

Quality Care - for you, with you

Southern Area Outcomes Group

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday, 3 February 2015 at
9.30am, in Boardroom, Tower Hill, Armagh

Present:

Colm McCafferty, Chair, SHSCT
Margaret Gibney, Administrator
Anne Hardy, CYPSP
Una Magee, Barnardos
Rachel Long, NIACRO
Jacinta Linton, South Down Family Health
Michael Heaney, Youth Justice Agency
Gerry Bleakney, PHA
Stephen Smith, Craigavon Intercultural Programme
Ciara Burke, Health Improvement Armagh & Dungannon
Mairead McMullen, Clogher Valley Surestart Manager
Helen Dunn, Regional Family Support Hub Co-ordinator
Joanne McCourt, BCM Project Manager
Michaela Cullen, BELONG
Kieran Shields, SELB
Mairead Abraham, Southern Childcare Partnership
Maurice Leeson, HSCB
Nuala Haughey, CYPSP
Pauline Leeson

Apologies:

Paul Morgan, Chair, SHSCT
Geraldine Maguire, SHSCT
Michael Hoy, SHSCT
Gerard Houlahan, Armagh & City District Council
Catriona Regan, Banbridge Council
Shirley Gillespie, Early Years
Colin Moffet, Newry & Mourne DC
Diane Clarke, Craigavon DC
Julie Bolton, CYPSP
Drew Neill, VOYPIC
Deirdre Wiggins, NIHE
Claire Linney, Dungannon and South Tyrone Council
Merissa McGeery

Welcome & Introductions:

Colm welcomed members to the meeting advising that he would be Chairing today's meeting in Paul's absence.

A round of introductions were completed and apologies were duly noted.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Agreed as an accurate reflection of previous meeting.

Matter Arising:

None noted

Update from Locality Planning Groups

Pauline Leeson reported that stakeholder events have now been completed in Banbridge and Newry; an online Safety Workshop is currently being undertaken with Parenting NI. Pauline circulated report to members for information. No further update at this time.

Agency Updates:

Colm stated that this should be a standing item on the agenda for Outcomes Meeting; the purpose being that any agency can provide update on information/developments or challenges and bring to this forum for discussion. Colm then asked if any agency had anything they would like to add.

Mairead advised that the draft budget indicates Child Care Partnership may benefit from a potential £2million; however at present it is unclear as to whether or not all of this money or some of the money will be allocated.

Bright Start Programme – Mairead advised that OFMDFM have allocated funding to 12 projects; Mairead explained that Bright Start Programme is based on out of school child care provision. At present she cannot confirm which projects have been successful until money has been confirmed.

Colm asked if there was any indication as to the duration of these projects. Mairead advised that the projects will run for 2.5-3yrs in an attempt to create sustainable child care.

Colm asked if a brief synopsis of the projects could be circulated to members detailing when it would be likely that they would begin.

Jacinta Linden (South Down Family Health) advised that currently they are piloting a service model offering short-term practical support to families who fall outside Sure Start and Home Start areas. To date 41 families have been referred, finances have been allocated to purchase goods to help support these families on a practical basis. In relation to current "Big Lotto" bid Jacinta advised that they are now through to the second stage, interview were held last week and she is hopeful the proposal will go to March Panel for consideration. Jacinta asked member agencies if they could provide any statistical information that would support the bid; they should forward information to Jacinta.

Stephen Smith (CIP) advised that they too are in the same position and asked if any information could be provided to help support bid. Stephen advised that currently CIP are working with the Trust, AHP and Action Cancer to help provide support to BME families and in particular to help build capacity to enable families to work on their own.

Colm noted that BME families appear to be under-represented in terms of statistics relating to availing of Family Support. Colm agreed with Stephen that when BME families do come to the attention of statutory agencies it is usually with high level complex needs, therefore statutory agencies would welcome early intervention.

Kieran Shields (SELB) advised that Armagh Council also have a bid in relation to Family Support and a range of early intervention measures.

Colm asked for updates on the various applications for funding to be kept on the agenda of this meeting to ensure partners are fully appraised re progress.

Action:
**Member agencies to forward any statistical information which
could help support bids to Jacinta and Stephen ASAP
Item to be kept on Agenda**

Michael Heaney (Youth Justice Agency) stated that currently he is involved with a Local Implementation Team in relation to CAHMS service; this group is looking at how the service can be reorganised in line with new "Stepped Care" Model. The group met last week and felt it would be beneficial to link in with Southern Outcomes; therefore Michael

agreed to raise this at today's meeting and seek members views on how this link could be best established.

It was agreed that Locality Chairs will provide feedback to their groups and ascertain their views. It was also agreed that Geraldine Maguire (Chair of LIT) would provide details of a representative to attend the next Outcomes Meeting to discuss this further.

Action

Geraldine Maguire to arrange for representative to attend next Outcomes Meeting to discuss LIT re CAHMS

EITP Update – Maurice Meehan

Colm welcomed Maurice to today's meeting and thanked him for coming along to provide an update on EITP Stream 2 and the new services going to tender.

Maurice Meehan referenced the report provided for today's meeting detailing brief background of project to date, highlighting that the focus of the project is providing an Early Intervention Service.

Maurice Meehan then provided an outline view of the proposal region wide, which consisted of three years phasing in of a number of Early Intervention Services:

8 in Year 1,
7 in Year 2 and
5 in Year 3 totalling 20.

Craigavon and Banbridge had been initially identified as the pilot area, it is envisaged that these services will be phased in and reviewed.

Maurice Meehan advised that after consultation the PHA is of the view that 5 services (across N Ireland) will be phased in over the 3year period. Maurice emphasised the PHA's objective is to establish a service in the Southern Area which has been tested, is fit for purpose and is adding value to existing services.

Colm stated that any investment is very welcome in the Southern Area. Maurice Leeson concurred however expressed some reservations in relation to the proposed staffing and remit of the service. Maurice Meehan advised that the proposal for the Team is 2.5 Band 6 and 1 Band4.

Colm stated that the preference would be for workers in the service to focus on offering families practical support, noting that statistics collected from Family Support Hubs indicate that this is what families have asked for. Colm expressed concerns in relation to the therapeutic focus of the service and questioned if this is duplicating the role of already existing services in the locality.

Rachel Long (NIACRO) reported that 29 referrals were received into the Hub in the month of January with a number of these referrals being in relation to Adults with mental health difficulties or disabilities who were asking for practical support with their families.

Maurice Meehan acknowledged the points raised however noted that behind the practical support required by families there can be complex issues which also need to be addressed, which is where the Early Intervention comes in and skill mix provided by Band6 workers.

Maurice Leeson emphasised that Band 6 are qualified staff and therefore there is an expectation that therapeutic work will be undertaken. Colm agreed noting that YPP, FIT and PMHW already provide this service Trustwide therefore he feels there would be duplication in the services proposed. Colm reiterated that statistics show there is a growing need for practical hands on support to families at an early intervention stage and this work can be carried out by Band4 staff which would enable more staff to be employed and therefore more families could benefit.

Colm noted some other reservations he would have in relation to the proposal for open referrals, meaning anyone can make a referral to the service. Colm stated that he believes this would immediately lead to the service being inundated with referrals.

Maurice Meehan acknowledged all points raised highlighting that evidence clearly suggests Family Support Hubs are highly successful and popular. Maurice Meehan agreed to take on board points raised today and take these back for further discussion. Maurice Meehan asked members to support the commissioning of the pilot suggesting that the learning from the pilot can be used in the future. Maurice Meehan agreed to meet with Helen Dunn and Maurice Leeson following today's meeting to discuss this further.

Further discussion ensued in relation to what members felt was needed in the Southern area i.e. more hands on practical support to families at an early intervention stage.

Maurice Meehan agreed to come back to Outcomes Members ASAP to advise if there is any potential to review the staffing compliment.

Colm thanked Maurice for attending today's meeting adding that his attendance and contribution was beneficial to members.

Pauline Leeson asked if it would be helpful to provide a 'brief' from the Southern Outcomes Group detailing collective views on the proposed service and this was agreed

Action:

Colm to draft brief paper detailing collective views of Outcomes members on the proposed staffing compliment.

Action Planning:

Anne commented that the current Action Plan is continuing to take shape; work is still required in relation to some indicators. Anne suggested that members break into groups and revise these indicators, providing feedback to Anne in order that she may collate the information.

Action:

Members to provide feedback regarding indicators to Anne in order that she may collate information to finalise Action Plan

Update Family Support Hubs

Colm provided a brief update on Family Support Hubs highlighting an increase in referrals in the last quarter and in particular referrals received from schools. Colm referenced report provided for today's meeting and agreed to circulate electronic copies to members for their perusal.

Action:

Margaret to circulate electronic copy of update on Family Support Hubs to members

Feedback from CYPSP Chairs:

Anne provided a brief update noting that Outcomes group have agreed that a significant piece of work will focus on BME; Anne advised that at next meeting some discussion will be held to identify a Lead to take this work forward.

Feedback Information High Level Report

Anne reminded members of the 6 month timescale for information; therefore members are asked to provide any feedback to Anne within the next two weeks.

Action:

Margaret to recirculate high level report; members to provide any feedback to Anne within two weeks.

Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 31.03.15 at 9.30am in CIP Offices, Foundary Street, Portadown, BT63 5AB.