

## **Wellbeing Care & Learning – Children’s Branch Committee Report 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014**

### **Family Service Review –**

No further meetings have taken place the next meeting is scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> June.

### **School Improvement Review-**

Attendance Staff had meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> May, they have faced reductions in the last two years, there will not be a selection process this year for this section.

Meeting with Jan Corlett 4th June to go through detail on School Improvement.

Martin Surtees has proposals around existing Specialist posts. These proposals have to be agreed by Ewen Weir before further discussion.

### **Sure Start Campaign**

We have met with our contacts from Sure Start to discuss leaflets and the event which we want to hold.

We’ve arranged some release time for this week so that our workplace reps can work together on next steps and production of leaflets aimed at councillors and a second leaflet for service users.

We’ve attended further events within half-term at various centres again distributing postcards, engaging with service users. Our petition is gaining a lot of signatures. It’s now on-line <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-newcastle-sure-start>

10 days ago there were 1000 signatures and we have several hundred paper signatures.

We also have 180 completed postcards with more to come in from the Centres.

I also attended the partnership board meeting at Riverside Sure Start in their new location on Adelaide Terrace, Benwell. Parents who attended are keen to be involved.

Our reps are also collecting articles from parents about Sure Start including people who went through Sure Start themselves and in some cases became volunteers and then progressed to employment.

We have also been able to start some video- documentary of some service users.

We have been given permission to use the park and ceremonial way including the quad for our ‘Big Event’ which is to be a ‘Sure Start picnic in the park’ we are proposing this to be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

UNISON will provide entertainment – face painting, magician etc. We have had 150 children's tee-shirts printed with our Sure Start slogan which we'll hand out and 200 helium balloons will be given out – and hopefully released at the same moment.

We've proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> July to tie in with the next Children's DJC and would hope that this will also attract a press presence.

### **Children's Residential Care**

As stated on the last report we called a halt to the consultation regarding proposed changes to Job Description for both the Deputy Managers posts and the RCO posts. I met with staff at the four homes-

Cheviot View

Slatyford

Iona Place

Philipson Street

Staff had concerns about wording on the new JD's and some particular concerns on some omissions from the previous JD. These concerns have been collated and forwarded to management. I have met with Myra Milne who has sent revisions through to HR.

Any revision will then have to be consulted on.

**Next Shop Steward Meeting is to be re-arranged as it falls within Conference week.**

**Lynda Hardie – Deputy Branch Secretary**