

Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Children with Disability and Transition Sub Groups

Review session 17/9/12.

The purpose of the session was to enable members of both Sub Groups to review the effectiveness of the Sub Groups to date and to put into place any revised arrangements needed.

- It was noted that each representative on CYPSP groups had been nominated to represent the whole of their agency or set of agencies if they are statutory reps or a perspective if they are community or voluntary reps.
- The CYPSP agreement, noted in the Governance Framework, in relation to attendance, was noted, i.e. that nominated people attend themselves rather than delegate. The reason for this was noted as the need for continuity as this is a live planning process. The CYPSP applies this standard to itself for its own meetings and has discussed a number of times the need for this to also apply at planning meeting level.
- Voluntary sector representatives raised the difficulty of representing the whole sector, but it was reiterated that the role is to represent the perspective – the knowledge and experience – rather than formal representation.
- The role played within CYPSP groups is quite different to members' normal roles, which is operational management. This is seen as a challenge, in relation to carving out the required time, but also an opportunity in providing the opportunity to address changes needed.
- ELBs representative noted that there is a growing recognition within the education sector of the need for inter-agency work

- The challenges in relation to integrated commissioning were discussed, e.g. different commissioning processes including timescales across agency
- Across the sectors time is limited - everyone can't be everywhere – so important that the work of different CYPSP groups is communicated across the process.
- Regional groupings are seen as important in relation to change that can only happen at a NI level.
- There was some misunderstanding that regional Sub Groups are passive groups – that their role is really to influence the Outcomes Groups, which are the ones that can deliver change. However, there was clarification that the role of the regional Sub Groups is to establish what needs to change at NI level that can only be carried out across agency – this remains the direct work of the Sub Groups, as well as influencing Outcomes Groups in relation to local planning and commissioning in relation to the specific groups of children addressed by regional Sub Groups.
- There was discussion on whether or not joint meetings should be held across these two Sub Groups – or whether they should be combined. It was agreed that the agendas are sufficiently different for the Sub Groups to remain separate but it is useful if they continue to meet on the same day and that joint meetings can be held as required.
- It was agreed that once action plans are finalised following consultation they need to be brought to the attention of the wider group of stakeholders who are interested in this work.
- Early wins should be publicised e.g. Children's Services Framework for children with disabilities which has been developed in tandem with this Sub Group working out its priorities, the influence on the OFMDFM CWD strategy, the fact that one DHSSPS link has been agreed to this group
- Parent Reference Group

- a. It was reaffirmed that it is appropriate that one parent reference group relates to both Sub Groups.
 - b. The Sub Groups need to provide direction on what aspects of work needs most input from parents and then consider properly the reports from parents coming back
 - c. Both chairs need to attend parents meetings, with this being open to any other members of the Sub Groups
 - d. Sub Groups need to report back to both the parents and young people on what and how their input has been taken on board by the Sub Groups' action planning
- Communicating the work:-
 - a. The Children and Young People's Plan requires that the work agreed should be reflected in each CYPSP agency's own organisation business plan/action plan.
 - b. Communicating the work of the Sub Groups would be supported through a case study approach – which demonstrate how inter-agency planning and putting into place services which have been jointly planned benefits children
 - c. The Sub Groups need to actively think about evidencing joint working
 - d. Information about the Sub Groups work needs to be provided into own agency internets etc NOTE: this will be supported through the CYPSP Communications Sub Group.
 - Opportunities now exist now at ministerial level for joint work
 - It is important that the interagency planning required now goes through this process. For example, the HSCB position on this is quite clear – all inter-agency planning and integrated commissioning will go through CYPSP groups. It was noted that as important that all agencies also take this approach.
 - Joint consultation forum on education:- Pascal McKeown will suggest as agenda item – this will be an example of reflecting the action plans in all other processes.

In general, the review session was seen as useful, and had clarified a number of issues in relation to the terms of reference of the Sub Groups.