



Minutes of the Meeting

30th June 2010

Present

Nicole
Cody
Kira
Lois
Geordie
Thomas
Claire
Chris
Damien

Becky (Children's Rights Officer)
Kerry (Children's Rights Assistant)
Anne Marie Born (from East Riding Safeguarding Children Board)
Jodie (Children's Rights Assistant)
Diane (Sessional Worker)
Paul (Sessional Worker)

Apologies

Chantelle
Tammy

1. Welcome

Welcome to Anne-Marie from the East Riding Safeguarding Children Board. Anne-Marie introduced herself to the group and the group introduced themselves and also said which part of the East Riding they were from.

2. Children in Care Council Update

Nicole gave an update on the meeting and said they discussed evaluating the Pledge and that a questionnaire has been sent out attached to the teams newsletter. The team's new leaflets were also handed round and discussed.

Nicole said that she had also attended the Fostering Focus Group yesterday and Dave Glenville had attended.

3. New Leaflets

The young people had looked at the new 'Running away' leaflets last time and gave their comments. Following this the leaflets have been changed and printed.

The new 'Running away' leaflets were handed round. The young people were pleased to see that their comments had been taken on board and that some of the information they had felt was not appropriate had been removed.

4. Anne-Marie Born

Anne-Marie explained her role to the group and that she is keen to get young peoples voices heard about issues affecting them in the East Riding. Anne-Marie explained that she needed to write a report for the Safeguarding Board about what young people feel they need in the East Riding to keep them safe. Anne-Marie also said that it would be good if some young people from the group could attend the Board meetings to speak to them about any such issues or if the young people preferred some of the Board could come here to these meetings. Anne-Marie asked if anyone would be interested in doing this and a few young people said they would, but would prefer to attend the Board meetings themselves rather than some of them come here.

Points raised by the young people about things they felt were issues in the East Riding were as follows:

- **Street Lighting**

Young people were asked if they feel safe in their home town. Some answered no. One of the reasons for this was due to areas not being well lit at night, and making them feel unsafe whilst walking to and from places. Particular areas raised were Kirk Ella and South Cave. They would like more street lighting on narrow pavements.

- **School Buses**

Young people were asked if they felt safe going to and from school. A discussion was had about school buses and how there are incidents of bullying and sometimes violent behaviour. Ideas were suggested about having a bus monitor. Some young people felt 6th formers wouldn't work, because they attend the same school so they wouldn't get respected. One also mentioned the problems may be the 6th formers themselves. Teachers were discussed briefly, and some felt that they wouldn't get listened to, as it is out of school time. However, some young people felt that someone would be useful; others felt it may not make a difference. Some schools also use contracts which the YP must sign before they begin using school transport, explaining what was expected of them and what will happen if they break the behavioural contract. The young people generally felt this was a good idea, and should be signed by all young people who use buses to and from school, and one to also be sent home to the parents themselves. It was suggested that young people should be temporarily suspended from using the public transport if they break the contract.

One young person had received a school talk from Buswise, which he felt was good. However, the other young people were not aware of the Buswise website, or how to anonymously report someone for bad behaviour on school buses.

- **School Food**

There was lively discussion about being allowed out of school at lunchtimes. Some schools allowed this for certain ages, and

some did not. The young people felt that because school dinners were now all healthy, young people were leaving school to get 'junk food' or 'treats.' This often meant leaving when they were not supposed to, and so people were not aware of where they were, or in some cases, crossing dangerous roads to get to the nearest shop. For example, school children at one school were crossing a dual carriageway to get to the garage for sweets. Young people also said food was expensive in the school, which was another reasons to look elsewhere. They would like a vending machine with some treats in it as they feel that would be safer.

- **Parks**

Some young people felt that they did not have enough to do in their area to keep them occupied. Young people who accessed parks (such as the one in Bridlington) felt that it was quite secluded and not very open, therefore making them sometimes feel unsafe there. The new Play Ranger scheme was discussed and some young people said they would be more comfortable going when they knew the park was supervised. They felt the times and days when the rangers are likely to be in their park should be advertised more to young people, including in schools, leisure centres, youth centres and newspapers.

- **The Internet**

Some young people said that they are sometimes bullied on the internet, as one site allows comments to be made anonymously. (Formsprings.me was a site causing problems with bullying.) Some young people were also unaware of Facebook privacy settings or the risks that such sites present when information is not secured.

Anne-Marie explained that she had a new manager starting tomorrow (Annie Redmond) and she would feedback this information to her. Anne-Marie thanked the group for letting her come to the meeting and hoped to be able to feedback some information soon.

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 27th July 2010 3pm to 5pm (as its school holidays).

The Team is having a big evaluation/activity day on 4th August, which you will all be invited to so keep this date free in your diaries!

Thanks. See you all soon!