



May 2011

Dear Colleagues

I hope you were all able to enjoy the glorious weather we experienced over the Easter break – I must say Cornwall looked beautiful in the sunshine!

I am pleased to be able to update you on a number of issues in May's chair's briefing. Firstly I would like to remind you that the new look partnership arrangements are now in full flow with a Children's Trust seminar session being held on 18<sup>th</sup> July – you can access the flyer and booking information on the [Children's Trust website](#) – we plan to concentrate on national and local policy updates that are affecting those of us that work in the children's world including an update on the Munro review with regard to safeguarding, the health changes and the education changes. Do attend if you can I think you will find it interesting.

Additionally the Children's Leadership Group (CLG) is now the power house for improving outcomes for children and young people in Cornwall – details of who attends these meetings can be found on the [Children's Trust website](#). I am delighted to tell you that young people attend the meetings – the most recent highlighted issues around transport which I understand (especially now I have lived here for 12 months) is a significant issue for children and young people in Cornwall. Additionally members of CLG watched a DVD made by pupils within a short stay school. There were some key messages that CLG took from this DVD that Sue Coleman our Head of Service for family support is taking back in to her management team to discuss. The Children's Trust Team is currently looking to place the DVDs, or the link on our website, so do look regularly to see if it is there.

Our colleagues in Children's Community Health Services (e.g. health visitors and schools nurses) are now hosted by the Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust as part of the Transforming Community Services agenda – more details of this can be found on the [Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust website](#).

The CLG and member organisations are increasingly looking at our statistical neighbours when we are analysing our performance and value for money. These are local authorities deemed to have similar characteristics; in particular we look at Norfolk, Devon and Somerset. They provide a method for benchmarking progress. Comparing performance against statistical neighbours is useful to provide an initial guide as to whether performance is above or below the level that might be expected. Further information on how we use this information can be found on the [Children's Trust website](#).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Trevor Doughty".

Trevor Doughty  
Chair of Cornwall Children's Trust

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Chair **Trevor Doughty**

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