

A meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership took place on Friday 13th February 2015 at 9.30 am in the Rathbeg Room, Antrim Enterprise Agency, Antrim

Present/Apologies:

Please see attached attendance document.

1. Arrival and Welcome

In the absence of Ms Valerie Watts Ms Fionnuala McAndrew chaired the meeting.

Ms McAndrew thanked members for their attendance and welcomed them to the meeting. Roundtable introductions were carried out and apologies were noted.

Ms McAndrew acknowledged the changes to Education Structures and thanked the Education and Library Board members for their contribution to the development of the CYPSP and looked forward to the continued involvement of Education through the new Education and Skills Authority.

Ms McAndrew also noted that Koulla Yiasouma has been appointed the new Children's Commissioner and will take up her new position in March.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 20th September 2014

Members **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th September 2014 as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. Purpose of Today's Meeting

Ms McAndrew, advised members of the purposes of the meeting:

- (a) Receive and note the review of the 2011-14 plan
- (b) Have an initial discussion on the development of the new CSP plan
- (c) Consider the Private members bill to establish a statutory duty to cooperate

4. Matters Arising:

a. Outcomes Groups proposals for developing a model of integrated provision

Ms Anne Hardy, in her capacity as Children's Services Planning Officer, presented an update paper on Outcomes Groups proposals for developing a model of integrated provision (please see attached document).

The intention of this work is to develop five pilots of integrated provision (one in each Outcomes Group area) that model different ways of working across agencies. The key question/challenge for the Outcomes groups is to achieve this change within existing resources. The learning from each pilot will come back to CYPSP to consider regional applicability. This will be incorporated into each Outcomes Groups work plan.

Ms Hardy noted that to date Northern OG have chosen to work on disability, the Southern OG have chosen BME, Belfast OG has chosen emotional resilience and South Eastern has chosen learning and achievement. The Western OG is considering a theme.

Mr Paul Morgan said that Southern OG had chosen BME based on an analysis of their population.

Ms Pauline Leeson stated that she is pleased that there is a focus on disability as the Northern Outcomes Group has chosen this theme for their pilot work. She felt that this was a group of families that needed organisations to work more closely together. The EITP process, to date, has not funded any specific work for families with disabled children.

Mr Hugh McCaughey said that it was important that we do not just drive change in one area but pay equal attention to how we ensure that all areas can learn from the pilots. He noted that there are useful models relating to how to implement change more widely.

Ms Koulla Yiasouma noted that this development offered a good opportunity to make links between the work of the Outcomes Groups and the work of the Regional Subgroups.

Ms Hardy said that there have been discussions at the chairs meeting about strengthening these links and ensuring the Outcomes groups can link to the expertise in the Regional Subgroups. She confirmed that she would be mindful of Mr Hugh McCaughey's point about ensuring wider implementation of learning.

Mr Leeson said that CYPSP was supporting a North/South Implementation Learning Community to give a greater focus to implementation science and to learn from other areas how they have implemented change both at a local and a regional level. The idea is to build the capacity in the workforce to support implementation. Details of this initiative would be made available to members and can be found on CYPSP website.

Ms Dawn Shaw agreed that the implementation initiative was potentially very useful. She added that CYPSP should take opportunities to reduce the number of groups and ensure that those remaining had clear outcomes.

Mr Tony Rodgers reminded the meeting of the importance of using existing groups to take this initiative forward rather than adding to the number of groups.

Ms Annie Campbell raised a question of where sexual and domestic violence fitted into this agenda. It was noted that Mr Martin Quinn from HSCB chaired a regional group focussing on this issue and had opportunities to influence this work through the chairs group.

Ms Maura Muldoon queried the difference between Outcomes Groups and Thematic Regional Subgroups. Ms McAndrew said that the Outcomes Groups had a local focus on early intervention for all children and the Regional Subgroups focussed on planning for particular groups of vulnerable children.

ACTION-

Work on integrated service pilots to continue

Information on Implementation Learning Community to be circulated to members

b. MOU with NICCY

Mr Maurice Leeson advised members that the CYPSP have a Memorandum of Understanding with NICCY. This needs to be reviewed but it is proposed that this will be held until the new commissioner is in post.

c. Early Intervention subgroup meeting

Mr Leeson advised that this item would be part of the main agenda item on the new plan.

d. Paper on relationship between EITP and CYPSP

This paper is going to the EITP board in March; members will be updated with progress at the next meeting.

e. Paper on relationship between OFMDFM and CYPSP on development of new Children's Strategy

This paper is currently in development, the office is behind the initial timeline decided for the Children's Strategy. CYPSP are key stakeholders in the development of this new strategy. Members will be updated on progress at the next meeting.

f. Review of CYPSP

Mr Leeson advised that this item would be discussed on the main agenda under the review item.

5. Review of CYPSP plan 2011-14

Ms Anne Hardy presented the review of the CYPSP Plan (please see attached presentation).

She highlighted a number of developments-

Action Plans 2012 agreed priorities/outcomes

Commissioning framework

Services commissioned at Outcomes Group level

Joined up use of resources – DSC funding included in commissioning at Outcomes Group

Improved co-ordination of service provision – LPGs and Family Support Hubs

Agreed joint definition of early intervention

Scan of early intervention strategies and policies carried out and made available on CYPSP website

Mapping early intervention services – Family Support Database

Development of 24 family support hubs

Evaluation toolkit

Ms Hardy posed a number of questions inviting initial response to what has been achieved over the first phase of CYPSP including what's worked and what can we do better?

A number of key themes emerged including-

What worked well?

The development of the Family Support Hubs supported by CYPSP as an effective way of seeing organisations working together to improve outcomes

Outcomes groups have massive potential to make difference at geographical level.

Infrastructure that supported the work

Information provided by CYPSP is very useful and is a great resource.

What could be better was:

Use partnership more as lever

More contribution by agencies to the whole

Evaluation toolkit needs to be promoted and implemented better

Better connection between the wide number of strategies focussed on children, young people and families

Sharper focus on the difference we are making and added value of partnership.

Need to compare how we are doing with the UK as a whole

Need to improve the connectedness across the infrastructure and keep streamlining on the agenda.

The importance of using common language was discussed as something to be improved.

Ms McAndrew stated that the Children's Services Planning process has been going on for 15 years, with the CYPSP the latest step on the journey.

She acknowledged the importance of keeping supporting infrastructure under review as the issue of being more efficient is critical.

Action-the review paper was accepted by the CYPSP

6. Discussion session on development of new CSP plan

Mr Leeson provided a presentation for the group on the CYPSP plan (please see attached presentation).

Mr Leeson noted that the Children's Services Planning Guidance (1998) states there should be a new CSP plan every 3 years (paragraph 1.4) but the legislation states that the CSP plan should be reviewed 'at least once in each financial year' (2(a)) and following review there should be 'modifications' to the plan or 'a plan in substitution for that plan' (2(b)(i)).

Mr Leeson reminded members that CYPSP had made a decision to bring CYPSP plans in line with Comprehensive Spending Review/Programme for Government cycle. This is in line with CSP guidance (paragraph 5.4).

The 2011-14 plan has been substantially reviewed over the last two CYPSP meetings and the new draft plan includes

- a. a number of items that required roll over into the new plan from the old
- b. a number of new items that CYPSP has been asked to take on
- c. a number of new work items agreed in previous CYPSP meetings

As such the attached draft plan is a modification of the existing plan and would cover the period 2014-17 with a substantive new plan emerging during this period in tandem with the other planning cycles.

The intention in presenting today is to get an initial response from members to the draft and then to continue to work on the content for presentation to the next CYPSP for sign off.

Several questions were attached in a separate document circulate with the papers (please see attached) which the groups were asked to discuss and provide feedback.

Members were also asked to indicate if they felt a wider stakeholder event in place of the June meeting would be useful to review the plan.

Mr Leeson stated that there is a possibility of this becoming a yearly event if members felt it useful.

Action

The concept of opening up the June meeting as a wider Stakeholder event was agreed

The 2014-2017 plan would be formally presented to the stakeholder meeting

7. Private Members Bill on Statutory Duty to Cooperate

Mr Maurice Leeson presented on the Private Members Bill (Please see attached presentation).

Mr Leeson noted that members had in their packs-

- a. The draft bill
- b. The associated explanatory memorandum
- c. A short note comparing the proposed clauses in the bill with the existing Children's Services Planning legislation.

Mr Leeson noted that the expressed purpose of the bill was to put CYPSP on to a statutory footing with an associated duty on organisations to cooperate together in order to achieve the six high level outcomes.

Mr. Leeson noted that the bill was a private members Bill sponsored by Mr. Steven Agnew, MLA. It was introduced to the Assembly on 8 December, 2014 and passed second stage reading on 26 January 2015. It had now been referred to OFMDFM committee for consideration and evidence sessions.

Mr Leeson stated that the bill has received support but has also prompted questions relating to the potential for additional cost and added bureaucracy. These themes are likely to be explored in the committee sessions.

Ms Koulla Yiasouma asked if as the bill progresses is it the partnerships intention to submit bearing in mind all of the groups which are involved. Ms Dawn Shaw added that she feels we should as it is a partnership issue.

Ms McAndrew told members that a discussion can be started about collecting a partnership response. This will need to reflect if some people don't want to be involved.

ACTION- Discussion to commence around partnership response

8. Items for Noting:

- a. **Information System Report Card (VM)**
- b. **Communications Report Card (AH)**
- c. **Regional Subgroups Report card (ML)**

Ms McAndrew opened the floor for any questions or queries on the above items. As no questions were asked she advised that any questions could be directed to the CYPSP Team.

9. Dates for 2014/2015 Meetings

Mr Leeson reported that the next meeting would take place at a new venue, Mossley Mill in Newtownabbey. It is likely this will be a Stakeholder Event involving wider members of CYPSP. The dates of the next meetings are the 12th June 2015 and 2nd October 2015, members are asked to attend for 9.30am to allow a 10.00am start.

DRAFT