

# Warwickshire



**Notes from meeting on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January, 6.30pm, Shirehall, Warwick**

## **Present:**

- Jack O
- Mia W
- Nagina A
- Dan K-S (YI guest)
- Shawn L
- Keely Gardner
- Harley F

## **Supporting Staff:**

Shin Bhargal (Practice Leader Participation)  
Andy Mclean (Part Time Youth Worker)

## **Visitors**

Matt Smith (House Project Manager)  
Olivia Cooper (Quality Assurance Operations  
Manager Strategic Commissioning)  
Karen Brown (Commissioning)  
Jayne Barrow (Commissioning)  
Sharon Shaw (Service Manager)  
Cllr Jerry Roodhouse

## **Apologies**

- Katherine W, Tehetena T, Gebrella T, Tarwanda A, George W, Jodi C

## **1. Hellos & Intros & Important Things**

The meeting started with introductions.

Shin provided updates to the meeting on the following,

- MoMo App - second meeting date fixed for Jan 30<sup>th</sup>
- Young Inspectors programme – future visits to be planned for Feb and March
- CiCC Election – Voting in January/Feb.. Gabi, Keely & Nagina roll over to next CiCC...  
9 places up for grabs
- CiCC regional Meeting – February 21st 2018 in Worcester
- Care Leavers Offer – in a draft stage
- Reward for BR4C would be given out today
- Still waiting on reward from Cov Uni

## **2. Care Leaving Service – Santosh Dosanj & Sharon Shaw**

Item postponed to March

### **3. Fostering – Graham Palmer & Tracy Avill**

Item postponed to March

### **4. Matt Smith – House Project Manager**

Matt had asked to come along to the meeting to update the CiCC on the House Project.

Matt explained that he had been appointed to the job of House Project Manager just before Xmas. Matt went onto say that the House Project was still in its early stages.

Matt said that Dan & Mia had helped prepare a “pitch” that they plan to make to the national House Project Hub in London on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January. The date was not yet definite. Matt then provided some background and an update on the progress of the Project.

CiCC members then asked a series of question and statements to which Matt provided an explanation.

- H asked if there was more than one House project
- J mentioned that St. Basils runs an independence living course and how would the House Project be any different
- S asked if the independence living course would be the same
- M said that any support staff that Matt was planning to appoint, the most important thing is the qualities they bring and would young people be involved in their recruitment
- S asked how young people would be recruited to the House Project
- M said that a criteria for young people wishing to be involved should be developed
- D asked if the house Project Hub based in Nuneaton has PowerPoint facilities

Matt said that he would return and provide a further update in the next few months

### **5. Children’s Commissioning – Olivia Cooper, Karen Brown & Jayne Barrow**

Olivia began by explaining her role and that she worked as part of Strategic Commissioning.

Olivia said that she and her team were looking at different ways in which to collect feedback from users of WCC Children’s Services.

Olivia said that she was keen to learn about “the experience of the young person”. How she and her team can capture as much information as possible on both good and bad experiences of children and young people in care. Olivia said that some young people are good at explaining what it is like for them and others find it a little harder to tell us.

Olivia explained that young people would know better what whether something is good quality or not. Olivia went onto to say that good quality is about putting the young person at the centre and taking into account what is important to them.

Olivia said that she had a little exercise for everyone to help demonstrate what she meant.

Jayne explained the activity. Each young person (and the adults) was asked to complete the following statement.

“For me, great social care and support is.....”

The following are a summary of what people wrote,

- Having the freedom to say my opinion and be heard. Being able to be independent (go alone, etc.). Follow culture/religion of mine.
- Support worker to understand mental health. Support with budgeting. Help with writing CV and job searching. Having good friend and family to support me. Know how to have fun
- Personal space and knowing support is there. Responsibility. Being treated like a mature person
- Being given all the facts
- Having things I ask for being put in place
- Help with adult tasks i.e. bills, taxes, jobs
- Being able to bounce ideas of someone. Explain what I can and can't do. I need coffee!
- Someone to talk to
- Feeling valued. Feeling listened to. Feeling important to someone. Being able to support others. A text. Knowing what's going on in your life e.g. remembering your birthday
- Having my own private space, which I can go to whenever I want. That I have someone to speak to who listens to me. Being able to see people who are important to me. Being encouraged. Positive recognition. Really dark blackout curtains. Choice of food
- Being able to express my views without being judged because most people expect you to act a certain way and keep certain feelings to yourself. This also matters to me because staff at school expect looked after children to be simple minded and not be able to achieve the same as normal kids! I don't want there to be any stereotypes
- Family. Activities. Health. Friends. To find interests for everyone
- Not feeling alone. Everyone supporting me... my best interest. Cup of tea and a chat. No judgemental
- Honest. Caring. Empathy
- Marmite toast. Animals are important to me. Happy

Olivia went onto to explain that she had seen the WCC Pledge to children looked after and care leavers and hoped to use it to measure the quality of services provided to children looked after by outside services bought in by WCC.

Olivia felt that it would help her team measure what outside services are doing to make sure that children and young people receive good quality services. Olivia said that the language in the Pledge was simple, easy to understand and to measure.

Olivia was keen to produce a business type card to help promote the Pledge with external services. This could also be used to promote awareness of the Pledge with WCC staff and Councillors. The CiCC membership felt that this was a good idea; however, more than one means of communication would need to be out there to get feedback from young people on what they really think of services.

Olivia carried out one more activity with members to gather more detail.

Olivia finished by thanking the CiCC members and asked if she could return with more information on progress in April/May.

**6. Sharon Shaw – Service Manager**

Sharon explained about her new role as Service Manager covering Brenda's post for the next 12 months. Sharon said that she had previously worked as an Operational Manager in the Stratford Team and prior to that Operational manager in Adoption services. Sharon said that she would aim to attend future CiCC meetings.

**Any Other Business**

None