Minutes

Meeting: Board Meeting
Date: 20 March 2019
Time: 10:00-14:00
Location: 102 Petty France
Protective marking: Official

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Taylor (Chair)</td>
<td>Colin Allars (Chief Executive)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Tytherleigh (Board member)</td>
<td>Steph Roberts-Bibby (Chief Operating Officer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neil Rhodes (Board member)</td>
<td>Ann Skamarasuskas (Director of Organisational Development &amp; Change)</td>
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<td>Keith Fraser (Board member)</td>
<td>Mairi Warrington (Director of Strategy and Planning)</td>
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<td>Mairead Healy (Board member)</td>
<td>Martin Skeats (Director of Programme Delivery)</td>
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<td>Alan Wood (Board member)</td>
<td>Paul Clarke (Presenter – item 3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Byrne (Board member)</td>
<td>Maggie Olarewaju-David (Presenter – item 4)</td>
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<td>Gillian Fairfield (Board Member – joined from Item 2)</td>
<td>Lena Parmar (Presenter - item 5)</td>
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<td>Neale Hazel (Board member)</td>
<td>Nicola Kefford (Presenter – item 6)</td>
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<td>Sharon Gray (Board member)</td>
<td>Hanna Lewis (Presenter - item 6)</td>
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<td>Helga Swidenbank (Presenter – item 7)</td>
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<td>Giles McCathie (Presenter – item 7)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Giulia Romiti (Senior Evidence and Effective Practice Advisor) Observed meeting</td>
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<td>Stephanie Dilloway (Head of Chief Executive’s Office)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Genet Tefera (minutes)</td>
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<th>Apologies</th>
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<tr>
<td>Keith Towler (Board member)</td>
<td>Phil Douglas (Presenter)</td>
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Apologies

Keith Towler (Board member)  Phil Douglas (Presenter)
1. **Business Papers**

**Apologies, Chair’s Introduction, Minutes and outstanding Actions**

1. The Board agreed the following:

   a) Board Minutes (Draft) 18 December – To amend Nicky Hill’s job title in the minutes.
   b) Board Minutes (Draft) 13 February.
   c) Board Outstanding Actions Log (Combined 18 Dec and 13 Feb) – Nicky Hill will attend the June Board. All actions are agreed complete.

2. Colin informed the Board that Stephanie Roberts–Bibby’s post will be extended for 12 months.

**Board Member Activity Schedule / Register of Interests / Gifts and Hospitality Register**

3. The Board noted the following:

   a) the Board member’s activity schedule;
   b) the Board member’s register of interests, and;
   c) the gifts and hospitality register.

2. **Chief Executive’s Report including performance and programme update**

4. Colin Allars began by raising the notable departures that were mentioned in the report - Paul Clarke and Lisa Harvey-Messina. Permanent recruitment for the posts are being undertaken and the IE post has had many applicants.

5. Colin informed the Board that the Staff Event that took place last week went very well. Staff are embracing the Boards expectations.

6. The Community and Secure Oversight section of the report highlights the level of ministerial engagement that has been undertaken. The Ministers now look at the YJB as trusted advisors.

7. Colin informed the Board that there is good work going into the abolishment of short sentences changes and that we continue to contribute to the policy developments in this area.

8. Colin said we are still waiting to be advised of the budget for next year. Colin raised that the difficult decision the board has is the allocation of the grant to local authorities. Colin also expects the MOJ will ask the Boards view on the next spending review.

9. Colin has asked for The Board to return the Board effectiveness questionnaires by the given deadline.
10. Neal Hazel asked Colin how the relationship with the YJB and Minister Argar has changed and improved. Colin explained that the improvement arose from the Ministers accepting that the YJB is an independent expert which is outside of MOJ Charlie raised that Minister Stewart, as well as Minister Argar is very positive about the advice being received. A green paper is being developed on sentencing by which the YJBs opinion will be sought.

**Action:** Mairi Warrington is keen to bring a paper to the next Board meeting.

11. Gillian Fairfield joined the meeting.

**Action:** Charlie raised that IICSA is a part of Sharon Gray’s strand and to look at the recommendations of what we are advising YCS.

12. Keith informed the Board that the Move and transition to Clive House has been well received and positive.

**ICT Strategy**

13. Paul Clarke introduced the ICT paper and suggested a way forward to develop a five-year strategy.

14. The information must flow the right way so the effective flow of information is key to ensuring children are safe. Brian believes the 5-year strategy is very important as the ICT is the biggest part of the YJB’s discretionary spend. Need to make sure that spending the money is improving outcomes for children. The Board stressed that they wanted urgency and pace with the work. It was agreed that we would develop a set of proposals for consideration at the Board in September that we can start to implement in the 20/21 budget year. The Board also wanted a review of internal ICT. The Board were keen for us to extract ourselves from legacy arrangements and make sure the system is fit for purpose for what we do now. Brian Tytherleigh and Neil Rhodes are the Board members to work with as we evolve this.

**Action:** Brian to follow up with the Children’s Commissioner as he understood they have a good value IT package

15. Charlie thanked Paul for his work in the YJB.

**Action:** Brian and Neil to work with Sophie Riley to provide a paper in September.

**2019/20 Budget Setting**

16. Charlie informed the Board about his experience in East of England and the discussions which took place. They lobbied very hard on money and set out reasons why they need it. Local Authorities are in an unfortunate position as they can get cuts from many areas.
17. County lines was a key part of the discussion with those YOTs present saying that they are struggling to know what to do to address the issue. Essex have started to think of ways they can address the problem.

18. Pathfinder activity was discussed.

19. Colin informed the Board that the YJB are currently involved in a bid for £6 million which could guarantee YJB additional funds if accepted. Colin is putting together representation however the Board should only consider this as a possibility.

20. The Board agreed that we are in a more positive position than last year, however, it is getting very complicated. It seems that we should come up with a model that will be difficult to object too. The key message should be;

a) evidence our ability to shape additional money,
b) scoured our own books (£800k) to find savings and
c) all money taken out goes back in.

21. Brian is in strong agreement with Neal’s point. The conversation was similar last year, minus our position on the grant.

22. The Board agreed to go with option 2 in the paper and that county lines would become a sub section of SYV. The money will go to Local Authorities and not YOTs. There is a need to see local commitment to the resources that they get and some match funding to support the delivery of the priority.

23. Charlie summarised the Board has chosen option 2. Further work was needed on funding specific priorities with Board Champions and an urgent piece of work on CL and SYV.

**Action:** Stephanie Dilloway to make sure this is reflected in the sub

24. Colin suggested that if it is discovered there is a more dramatic cut, we should arrange a teleconference meeting for the Board to discuss.

**Strategic and Business Plan sign off**

25. Lena Parmar entered the meeting.

26. Mairi thanked the Board members for the development of the plan. She requires the Boards agreement for its completion.

27. Charlie raised that the vision was presented at the all staff event. Staff were informed that the Board had not yet signed off the vision. The Board agreed the vision.

28. Gillian believes that mental health should link into education and safety, and this will need to be reiterated. She would like to be included in secure priority going forward. Neil encourages that modern slavery, exploitation etc should be broadened.
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<th>Action:</th>
<th>The Board to provide their comments to Lena and Mairi.</th>
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<td>29.</td>
<td>Lena Parmar discussed the business plan, more details on priorities are required so we can have clarity on accountability. She asked the Board if they agree that the Child first meets the Boards expectations for the business plan. Neal raised the definition should be mentioned, so we do not revert to the old way.</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>The Board were asked to provide comments to Lena and Mairi. Mairi and Charlie would then meet to refine the language. The version presented was agreed in principal subject to Champions checking their priorities sections to make them more detailed with the Board Lead.</td>
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<td>31.</td>
<td>Lena asked the Board if they are content with the outputs we would like to deliver. The Board agreed the wording however Charlie would like more detail.</td>
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**Communications and Stakeholder engagement**

| 32. | Hanna Lewis and Nicola Kefford joined the meeting. |
| 33. | Hanna informed the Board that there is a need to address questions about YJB’s influence and that there is a need to ensure we share our work with YOTs and other stakeholders. Colin asked to what extent does the Board want to “speak out”. The Board were keen for us to demonstrate our authoritative voice but only when we have evidence to do so. |
| 34. | Hannah and Nicola informed the Board of their recommendations. |

**Action:** To ensure the agenda items reference the page number it correlates to on the PDF.

| 35. | Recommendation A was agreed by the Board. |
| 36. | Recommendation B of the report – Brian suggested that the YJB’s voice should be authoritative. It was agreed that Communications should be used to promote the issues we are concerned with and never to promote ourselves. If we do not have an opinion, we should not “speak out”. The recommendation was agreed, though there is a need to work out its sensitivity. What is missing is the emphasis about us and an evidence base. |

**Action:** Neal Hazel will feedback on the wording.

**Action:** For the Board to share with the CEO team, any outside engagement they are involved in, so to add to the forward look calendar.

| 37. | Recommendation E – Charlie requested for Comms to provide an update on the progress, once a year. |
**Action:** Comms to provide a yearly update of the progress of recommendation E.

38. Hanna enquired if the Board is happy to be contacted with requests to tweet or where Board members are leads for a priority, are they content to be interviewed by the press.

39. Nicola asked the Board if they are content with the strategy. The Board agreed.

**Performance in Secure Estate**

40. Helga Swidenbank and Giles McCathie joined the meeting.

41. Helga informed the Board of her early impressions since joining the YCS. She has been to all the sites and has found her visits very useful.

42. Helga presented the PRISM approach which has been adopted by the YCS. Giles explained that PRISM is a tool used to address an institution and Giles said has previously been applied to children measured on a site level primarily but also across the whole estate.

**Action:** To present to the Performance Committee, the YCS' view of the safety of a child in the estate.

**Phil Douglas Update from MoJ**

43. Phil Douglas was unable to attend.

**Any Other Business**

44. Gillian raised that there has been a failure of governance as the performance committee had not been discussed. This was covered in Colin’s report and the report has been seen by the Board. It was agreed that going forward, the Performance Committee will have an allocated slot on the agenda for discussion, along with FARAC.

45. Giulia Romiti thanked the Board for her invitation. She was happy to have witnessed the discussion and would have like it if others could have the same opportunity going forward.

Genet Tefera  
Business Support Manager  
20 March 2019