

**BELFAST OUTCOMES GROUP
MEETING HELD IN
WOMEN'S AID CENTRE, ADELAIDE PARK, BELFAST
ON 15 DECEMBER 2015 AT 10.00 A.M.**

Name	Organisation	Present	Apology
Ms. Lesley Walker (Chair)	Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Statutory Sector			
Mr. Tommy Boyle	Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Ms. Carol Diffin	Belfast HSC Trust	✓	
Mr. Des Marley	NIHE, Belfast Area		✓
Ms. Jill Trotter	BELB		✓
Mr. Séamus Mullen	PHA		✓
Ms. Elaine Black	Belfast City Council	✓	
Ms. Patricia Muldoon	Youth Justice Agency	✓	
Mr. Danny Power	HSCB Belfast Local Commissioning Group		✓
Const. Rosemary O'Callaghan	PSNI		✓
Community Sector			
Ms. Maggie Andrews	East Belfast Community Rep.	✓	
Ms. Tina Gregory	West Belfast Community Rep.	✓	
Ms. Natasha Brennan	South Belfast Community Rep.		✓
Ms. Maria Morgan	North Belfast Community Rep.		✓
Voluntary Sector			
Ms. Anne Donnelly	Belfast & Lisburn Women's Aid		✓
Ms. Alison McNulty	Tiny Life		✓
Mr. Colm Walsh	Extern		✓
Ms. Colette Slevin	Mencap	✓	
BME Sector			
Ms. Dawn Thompson	Bryson Children's Services		✓
Partnership Sector			
Ms. Roisin McCooley	Belfast Childcare Partnership	✓	
Mr. Jackie Redpath	Belfast Strategic Partnership	✓	
Mr. Jim Morgan	Belfast Strategic Partnership		✓
Ms. Jackie McBrinn	BHDU Manager		✓
In Attendance			
Ms. Patricia Lyness	Director Women's Aid obo Anne Donnelly	✓	
Ms. Brenda Martin	BELB obo Jill Trotter		✓
Ms. Anne Hardy	CYPSP Children's Services	✓	
Ms. Una Casey	CYPSP		✓
Mr. Gerry Largey	Belfast HSC Trust – Hub Lead	✓	
Mr. Maurice Leeson	HSCB – CYPSP Link		✓
Ms. Helen Dunn	CYPSP	✓	
Mr. Jim Girvan	Community Representative	✓	
Ms. Trisha O'Connor	Minute Taker	✓	

	<p><u>EITP</u> – Ms. Hardy informed that Mr. Leeson is unable to attend as he is attending the Project Board Meeting today and will feedback at next meeting. Ms. Walker highlighted the need for regular updates on a timely basis re: CIF and EITP as these may have implications re: newly commissioned projects linked to Hubs and Finance. Ms. Walker would welcome thoughts from members re: how update reports should be provided re: this work.</p> <p><u>Education</u> – It was previously agreed that Ms. Hardy would liaise with Education Authority reps. at Locality Group level and Outcomes Group level and feedback. Ms. Hardy confirmed that she has liaised with Jill Trotter and shared relevant documents with her. Ms. Trotter and Brenda Martin convened a meeting yesterday afternoon to discuss all issues and Ms. Martin was scheduled to attend today’s meeting to provide feedback. Due to unforeseen circumstances, this is not possible. Ms. Hardy updated that there is an emerging Action Plan for Children and Young People within the Education Authority and they are currently in the process of appointing a Children and Young People Director. Ms. Hardy has agreed to meet in the New Year with Education reps to discuss the documents and the changes across Education Authority. Ms. Walker noted that challenges may be brought up with Regional Education Authority as a number of concerns have been raised regionally. Ms. Gregory stated that Education Authority have not been fully involved in Locality Planning/Outcomes groups. She also added that most input and effort appeared to be happening from the community and voluntary sectors and not within statutory sectors. Ms. Black noted the absence of a Youth Service Rep. and Ms. McCooley noted Pre-school Advisory Groups. Ms. Slevin added that it is quite critical to take advice from Education particularly with the abolition of the Youth Council last week. No interim measure has been put in place and people are stunned re: the announcement, it is felt that ‘youth’ is being lost from anything ‘CYP’ and this is critical for the voluntary sector organisations. Mr. Largey advised that there had been patchy Education involvement at Locality Planning level; at a Hub level, there had been more involvement from school staff but this is also fragmented. Ms. Gregory added that the School Coordinators should be attending Locality Planning Groups and this has been addressed with Brenda Martin. Ms. Walker enquired as to how this involvement can be completed. Una Casey and Laura Rankin can provide information re: LPG attendance.</p> <p>Ms. Hardy <i>Ms. Hardy to clarify all issues at upcoming meeting with Education Authority and feedback.</i></p> <p>Mr. Largey <i>Mr. Largey to collate any relevant information re: Education and feedback.</i></p> <p><u>AOB</u> – Link re: Children’s Strategy has been shared. Ms. McCooley advised that the OFMDFM Child Care Team is moving to Department of Education next year and there will be different departments for the Childcare Strategy and Children and Young People’s Unit. Consultation period has completed.</p>
	<p>5. Update from Locality Planning Groups</p> <p>Ms. Hardy provided an update. Document was shared at last meeting to join up things and link up outcomes of Locality Planning Groups and Outcomes Groups. Discussion had been useful but it had been decided that LPG Chairs and Community Reps. would meet to discuss in further detail.</p>

Meeting was convened last week and recommendations were made. In Ms. Casey's absence, Laura Rankin has been helping to support the Locality Planning Groups. During the meeting, discussion took place re: the work of the LPG's as an outworking of the Outcomes Group, working together re: join up of outcomes, tidy up evidence from LPG Action Plan for Outcomes Group Action Plan and it was suggested that the evidence is reviewed between now and next LPG meeting to inform a strategic Action Plan that LPG actions can align with. Ms. Walker added that it was recognised that there is a need for plans to be more simple and transparent with clear timescales and evidencing what we are trying to achieve at a local level and how this all links to overall strategic outcomes. Process needs to be simplified with a 2 page summary coming to Outcomes Group. Ms. Gregory agreed that the paperwork is too complex currently. Ms. Gregory also reiterated her earlier point re: expected changes arising in the community and voluntary sectors and not statutory sector, with exception of FSH funding. Ms. Walker noted the importance of challenge and that this is an opportunity to think about doing things differently. She advised that the Trust are currently looking at structures and this may have relevance to Service Delivery to children and young people.

Ms. Black enquired re: the documents mentioned by Ms. Hardy. Ms. Hardy explained that some work had been completed and collated but there is still some mapping work to do re: Locality Planning under BSP and we need to tidy up document in January or March meeting as it is 20 pages long. We will also need to review our Action Plan, see what is required at a local level and what emerging needs require to be met, map out what are statutory agencies doing in respect of Children and Young People and Early Intervention, map out all ongoing Early Intervention work and what can Outcomes Group do to progress this work. Ms. Black cited that she still felt some lack of clarity re: Belfast Agenda and that this should be focussed on outcomes and measured using service indicators. She suggested using a performance scorecard. Ms. Hardy responded and informed that outcomes/report cards were in use by Outcomes Group, LPG Action Plan involves measuring of these outcomes at a local level and that there is currently a group working on Performance Management Measures.

Considerable discussion ensued re: budget, opportunities, protocol and structure, performance as a partnership, smart action plan needed to identify emerging needs and re-shape services, non-duplication of money/services. Mr. Girvan suggested Council rep. and YJA attendance at a future / March meeting re: their Programme for next year to see how these fit in with the plan.

Further work to be done at March meeting.

Discussion continued re: an emerging need being recognised via all of the Family Support Hubs – lack of services for children and young people with ASD and behavioural issues, the substantial waiting lists, lack of practical parenting time taken to provide medical diagnosis. Ms. Walker stated that this issue has also been recognised at a regional level. Ms. Diffin informed of 2 ongoing pieces of work in-Trust to review and improve this work re: Autism and Behavioural Issues.

Following query from Ms. Walker, Mr. Largey advised that in order to connect unmet needs, Family Support Hub Coordinators and LPG Chairs are encouraged to meet regularly to discuss emerging needs and pressure

	<p>points. Themes are then identified and challenges made to organisations re: support to families. Ms. Hardy suggested a new 2 page report is tabled at Outcomes Group from Locality Planning Groups re: emerging needs, the issues and evidence. Mr. Girvan suggested breaking information down into a scorecard. MS. Walker suggestion liaising with Education Authority and other Organisations re: support.</p>
	<p>6. Update from Family Support Hubs</p> <p>Mr. Largey spoke to this item. There are 10 Hubs and Launch Events are ongoing and upcoming, Taughmonagh and Donegall Road yesterday, Joint West Launch and Re-launch on 13th January (4 Hubs), OSE Launch on 14th January and Joint North (2 Hubs) at the end of January. Hubs have been generating considerable activity and generating challenges to Trusts and Statutory Agencies. Training continues to be rolled out and is in high demand re: Neglect, Supervision, Risk Management etc.</p> <p>Poverty has become one of the biggest issues for the Hubs. The Council are currently undertaking work on a local level, also called Locality Planning, dealing with young people involved with alcohol and drugs, poverty, education and employment and community safety.</p> <p>Evidence re: linkages can be seen within the Mental Health Hubs re: families presenting with similar Family Support and Early Intervention issues as being presented to Family Support Hubs.</p> <p>Mr. Girvan enquired re: funding across the 10 Hubs and the protective notice for 31st December. Ms. Walker confirmed that a meeting with HSCB is scheduled for this Friday re: the ending of the DSC monies and that high-level discussions are ongoing. No assurances have been given. This is on the CYPSP's agenda. Mr. Girvan noted disappointment that the FSH funding critical issues were not on the agenda of the recent CYPSP meeting. Ms. Dunn explained that Family Support Hubs and funding are a major issue and are discussed daily within HSCB. .</p>
	<p>7. Peter Hutchinson – Development of a new Children and Young People's Strategy</p> <p>Ms. Walker welcomed Mr. Peter Hutchinson to present at today's meeting and introductions were made around the table again for Mr. Hutchinson's benefit. He informed the group re: the CYP Unit in OFMDFM and that his purpose today is to discuss the development of the Children and Young Peoples Strategy. Current Strategy commenced in 2006 and concludes in 2016 and has been developed with stakeholders. OFMDFM are now commencing a new process looking at the strengths and weaknesses of same with a view to creating a new Strategy which will hopefully be launched in April 2017. They want to have a co-designed process with involvement from all of the Community, Voluntary and Statutory Sectors to develop a strategy to better support and improve the wellbeing of Children and Young People and their Rights.</p> <p>A copy of Ms. June Wilkinson's presentation was provided for today's meeting and Mr. Hutchinson outlined each slide in considerable detail. 'Rights' was previously one of the 6 pillars but will now be the overarching theme and outcomes will be measured beneath this. Co-Design – along with agencies, children, young people, parents and guardians will also be</p>

involved to critique work being done. OBA approach will be used and discussions with stakeholders will take place to advise re: realistic measures. They will also link with other government departments. Specific target groups may also need to be linked in with such as BME, LGBT etc.

There are some wider issues. Cooperation Bill – This has now been passed and is the Co-operation in Children's Services **Act**. They will look at how this could be useful in Government and it compels Government to improve the wellbeing of children and young people. It also requires them to report bi-annually re: same and to review. Programme for Government – the new Minister is keen for the Strategy to be at the heart of this programme. There are a lot of budget and restructuring pressures across Departments. UNCRC gave concluding observations re: Child Rights in various areas: Education, integration and selection; criminal age of responsibility; chastisement; youth assembly etc.

This will be an ongoing, moveable process. Full involvement at this stage is requested. Discussion document will be circulated in first instance with Consultation Document following in summer period. It is hoped that the final Strategy will be agreed in the new year 2017. Cooperation Act tells us that process needs to be in by 12 months and they will be working towards this timescale. NICCY and CLC have produced reports raising some issues. The questionnaires have been circulated and Mr. Hutchinson asked everyone to complete a questionnaire or to contact himself or June Wilkinson directly for further discussion, 02890523462, june.wilkinson@ofmdfmi.gov.uk / Peter.Hutchinson@ofmdfmi.gov.uk.

Ms. Walker opened the meeting for some questions / comments. She advised that Ms. Wilkinson had presented to CYPSP and there had been some very useful discussion re: same. There is absolute need for connection between Children's Strategy, Programme for Government and the Cooperation Act. There was considerable discussion re: the engagement with the children and young people and how this could and will take place, via focus groups, thematic groups etc. and the various forums and focus groups already in place and the implications re: lack of a youth assembly and abolishment of the Youth Council.

Ms. Black enquired re: accountability and the manageability of the Programme for Government. Mr. Hutchinson advised that they will push for children and young people to be included but if it isn't, then the Cooperation Act will drive accountability.

Ms. Gregory enquired re: indicators and how changes will be measured, particularly re: very young children. She noted that there is currently little opportunity for engagement with very young children and that the SureStarts have a considerable amount of data available. Engagement with young children will be required as well as older children and young people.

Ms. Redpath noted issue with notion of 'Forums' and using adult structures to engage with children.

Mr. Hutchinson asked for all useful information to feedback to himself and Ms. Wilkinson. He advised that the indicators will come from measures and he has spoken with Valerie Maxwell, Queen's University and University of Ulster re: same, a separate consultation process may be required. Considerable discussion ensued. Mr. Hutchinson assured that OFMDFM will be working to ensure no duplication and line up with the priorities and

<p><i>All</i></p> <p><i>All</i></p> <p><i>All</i></p> <p><i>All</i></p> <p><i>All</i></p>	<p>outcomes of the LAC Strategy and Child Poverty Strategy.</p> <p><i>Focus on Questionnaire and streamlining LPG Outcomes at January Meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Any views / feedback to be forwarded by mid-January.</i></p> <p><i>If further discussion or internal agency discussion, contact June Wilkinson.</i></p> <p><i>Questionnaires to be completed collectively on behalf of the Outcomes Group as well as on behalf of individual agencies.</i></p> <p><i>All comments to be forwarded to Trish for collation on behalf of Outcomes Group.</i></p>
<p><i>Ms. Hardy</i></p>	<p>8. Feedback from CYPSP / Chairs</p> <p>Children and Young People’s Strategy was the main point of discussion at CYPSP and it was agreed to hold 1 further workshop re: this Strategy.</p> <p>Belfast City Council has met with NICCY – Ms. Black updated re: this pressing oversight and highlighted that connections are needed between NICCY and Outcomes Group. BCC has raised issues re: the NICCY Model for Engagement and Ms. Black enquired if discussions should take place at this group. Ms. Hardy advised that there is a Memo of Understanding between NICCY and CYPSP. Ms. Black felt that there is a gap and that a strategic Belfast conversation is required. Ms. Walker asked the group’s opinion re: inviting a NICCY rep. to Outcomes, Ms. Gregory noted that it depends on what they are being asked to do.</p> <p><i>Ms. Hardy to bring the NICCY Memo of Understanding to January’s meeting to clarify linkages and for decision re: future invitation to Outcomes Group.</i></p> <p>Ms. Gregory then noted that the connectivity between Hubs, Locality Planning Groups, Outcomes Group and CYPSP requires to be strong with LPG Chairs’ participation at this Meeting. Ms. Walker advised that this issue had previously been raised regionally and we now have the 4 LPG Chairs at this meeting albeit by default.</p> <p>Ms. Hardy informed re: CYPSP sub-groups which are under review. A paper has been submitted to the Partnership to decide which sub-groups will continue and which will change to a short-life working group. More detail re: outworkings of the groups has been requested and after consideration at next CYPSP meeting, feedback to be brought back to Outcomes Group.</p>
	<p>9. Action Planning</p> <p>Linked to earlier conversation above.</p>
	<p>10. Agency Updates</p> <p><u>CIF and EITP</u> – A better reporting/update mechanism is required to Outcomes Group, e.g. re: CIF Projects in South Belfast and how it links with Children with Disabilities respite arrangements and the impacts of same. PHA had requested that Outcomes Group become an independent</p>

	<p>monitoring mechanism for that Project but members were not keen and this idea was not agreed. Discussion ensued re: CIF Projects, implications, performance, directive may be needed to come from CYP Unit via Outcomes Group, lack of advice re: tender, lack of strategy in place etc.</p> <p>Ms. Gregory voiced her objection at this stage re: people leaving meeting early and during important discussions.</p>
All	<p>11. Any Other Business</p> <p><u>Timeliness of Funding</u> – Ms. Gregory noted that this has been a major issue for Organisations and provided an example in relation to Bright Start. Some organisations have been advised of their funding after the date at which they were due to have been implemented. Some groups find this approach very difficult and do not have the back-up monies to proceed in the interim. Ms. Slevin also noted that this approach can detract from quality of service as there is no lead-in time. Ms. Black added that an underspend is likely and therefore we will have to be clever and map out exactly what this can be used on and what is available. Also, if government is holding back essential money, then issues will need to be raised up.</p> <p><u>Belfast City Council</u> – Ms. Black advised that Michael Grimshaw will be the Director of the new City and Neighbourhood Department which will incorporate community safety, parks and leisure, neighbourhood functions. Community Planning will be separate.</p> <p><u>Meeting Venues</u> – Ms. Slevin advised that the new centre will open in January 2016 and they may be able to provide venue for future dates. Ms. Andrews agreed to check their venue for the next meeting. Ms. Gregory suggested Maureen Sheehan Centre and contact with Sandy Carney.</p> <p><i>Any nominations for future meeting venues to Trisha.</i></p>

12. Dates of Future Meetings

Date:	Time:	Venue:
Tuesday 12 th January 2016	10.00 a.m.	Boardroom, East Side Partnership, Avalon House, 278-280 Newtownards Road, Belfast, BT4 1HE
Tuesday 8 th March 2016	10.00 a.m.	Tbc
Tuesday 3 rd May 2016	10.00 a.m.	Tbc
Tuesday 28 th June 2016	10.00 a.m.	Tbc
Tuesday 6 th September 2016	10.00 a.m.	Tbc
Tuesday 25 th October 2016	2.00 p.m.	Tbc
Tuesday 13 th December 2016	10.00 a.m.	Tbc