

Quality Care - for you, with you

Southern Area Outcomes Group

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday, 6 October 2015 at
9.30am, in SPACE Offices,
24 Monaghan Street, Newry

Present:

Paul Morgan, Chair, SHSCT
Margaret Gibney, Administrator
Irene McClure, Personal Secretary (Shadow minute)
Anne Hardy, CYPSP
Jacinta Linden, SPACE
Rachel Long, NIACRO
Kieran Shields, SELB
Annie Clarke, CYPSP
Gerry Bleakney, PHA
Michael McCrory (on behalf of Claire Linney)
Mairead Abraham, Southern Childcare Partnership
Iain Black, VOYPIC
Michael Hoy, HOS Family Support & Safeguarding
Michelle Janes, Barnardos
Shirley Gillespie, Early Years
Michael Heaney, Youth Justice Agency
Helen Dunn,

Apologies:

Gerard Rocks, AD Promoting Well Being SHSCT
Geraldine Maguire, SHSCT
Maurice Leeson, HSCB
Nuala Haughey, CYPSP
Kirsten May, Housing Executive
Catriona Regan, Banbridge Council
Gerard Houlahan, ABC Council
Mia Murray,

Paul welcomed members to the meeting introductions were completed and apologies duly noted. Paul advised members that Michael Hoy has now replaced Colm.

Minutes from 4 August 2015 were agreed as an accurate record.

Matters Arising:

BME Task Group – Anne advised that to date she has not met with Gerry re PHA funding however it is envisaged that this will happen by end of next week.

Action:

Anne to liaise with Gerry re PHA funding for services

OFM/DFM Draft Childcare Strategy

Mairead commented that attendance from Southern area at consultation event was poor however noted that despite the low numbers good discussion occurred.

Referencing the Strategy Mairead noted that issues/challenges remain in relation to sustainability, transport, structures and funding. Mairead encouraged members/organisations to provide individual responses reminding members that the closing date is 13.11.15.

Paul queried if the expectation is that all agencies will complete their own individual response or if a collective response should be submitted from Southern Outcomes Group. Some discussion occurred in relation to this, it was agreed that any agency/organisation completing a response should copy this to Paul's office. The importance of noting Southern Outcomes as a link/vehicle to take any strategy forward was reiterated to members. Paul also expressed his disappointment at the low attendance from Southern area at consultation event.

Kieran commented that a collective response may be difficult given that voluntary agencies are free to express their opinion whilst statutory bodies may feel restricted in terms of voicing concerns/opinions.

Action:

Closing date for responses is 13.11.15 – any responses to be copied to Paul's office.

Update Action Planning:

Anne referenced Report Card highlighting that it is a vehicle for reporting back and as previously discussed is based on the Mark Freedman Model. Anne noted that all five Outcomes Groups have opted to use a similar model. Anne added that further work is required in relation to developing the effectiveness of outcomes.

Paul concurred reiterating the importance of setting achievable outcomes and consistency across the region.

Actions Task Group – Anne advised that membership of the task group was agreed (Anne, Kieran, Kristen, Rachel, Jacinta & Annie) with two meetings occurring since previous Outcomes Meeting. Anne then asked Kieran for an update.

Kieran advised that the Task Group have suggested focusing on one area/example to improve outcome. Kieran acknowledged the good links/engagement and information sharing between member agencies. Discussion ensued in relation to the importance of early intervention, and the potential link re child protection issues.

Kieran asked members to look at examples provided and forward any actions or comments for Task Group to progress.

Mairead noted that Surestart now have measures in place to track children that have availed of early years support; this information can be accessed by Education which members agreed was a significant step forward.

Paul thanked Kieran for the update commenting that report is rich with information which will assist members choosing how many indicators will be set.

Members agreed that the link between pre-school and education is evident and noted that these indicators will also contribute to other outcomes. Paul emphasised that all relevant information from member agencies should be given to Kieran and Anne.

Feedback from CYPSP Chairs

Paul referenced presentation from June Wilkinson re Children's Strategy; Making Life Better. Paul noted that all five Trusts will be represented on Regional Project Board along with representatives from Councils; there will also be a clear interface with CYPSP.

Gerry then provided a brief synopsis regarding the Strategy advising that PHA continue to meet with councils in an effort to agree and develop structure to move strategy forward.

Action:
Presentation to be circulated to members

Update from Locality Planning Groups

Annie referenced report provided highlighting that Locality Groups continue to work towards their priorities. Annie then advised of some upcoming events to be held in locality; eg Tooth Fairy Roadshow, Youth Employment and Volunteer Fair.

Annie referenced Domestic Violence awareness sessions which were recently held, advising that the sessions were very useful to attendees providing information regarding how/where to signpost support for families/victims.

Gerry raised the issue of online safety, cyber bullying and social media in terms of appropriate training programmes.

Anne advised that this issue has been raised with SBNI who will progress and develop appropriate programme.

The importance of consistency was reiterated, it was suggested that Locality Groups could be used as a vehicle to share the information.

Update Family Support Hubs

Helen referenced Annual Report Card provided for today's meeting advising that the Card is self-explanatory; there are now 29 Hubs providing complete geographic cover to the region dealing with 900+ referrals.

In relation to Southern area Helen noted that the finance section may not be accurate as it reflects 2 out of the 3 Hubs. Helen reported that the Hubs continue to deal with a range of issues providing support to

families. Finance is secured until March 2016; indications suggest that there is a desire for service to continue.

Paul commented on the statistics provided highlighting that there has been an increase in referrals from other agencies and schools which is very encouraging.

Rachel concurred adding that DHSSPS visited the Hub this week and discussed the benefits of the service and pressures they face. The visit was positive and it is envisaged further feedback will be provided.

Agency Updates:

Michael McCrory advised that some issues may arise in relation to the alignment of areas with the newly appointed councils, agreeing to keep members updated.

Michael Heaney advised that he currently participates in a regional sub group regarding Children's Justice suggesting that he bring a short briefing paper to next Outcomes Meeting to give members a brief overview of the group.

Action
Michael to bring briefing paper to next Outcomes Meeting.

Date of Next Meeting:

**Tuesday 1 December at 9.30am, Brownstown Community Centre,
Brownstown Road, Portadown**