ingol & Tanterton Community Trust
30	Sarah Malone	Play Inclusion Project
31	Hussain Master	Fishwick Rangers Youth Development Service
32	Dr Alethea Melling	University of Central Lancashire
33	Mrs M O'Domoghue	Cancer Help Preston Ltd
34	Freda F Olsson	Ashdale Community Association
35	Alexandra Ord	Foxton Centre
36	Mr Pratap Parmar	Disability Equality North West
37	Hana Patel	Pukar Disability Resource Centre
38	Karen Robinson	Nacro- Presto Youth Inclusion Project
39	Anna Richards	Lancashire Vinvolved Team
40	Olwen Sutcliffe	St Catherine's Hospice
41	Kathryn Talboys	Drugline Lancashire
42	Sheree Turner-Birchall	Young Lancashire
43	Jack Wilson	Ashdale Community Association
44	Helen Worrall	Schools Out