

## Children, Young People and Families network

Meeting Date: Tuesday 17th May 2022

Chair: Ed Ives-Wara, Youth Focus Southeast.



The meeting was attended by 12 Participants representing a selection of organisations from across the Borough including staff from Vivid Homes, Home-Start, Community Food Link, YPI, Healthwatch, Caritas, and Basingstoke Voluntary Action.

After introductions, Ed explained the purpose of this forum will be to provide the community with children, young persons and families with the collective support and advice they need, with the use of presentations, sharing resources, and our knowledge. Hampshire County Council has a children's board made up of four clusters and funding for the local areas. This forum is a network to discuss how best to place funding in these areas, what our shared services and goals are, and to provide a central base to meet with groups that share the same objectives.

Topics/themes discussed were:

**Re-establishing the Local Children's Partnership:** Daniel Neat (Deputy CEO at BVA) discussed the impending relaunch of the Local Children's Partnership, which will serve as a mechanism for bringing together strategic partners from across the public and charity sector to address emerging priorities. It was raised with the group about linking their operational local knowledge via this forum and feeding back into the LCP at a strategic level to be taken forward.

**Network of Regional Youth Work:** the group discussed the collaboration across the regions to promote good youth work that ensures young people's voices are heard. The network is looking at opportunities to support new developments such as the National Youth Policy Advisory Group, Institute of Youth Work, Youth Voice DCMS, and NYA/JNC Education and Training Standards Committee.

<https://youthfocussoutheast.org.uk/>

**Planning:** the group discussed ways to work together on networking, collaboration, and the sharing of best practices as a priority in identifying opportunities for example with Outreach and Vivid Homes. Ensuring that our services as a collective forum are connected, we are working as one, and bridging the gaps.

**Disabilities and special needs:** the group discussed the lack of services for children and young people with disabilities and that there is a gap in the variety of services offered for these individuals. The group confirmed that this area is inundated and identified that we need to do more.

**Membership and Mapping:** the group debated and agreed that there is a requirement to confirm who we need to be represented at this forum from other organisations and communities to strengthen the success.

**BVA Newsletter:**

<https://www.bvaction.org.uk/>

**Actions being taken forward:** Meeting frequency will be quarterly with the next meeting being held on 15/11/2022.