



**Minute of Western Outcomes Group  
held on 17 November 2011 in  
Strabane Enterprise Agency**

**Present:**

- Mr John Doherty, Director of Women & Children's Service [Chair]
- Ms Anne Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer, HSCB
- Mr Gerry Conway, Commissioning Lead, HSCB
- Ms Philomena McDermott, Western Education & Library Board
- Ms Marie McGale, MENCAP
- Ms Carina Boyle, Action for Children
- Ms Clionagh Boyle, Early Years
- Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid
- Mr Sean Mackie, Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Ms Monica MacIntyre, Department of Social Development
- Ms Cathy Mullan, Public Health Agency
- Ms Deirdre Mahon, Assistant Director [Family & Child Care]
- Mrs Kate McDaid, Assistant Director [Health Care]

**In attendance:**

- Ms Priscilla Magee, Action for Children
- Ms Bronagh Donnelly, Action for Children
- Mr Pat Armstrong, Head of Service, Western Trust
- Mrs Anne Donaghey, Business Manager, Western Trust
- Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Mr Donnie Sweeney, NIACRO Mr Paul Laughlin, DSD [represented by Ms Monica MacIntyre]</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Notes of Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>All present confirmed that they had received a copy of the notes of the previous meeting. Minutes were approved, subject to an amendment by Mr Laughlin.</p>

3	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Membership</b> Mr Doherty welcomed Ms Marie McGale, MENCAP, and Ms Philomena McDermott, WELB, to their first meeting of the Western Outcomes Group.</p> <p>Ms Hardy reported that nominations from District Councils and the PSNI were being taken forward on a regional basis. She advised that a meeting was to be held on 18 November 2011 to select representatives from the community and voluntary sector. Ms Hardy agreed to keep Mr Doherty advised on progress. Ms Hardy advised that she would speak to Ms Godfrey regarding organising a briefing session for new members of Outcomes Groups.</p> <p><b>Terms of Reference</b> Mr Doherty informed members that “Specific Responsibilities” of the Outcomes Groups were detailed in Appendix 3 of the preliminary action plan that was being distributed at today’s meeting.</p> <p><b>Eamon McTernan</b> Ms Hardy advised that she would invite Mr Eamon McTernan to the next meeting on 21 December 2011.</p>
4	<p><b>Draft Action Plan of Western Outcomes Group</b> Ms Hardy reported that Outcomes Groups were expected to produce their action plans by the end of November with a 12 week consultation period from December 2011 – February 2012. She said children, young people and parents all needed to be involved. Mrs Hardy advised that the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership had requested to see the action plans prior to the commencement of the consultation process.</p> <p>Mrs Donaghey distributed copies of the preliminary action plan of the Western Outcomes Group. Mr Doherty said it would be important to incorporate the work already undertaken by Locality Planning Groups into the action plan. It was agreed that Mrs Donaghey would arrange to meet Ms Magee and Ms Donnelly.</p> <p>Mr Doherty advised that he would arrange for the finalized action plan to be placed on the Western Trust’s website.</p> <p>Mrs Hardy reported that a website for the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership was in the process of being designed. Mrs Hardy agreed to check if resources were available to assist with the collation of comments on the action plan.</p>
5	<p><b>Finance and Commissioning Process</b> Ms Mahon reported that a sub group had met earlier today and agreed that due to the short timescale for allocating resources, the criteria to be used for the current financial year were that groups had to be in funding crises and that their services</p>

would cease to operate if they did not secure financial assistance. Organisations were to present their proposals for funding to Ms Donnelly and Ms Magee. It was agreed that funding would be made via a variation of the existing contract the organisation had with the Western Trust. Mr Doherty reiterated that the Trust would process the non recurrent payments to organisations, but reiterated that funding was being allocated by the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership.

Ms Hardy advised that a standardised commissioning framework was being devised regionally to ensure transparency.

**6 Work of Locality Planning Groups**

Mr Doherty said it would be important to ensure that the Locality Planning Groups were properly aligned with the Western Outcomes Group to ensure more collaborative working. He said if good foundations were in place, the Western Outcomes Group would be more effective.

Ms Magee and Ms Donnelly gave a presentation on locality planning in the west. They reported that there were five Locality Planning Groups – Fermanagh, Omagh, Strabane, Derry & Limavady. The role of each Locality Planning Group was a partnership between children and young people, families, communities and representatives of agencies at local level. Their primary purpose is to draw up a locality plan to address priorities identified through outcomes based planning and to mobilise local resources from the statutory, voluntary and community sectors to address these priorities. Ms Magee & Ms Donnelly advised that the five Locality Planning Groups were working on new action plans which would address the issues raised at local level in relation to the six high level outcomes by evaluating the qualitative and quantitative information available.

Mrs McDaid noted that some of the priorities identified were also regional and national priorities, but were all interlinked. Mr Doherty said everything should be referenced at the Western Outcomes Group and that it was vital that there was inclusive and full membership of the group.

Mr Conway said it was important to have one partnership, with one view, for children's outcomes.

Mr Armstrong was invited to give a presentation on the work of Hubs. He advised that there were seven Hubs within the Western Trust and all the Hubs operated from within Family Centres. He said the definition of a Family Support Hub was a single point of contact for children, families and professionals which co-ordinated a range of Family Support Services and activities to enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of vulnerable children and families. He said the core objective of Family Support Hubs was to enhance awareness, communication, connectedness and, critically, the co-ordination of Family Support Services in local areas with an emphasis on prevention and early intervention. A copy of Mr Armstrong's presentation was distributed to members.

	<p>Mr Doherty noted the good relationship already established between the Hubs and the Locality Planning Groups.</p> <p>Mr Doherty thanked Ms Magee, Ms Donnelly and Mr Armstrong for their presentations.</p>
7	<p><b>Social Investment Fund – Consultation Document</b></p> <p>Mr Doherty thanked Mr Mackie for forwarding comments on the Social Investment Fund’s consultation document. Mr Doherty confirmed that Mr Mackie’s comments had been forwarded to Ms Godfrey.</p>
8	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Outcomes Groups Report</b></p> <p>Ms Hardy distributed copies of a presentation that herself and Mr Paul Morgan, Chair of the Southern Outcomes Group, had made to the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership meeting, detailing the work of all the groups to date. Ms Hardy noted the energy and commitment of all the Outcomes Groups.</p> <p><b>Participation</b></p> <p>Mr Conway said it was important for the group to consider the best ways of engaging with children, young people and parents.</p> <p><b>Membership – Locality Planning Groups</b></p> <p>Ms Donnelly distributed membership lists for the Locality Planning Groups.</p> <p><b>2012 Meetings</b></p> <p>It was agreed to change the venue of 2012 meetings at Strabane Enterprise Agency to the Conference Room instead of the Boardroom, if it was available.</p>
9	<p><b>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>21 December 2011 at 10.00 am in the Denis Desmond Room, Trust Headquarters, Altnagelvin Hospital Site.</p>