

REGIONAL TRANSITIONS MEETING
Seminar Room 1, Antrim Board Centre
Tuesday, 22 November 2011

Attendance:

Iolo Eilian – HSCB (Chair)
Ann Godfrey – HSCB
Kieran McShane – HSCB
Liam Burns – MENCAP
Gary Hyde – WHSCT
Sybil Skelton – SEELB
Rosemary Murray – DCYPPP
Teresa Stewart – DCYPPP
Liz Osborne – NICFC
Rosie McNaughton – Cedar Foundation
Bria Mongan - SEHSCT
Marie Burns – NOW Ltd
Maurice Leeson – Barnardos
Pauline McDonald – BHSCT
Hilary Maguire – NI Hospice
Kerrie McGarvey – H&SCB

In Attendance:

Lorraine Johnston – H&SCB Secretary

Apologies:

Mary Emerson - PHA
Kate Lamb – NHSCT
Monica Wilson – Disability Action
Geraldine Maguire – SHSCT

Absent:

Jeremy Adams – PSNI
Brian O’Kane – Supporting People
Pip Jaffa – Parents Advice Centre

Agenda

1) Welcome and House Keeping

Iolo Eilian welcomed everyone to the meeting at Antrim Board Centre. A number of housekeeping was shared with the group. Each member of the group had an opportunity to introduce themselves to the group and the organisation in which they work.

2) Apologies

The received apologies were read out and shared with the Group.

3) Approval of Previous Minutes (5 October 2011)

Iolo Eilian had enquired if everyone was happy with the format of the minutes and all agreed. Ann Godfrey had noted an error in the abbreviation CYPSP, this has been corrected and the minutes were approved as a true and accurate account of the meeting.

4) Matters Arising

Matters arising were addressed within the body of the agenda.

5) Outstanding Questionnaires

Questionnaires received and discussed to date are Western, Southern and Northern Trusts. Belfast and South Eastern Trusts have not been submitted. It was agreed to reissue the questionnaire and these will be discussed at the next meeting. The Chair formally requested that these are completed and returned prior to the next meeting.

6) Services Template & Action Plans

Iolo distributed a number of templates which were received and each agency had the opportunity to talk through their templates followed by a debate. It was agreed that these templates would be forwarded to the Group:

Mencap – Liam Burns

Liam Burns talked the Group through the initial thoughts and priorities of Mencap.

The following was discussed:

- Person Centred Planning is the key underpinning theme, there is almost a linkage with Children with Disabilities.
- The process needs to be rolled out consistently.

- The child needs to be at the centre of the process.
- It is necessary to look beyond PCP, it is more than having the tools.
- It is necessary to create further day opportunities for people as it is a limited position with regard to availability across the region.
- There is a significant increase in complex care needs, there is a need to ensure proper engagement with people regarding what they would like.
- Young people focus on careers not on transition and raised the 'Key Worker' approach to co-ordinate what needs are a priority when moving from school to adult services.
- Adult housing – service mapping approach.
- There is a postcode lottery on how services are delivered.
- Will there be an evaluation following this process?

Public Health Agency – Mary Emerson

Mary Emerson was not present at the meeting but was happy for the paper to be tabled and discussed. The paper gave a broad overview and did not give specific detail. The following was discussed:

- There was an issue for the need for AHPs.
- Issue to assist young people and parents in transition.
- The importance of Direct Payments – Children's services excluded.
- Children with very complex needs - district nursing won't take this support on in many areas.
- Once child leaves school, they lose out on vital services e.g. physiotherapy etc. It could also take up to 18 months to get another form of communication. Postcode lottery on services available.
- Competing & demand – using same staff for service and delivery.
- How robust is transitions model. A lot fall through what should be safety gap.
- Those children with mild Learning Disability are being missed – fall outside the remit.
- All transition should need Social Care in putting packages together.
- Further education – not enough support to help to gain employment, there is a need for a key worker to be identified (not sure if this is role of transition worker).
- Needs to be a review system in place if needed.
- There is a need to formalise various stages of transition, some don't want social worker but do want other support.
- Needs to fit in with PCP approach.
- The challenge is having the principals, try to devoid dependency and support.
- Now Ltd have a review panel which meet monthly. There is a transition worker who works on the ground with young people, system is working well but has taken 10 years, although some do fall through the net.

Disabled Children & Young Peoples Participation Project – Rosemary Murray

Rosemary gave an overview of the Disabled Children & Young Peoples Participation Project Services Template and Action Plan. The following was discussed:

- Young people depend on IT to develop their skills, they feel isolated when they leave school and feel they have to settle for what they can get.
- There is a lack of opportunity and choice, services are available but young people are not aware of them.
- Young people have aspirations when they leave school but there are no provisions in place therefore there are no prospects for the future even though many have so much potential.
- CAMHS end at 18 and don't help through to adult life.
- Young people not going through Barnardos are not aware of CAMHS. Awareness needs to be made.
- QUB doing research on Children with Disabilities, headed by Geraldine McDonald.
- Information needs to be accessible for young people.
- There needs to be early acceptance of disability, what are my aspirations? What are my limitations? Get that right and there is no need for CAMHS input.

Northern Ireland Hospice – Hilary Maguire

Hilary Maguire tabled the Services Template and Action Plan from the Northern Ireland Hospice. The following was discussed:

- The importance on the Needs of Young People with Complex and Palliative Health care Needs especially in the areas of Medical/consultant services, hospital admissions, transitions of high cost care packages, acute hospital admissions and the need for education and training of Acute Adult health and social care staff.
- More children with complex needs are surviving and moving into adult life.
- The importance of IT re enforced.
- Respite/Short breaks – not always looking to residential care, we need to look further at 'Short breaks'.
- Siblings of children with complex needs also need emotional support.

Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children - Liz Osborne

Liz Osborne tabled the Services Template and Action Plan from the Northern Ireland Cancer Fund for Children. The following points were discussed:

- Children and Young People are absorbed in the adult cancer services world.
- There is a need to identify all young people with cancer and express their needs.
- Integrated Care Pathway was discussed. There are many pathways and therefore can be very confusing.
- There needs to be structured guidance in place so young people are not missed.

Cedar Foundation – Rosie McNaughton

Rosie McNaughton tabled the paper from the Cedar Foundation. The following points were discussed:

- Young People Participation should have their right to have their say – Article 13.
- Rosie informed the group that the majority of the areas raised already were also highlighted in her discussions within Cedar
- In addition it also included Sexual health, Short breaks, youth service, Equality of services, citizenship, accommodation, available opportunities, transport, choices, varied opportunities.

It was agreed to forward the paper “Children with Disabilities Strategic Alliance Manifesto Report” to the Group.

Action: Iolo Eilian to forward to Group

Ann Godfrey commented that the reports from Rosemary Murray and Hilary Maguire were excellent as their reports have included the voices of young people. The CYPSP wants the process based on children’s rights. It is necessary to look at the infrastructure in place and ensure we are not replicating what is there. Trust representatives need to collectively link back to the Trusts to find out what is needed. Action plans need to be signed off by each of the agencies and bring any issues back to the Group. There is a need to look at all groups in place and see where it is best placed.

7) Agreed Way Forward

Iolo gave an overview of the areas discussed today to the group.

It was agreed to forward all services template and action plan responses received to the Group and any comments to be forwarded to Iolo Eilian.

Action: Iolo Eilian to forward all services templates and action plans to the Group with the minutes.

8) Any Other Business

Membership of the Group was discussed. It was agreed that Ann Godfrey would contact DEL regarding representation. It was agreed that Maria Burns would inquire regarding who best to invite from the Benefits Office to join the Group. It was agreed to check if Brian O'Kane from Housing was receiving correspondence for the Group.

Action: Ann Godfrey and Maria Burns

Iolo Eilian thanked the group for their participation and input.

9) Date of Next Meeting

Monday, 19 December 2011 at 10 am in Seminar Room 1, Antrim Board Centre, NEELB, 17 Lough Road, Antrim, BT41 4DH