

Dear Colleague,

As mentioned in my email of 15 January, colleagues will be sent a link to the report on the future of children's services once it's published on 10 February. In the meantime, here are some updates for information and action.

#### Staff briefing 11 February

The staff briefing is for all CEF colleagues, but is also particularly relevant for colleagues from Early Intervention, Assessment, Family Support teams and MASH.

If colleagues from these teams have not already responded to the event invitation please use the voting button on the e-mail of 15 January to indicate if you plan to attend, or e-mail Sue Galvin ([sue.galvin@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sue.galvin@oxfordshire.gov.uk)). Colleagues who have already responded are assured of a place and need not do so again.

The briefing takes place Thursday 11 February at 11:00 am at the Town Hall in Oxford. This briefing is expected to take between 60 and 90 minutes.

Places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. It will be helpful if colleagues could ensure that at least one representative of each team is able to attend so that they can feedback to those who cannot attend.

Please can you respond by 5 February if you have not already done so to assist with planning for this event.

#### Managers training

Managers in Early Intervention and Children's Social Care teams are encouraged to book onto two training events to support you in your role as manager through this period of change.

The Change Workshop on 9 March, 9:30am to 4pm, will provide tools and techniques which can be used personally and with your teams to manage change effectively.

Coaching Skills for Managers on 15 March, 9:30am to 5pm, will help to apply coaching techniques to manage change, build resilience, creativity and increase problem solving within teams.

Both events will be at Unipart House. Places are limited, for more information and to book on the training go to the [Learning Zone](#)

#### Well at work support and advice

All colleagues can access support and advice through the council's employee assistance provider [PAM Wellbeing](#). Call 0800 882 4102 with the username 'directorates' and password 'Oxfordshire.'

Additionally the [well at work](#) intranet page links to a [Me and change](#) toolkit which you can work through at your own pace.

Staff advisory group

An email with answers to questions put to the group so far was sent out on 2 February. The next email with answers to further questions is currently being prepared. Email [CEFstaffadvisorygroup@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:CEFstaffadvisorygroup@oxfordshire.gov.uk) with ideas, suggestions and questions. The group meets again 10 February.

With best wishes

Jim Leivers

Director for Children Education & Families