

Children's Services in Yorkshire and Humber: How has collaboration benefited the region?

FREE conference: 1 December 2011, Royal York Hotel, York

As we move forward in a context of increasing demand, reducing resources and major change, this event invites you to find out ways in which local authorities and other partners have worked together to improve services, provision and outcomes for children and young people across the Yorkshire and Humber region.

The Yorkshire and Humber Directors of Children's Services network (YH DCS network) has played a key role in commissioning and supporting the delivery of four significant RIEP funded projects to transform the collaborative approach to tackling shared priorities, to:

- improve safeguarding and child protection systems across the region;
- attract and support high quality social workers to work in children's safeguarding services across the region;
- develop a web-based tool to enable all schools and other education providers to compare their performance with similar schools and colleges, in similar circumstances in families of providers from across the region; and
- provide personalised advice and support to individual Lead Members for children's services in each top tier Yorkshire and Humber authority and support the Lead Member network.

Through this funding and the leadership of the DCS network, Yorkshire and Humber had benefited from over £1million of collaborative activity.

Apart from learning about the projects and programmes, this event will give the opportunity for delegates to consider what has been achieved through this collaborative approach. It will also enable you to shape the conversation about the future of collaboration in children's services now that RIEP funding has ended, to continue to make a positive impact on our shared priorities.

The activity commissioned by the DCS network to target identified priorities has had significant success and attracted national attention. This event is an excellent opportunity to see collaboration in practice.

We are looking for delegates who want to:

- learn more about how their local authority or organisation has benefited from collaborative children's services activity;
- learn about how Yorkshire and Humber are leading the way with key projects which attracting national interest;
- contribute to the debate about the legacy of the RIEP projects and the shape of collaborative priorities for children's services in this region going forward.

This event is aimed at any senior officers whose work encompasses or touches on children's services in local authorities and wider partners. Below are example groups (invitees are not limited to these identified groups):

- * Leaders and Children and Young People Portfolio Holders (Lead Members)
- * Local Authority Chief Executives
- * Directors of Children's Services
- * Local Authority Assistant Directors
- * DfE and national agency partners

How to book:

Booking can be completed online at www.amiamo.com/yhcsevent2011 for more information or any queries please contact Sadie Binns on 07968941344 or email sadie@bythehourofficeservices.com

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Agenda

10am	Welcome and introductions
10:10am	Safeguarding presentation
10:30am	Attract and Support presentation
10:50am	YEAH web presentation
11:10am	Lead Member Support presentation
11:30am	Refreshments
11:50am	Workshop 1
1pm	Lunch and Marketplace
2pm	Workshop 2
3:15pm	Plenary and closing remarks
3:45pm	Close

Presentations and workshops:

- Safeguarding: improving the consistency referrals into child protection systems across the region, the first time this has been done across a region;
- Attract and support: increasing retention rates of high quality, experienced social workers to work in children's safeguarding services across the region;
- YEAH web: a web-based tool to enable all schools and other education providers to compare their performance with similar schools and colleges, in similar circumstances in families of providers from across the region;
- Lead Member Support: providing personalised advice and support to individual Lead Members for children's services in each top tier Yorkshire and Humber authority and supporting the Lead Member network; and
- Legacy and sustainability of collaboration in children's services in Yorkshire and Humber (workshop only): Discussion about the continuation of effective networks post RIEP funding to maintain the positive impact being made in children's services.

* Each workshop will run twice during the day allowing delegates to attend two of the five workshops.



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