

Smarter Co-ordinating Group

March 4th 2010 [Meeting 5 Meeting 4 in January cancelled] 9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. Heritage Centre, East End Primary

Meeting called by agreement

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09:30

Apologies noted from Susan Chalmers and John Ferguson

Minute of previous meeting was approved.

No items arising not included in agenda and noted need for meeting to move smartly due to lunchtime seminar.

SMARTER Theme Group

Reports presented to last meeting

- Quarterly reports monitoring statement.
 Noted the difficulty in presentation of reports using percentage figures
- Agreed to set up sub group with Richard Donald, Anne Lindsay and Ian Wood. Donna Skene would be invited to attend. The remit would be to look at the SMARTER page and identify information to be published [What is the group? Who is on the group? Why does the group exist? What activities do we do? Need to make it time secure to reduce need for constant updating. Suggested that on completion young people from Youth Café could test it out.

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Review of SMARTER Operational groups
 Noted that the groups had been tidied up and rationalised. Issues raised over LISOs inclusion as a group on this list. Noted and agreed that they were different from other groups and questioned whether they fed in to all

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the other groups or could stand as a discrete group. Due to the lunchtime seminar agreed to return to this at the next meeting. Item to be placed on the agenda.

Further discussion on the need to have a clearly defined link to a group though it was acknowledged that most groups crossed each theme. It would be a useful exercise to map out all the groups for each of the themes and cross refer them. This could be done by the Community Planning Board. It was agreed that CHIM should report to the HEALTHIER Theme Group.

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Integrated Children's Services Plan

Noted the progress that had been made on the present plan and also the lessons learned in terms of preparation. Now agreed that LMGs should be looking at a two year plan [2010/12] based on the existing SOA. While some areas were compulsory [e.g Child Protection] other issues could be based on local need. John and Richard were currently meeting LMGs and generally the new approach had met with approval. Discussion focused around the need for hard data and it was noted that Beat reports from police were now more closely aligned to Local management group areas. This would allow much better use of data to provide detail in terms of local planning.

Self Evaluation of LMG

In terms of practical issues around the logistics of the LMGs it was suggested that attendance by Health was less than other partner agencies and social work attendance within Elgin was less than in other areas. That aside as plans became more local and as local data increased then the commitment was increasing too. It was suggested that in terms of children and young people there was still a need for more debate and general information sharing around individuals.

Key staff within LMGs were well versed in Self Evaluation but in light of the issue around consistent attendance it would be difficult to get whole group participation and therefore evaluation of joint work could be difficult. Staff were convinced of the value of self-evaluation and the programme needs to be sensible and practical.

Agreed that it would be useful to pilot a self-evaluation area within Keith LMG.

Policy on Looked After Children

The draft had been circulated, amended, checked and further amended by a range of people. Within education it need to go out for a formal consultation using the agreed process.

It was felt that there should be an equalities statement at the start and Richard agreed to check corporate policy with Fiona Simpson.

A number of points were raised around other policies and documents which could be included as reference and it was agreed that any further additions from the group should be with Richard by 12th march 2010.

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Child Protection

Noted the return of the Inspectors for one week commencing 7^{th} June 2010.

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A number of papers had been tabled but due to the lunchtime seminar there was not enough time to discuss them fully.

Date of next meeting	The next meeting will take place at 9:30 a.m. on 15th April 2010 in Room 201 when refreshments will definitely not be available but the room should be warmer.		
	Future dates:		
	9:30	Thursday 15 th April 2010	Room 201
	9:30	Thursday 27 th May 2010	Room 201
	9:30	Thursday 08th July 2010	Heritage Centre
	9:30	Thursday 16 th September 2010	Heritage Centre
	9:30	Thursday 28 th October 2010	Heritage Centre

Additional Instructions: Please note date of next meeting.