

Northern Outcomes Group
Minutes of meeting held on 13 February 2013

Present: Mrs M Roulston (Chair), NHSCT
Mrs A Hardy, CYPSP
Ms H Dunn, Action for Children
Mr J Fenton, NHSCT
Mr D Gilliland, YMCA
Ms D Coyle, HSCB
Mrs S Gault NHSCT (on behalf of B McConville)
Ms S Anderson, CYPSP Northern
Ms G Keane, Youth Justice
Mr P Carr DSD
Ms J Adair NCSP
Ms N McCall BBCouncil
Ms B McAteer, Moyle LPG Chair
Ms M Herron, Parenting NI

Apologies

Mr B McMillan, Barnardos
Mrs A Devlin, Extern
Mr K Gordon, PSNI
Ms B McConville, NHSCT
Mr R Gilberson, NEELB

Mrs Roulston welcomed everyone to the meeting and led a round of introductions, apologies noted

Action

1) **Minutes of previous meeting – 18 October 2012**

The minutes of the previous meeting were considered. It was noted that the December meeting had been postponed. It was also agreed that the April meeting would be used as a development day to afford the group the opportunity to reflect on the aims and objections for the group. It was noted that Ciara McKillop will be joining the group and noted her pivotal role re family support hubs within the NHSCT.

Presentation – Participation of Children and Young People.

Ms Sandra Anderson, Participation officer, provided a detailed presentation re participating with children and young people in the Northern area (See attached). Some similar key themes identified in specific localities, i.e. paramilitary activity, lack of resources for young people, lack of transport, rural isolation, lack of inclusion for children with disability. Work on going in through participation strategy in all localities to improve provision for young people, changes implemented based on feedback from young people and parents. IT was noted that over 1200 young people have been engaged with the planning process.

2) Matters arising

i) Funding 2012/13

In year allocation of £100k allocation agreed. A selection panel was set up and applications scored against set criteria, following a closed call to existing calvact holders.

ii) Funding 13/14

2 priority areas re: funding agreed at previous meeting

Action

ADHD - } £100k 13/14
Support for children with Disability. }

It was agreed that consideration would need to be given as to how to utilise funding – potential of establishing a small subgroup to address. Subgroup to identify service model and principles and bring back to this forum for discuss re: specifications. It was noted that there was also additional monies available on a 2 year recurrent bases to assist with accessing mainstream services for Children with a Disability, school attendance/attainment, parental mental health. It was noted that potentially there could be linkages between specific area of work identified, i.e. social/environmental factors and ADHD, which could also be linked with Parental mental health Integrated multi agency appropriate required to take these specific areas forward focusing on early intervention. Anne Hardy agreed to re visit the 3 year action plan previously agreed to ascertain if any of the areas of work discussed today were highlighted on the action plan. It was noted that additional funding had also been provided through various agencies, i.e. DSD and it would be useful to have a composite overview as to funding available and services required.

3) Family Support Hubs

Consistent model introduced across the region and work undertaken to underpin this was acknowledged. 3 Hubs currently established within the NHSCT locality, Carrick/Larne, Ballymena and Magherafelt – development and coordination on-going re the implementation of hubs in Coleraine and Newtownabbey/Antrim. Coleraine by January and Newtownabbey/Antrim by March. Mr Fenton noted that the outcome of a recent study of the Larne/Carrick Family support hub referrals, 60/80% of referrals received are deemed not eligible for Social services intervention; these level 2 referrals receive service from

voluntary agencies. Business case submitted to OFMDFM with regards to the DSC signatory project and approved for funding for co-ordinator for each Trust, 5 x £25k. Helen Dunn is currently facilitating this role and is happy to continue. Northern area Family support strategy group already established, is this the right group to drive work forward. Overview of service as a totality as what is required to progress the coordinator role, the further development of the hubs and areas that require attention, i.e. promote training with staff member and critical investment in the coordination of these hubs and investment in the voluntary community sector and coordinating the process. It is envisaged in the future that families can directly access hubs multi access referral routes. Additional monies available from Board and Department, meeting to be progressed to take forward the model, Anne and John to set up meeting and bring back to next meeting.

Hidden Harm Local implementation Group

Feedback provided to regional sub group chair in January. A number of issues were noted, i.e. linkages across groups, need to ensure good communication, memberships of local group and attendance. Regional Hidden Harm Workshop held last year noted the main focus should be on children and early intervention. IT was recommended that the local Hidden Harm Group be co-chaired by a member of the Northern Outcomes Group and member of the Northern DACT. Members to consider.

Parenting reference group

Ms Herron shared a document for consideration by the Outcomes Group, in order to identify 2-3 key tasks for the parent reference group due to meet at the end of February. Ms Herron explained that it was important that these tasks were linked to the Action plan. Ms Herron noted compared to the other parent reference groups, the Northern area had low numbers, 14 members of which only 5 attended the previous group meeting. Mrs Roulston suggested that Ms Herron link in with Ms Anderson, who had been holding one off consultations with parents across the northern area re additional views which can be incorporated in the action plan for the Northern PRG. Ideas denoted in the plan to be taken forward to help motivate parents and encourage involvement. Discussion and agreement on Proposed Tasks for the Parents Reference Group will be postponed to a future meeting, when everyone has had an opportunity to consider the contents of the document

- Work to be progressed to recruit more parents to local groups
- Need for more promotion of services and facilities for families
- Ensure feedback from parents are incorporated in action plans and taken forward, sending the message that their views are valid and if appropriate will be acted upon

Parenting apart

6 week programme aimed at parents, separated, divorces or thinking of both. Programme will provide guidance/advice to parents about what children need to know and what parent can do ensure their children`s needs are meet. It is hoped that programme can be provided within the NHSCT possibility at the end of March.

AOB

Next meeting to be used as a development day to pick up on issues, begin to refocus on action plan and partnership working.

Date of next meeting

17.4.13 @ 2pm in All Saints parish Centre, Cushendall Road, Ballymena.

Date of throughout 2013

13.6.13 @ 2pm in the Boardroom Trust HQ

14.8.13 @ 2pm in Conference room County Hall

16.10.13 @ 2pm in Boardroom Trust HQ

18.12.13 @ 2pm in Committee Room 2 County Hall

Marie Roulston
Director Children Services
NHSCT

