

Quality Care - for you, with you

Southern Area Outcomes Group

Minute of meeting held on Tuesday, 12 April 2016 at 10am,
in TESS Regional Centre, Tullygally Primary School, 21 Meadowbrook Park,
Craigavon

Present:

Paul Morgan, Chair
Anne Hardy, CYPSP (Children's Services Planning Officer)
Ruth Alexander, Administrator
Julie Bolton (Locality Officer)
Diane Clarke (ABC Council)
Jacinta Linden (SPACE)
Rachel Long (Senior Practitioner, NIACRO)
Mairead Abraham (CCC Manager, HSCB)
Gerard Rocks (Acting AD Promoting Wellbeing)
Kieran Shields (Education Authority)
Michael McCrory (Mid Ulster Council)
Dr Michael Hoy (Head of Safeguarding)
Pat McGeogh (on behalf of Michele Janes)
Aisling Rennick (IFHO)
Pauline Leeson (CiNI)

Apologies:

Joanne McCourt (BCM Housing Support)
Kirsten May (NIHE)
Superintendent Davy Moore (PSNI)
Michele Janes (ADCS, Barnardos)
Shirley Gillespie (Early Years)
Jacqueline Connelly (Dungannon Chair)
Mia Murray (Armagh Chair)
Michael Heaney (Youth Justice)

Paul welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted as above. Kieran was thanked for hosting today's meeting. A round of introductions took place.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

One minor amendment was noted on the bottom of Page 2 change "Welcoming Tool" to "Wellcom Tool".

4. Matters Arising

- Mary Shalley's presentation to be circulated to Group – Achieved.
- Anne to liaise with local council reps and arrange meeting to include Paul, Julie and reps from Community Planning – Not progressed yet.
- Michael Hoy to provide an update on progress re Outcomes for Children Programme – Achieved.
- Infant Mental Health Report to be shared with members – Achieved.

5. Regional Feedback

The Regional Chairs and Outcomes Group Chairs & Regional Subgroup Chairs meet before CYPSP meet. CYPSP is due to meet next Wed to look at/discuss issues within the Groups.

Anne reported that there are now 31 Locality Planning Groups. Outcomes groups are based around the geography of the Trusts. Each Outcomes Group area is well settled.

The Locality Workers normally meet once a month. This provides very useful peer support across all areas. Anne was proposing to set up a Steering Group for Locality Planning on a regional basis and needs one person from each Outcomes Group.

The toolkit will be finalised at the April/May meeting. An individual pack will be provided for new members. All Locality Planners will have input which will be tailored to their own areas. Anne described the important information flow between the Family Support Hubs and Locality Planning and the Outcomes Groups around emerging needs. She has met with Helen Dunn to look at existing information flows and how these can be used to incorporate this information without becoming onerous.

In relation to the Action Plans, Anne reported that all Locality Planning Groups have plans and she is working with Outcomes groups to complete them.

The CYPSP meeting is scheduled for Wed 20/04/16, and June Wilkinson from the office of OFMDFM will be in attendance. Anne's briefing paper will be shared with June, presenting to her the issues arising from our work to influence the Children's Strategy.

In relation to EITP, Paul advised that Maurice Leeson had pulled together a draft report, which was a good summary of all 14 programmes. When the paper is finalised, Paul will share with the Group as it's a good summary of where we are at.

ACTION:
Paul to share Maurice Leeson's Report with the Group when finalised.

Anne did a good one page summary in relation to the projects for each of the Outcomes Groups areas. This was copied and shared with the Group.

Community Planning

The Trust has been linked into community planning processes in local councils from the outset in 2014/15. Gerard reported the Trust is only co-terminus with one Council (ABC), but also covers areas of both Mid-Ulster and Newry, Mourne & Down. As such, he has been directly involved with the development of the community planning processes and structures in each of the 3 areas. Community Plans are required to be implemented by Apr 17. All Councils are in the process of developing their draft plans which should be out for public consultation in the Autumn of 2016.

Work is ongoing in the development of Governance Infrastructures and Strategic Themes. Some work has been done across the 3 Council areas to determine their key priorities. Health and Wellbeing is a core element in all the Plans.

Strategic Plan Workshops are taking place and a number are scheduled for the future. Health & Wellbeing links back to Making Life Better (MLB). There are 6 themes in MLB. The Trust has previously carried out an internal scoping exercise to determine how fit for purpose the organisation is in relation to Making Life Better (including existing partnership arrangements). This Trust is planning to host a show case event for Making Life Better in June 16 promoting examples of collaborative working.

Links to Outcomes framework

Some work has been done in Newry and Mourne, and Down re: training partners in relation to Outcomes Based Accountability. Anne reported there are strong links between the Council and Locality Groups. Paul stressed that Community Plans need to come through the Southern Outcomes Group as they are being developed, to ensure good linkage. Communication is very important. The CYPSP Locality Planning Groups will be central in terms of delivering models on the ground and we need to ensure there is no duplication but try and streamline things as much as possible. Gerard is representing Southern Outcomes Group in terms of Community Planning. Julie reported she is also making connections at local level and will be liaising with Joanne Garret, Locality Planning Officer in the South Eastern Outcomes Group area in the overlap areas.

6 (a) Feedback from Action Planning:

Anne circulated a high level overview – Southern Area Outcomes from Regional to Local (March 2016). The work of Outcomes Group is very strategic, whilst the work at Locality Planning Level is more operational. Anne gave a presentation on the Action Plan. She advised there will be supporting documentation.

Each Outcomes Group has a page on the Website. Currently there are 6 high level outcomes. There are 8 high level outcomes within the Children & Young People's Strategy. Anne circulated a short summary paper. Anne and Julie will go through these. Part of the work is to summarise this for the meeting with June Wilkinson next week.

Paul asked the question, in relation to the high level outcomes and the outcomes we set in this group, what has actually been delivered on? Anne said she would like to capture the Commissioning which the Group has done as well as the outcomes achieved through no and low cost services and where co-ordination has been achieved. Hubs were identified as a major achievement. Paul acknowledged we are good on process and outcomes, but need to get better at highlighting real change that has made a difference. The presentation to the CYPSP should include the achievements to date.

Anne and Julie will liaise re statistics, needs which have been identified and Stakeholder Events. The Stakeholder Events were very successful and Paul thought consideration should be given to running them again, in joint consultation with the Councils. Group members were asked to think about this.

Gerard advised that Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon Council has developed structures to oversee the development of its new Community Plan. One of the Task & Finish Groups in relation to this will focus on vulnerable people. It is due to meet over the next 2-3 months, to set priorities. Gerard said he will follow up on this.

In relation to Outcome 1, a Task & Finish group has been set up and the report will be completed in April 16. Alison from HSCB has been helping with that. On the back of this, Kieran suggested a piece of work be done with a local group in the Coalisland area incorporating work with parents, and promoting school attendance. This piece of work meets 3 of the Outcomes. Kieran provided a brief update to the Group. Julie and Pat have been involved and this work is being extended until the end of June, with a report due in September. Work was undertaken with a target group of 30 children with very poor attendance, and following engagement with 12 families, 6 children came back to school. Work with Travellers was not as successful, as only 3 parents turned up. Poor attendance is only a symptom of a wider range of issues. The wider reference group will meet 2-3 times before the end of the project, and then report back to this Group.

Paul acknowledged this was a good start within a difficult area trying to work with parents and encouraging children back to school. Paul suggested it would be good to get an idea of the cost of the Project and the benefits of getting parents and children to engage. Paul reiterated the importance of reflecting back outcomes.

With regard to Outcome 3, Anne advised that the Western area is looking at Mental & Emotional Wellbeing. The work has been finalised and the report just needs completed.

Anne asked group members to let her know if they wished to add anything to the Action Plan.

ACTION:

Any comments on the Action Plan to Anne by the first week in May 16.

6 (b) Feedback from BME Task Group

Anne is finalising a Report which will be issued in the next few weeks.

ACTION:

Anne to issue final Report to BME Task & Finish Group.

7. Update from Locality Planning Groups

Julie shared packs with Group members, highlighting the key priorities for each area. This is based on the Action Plan and can be accessed via the Website. Julie also circulated a flyer promoting a Family Fun & Information Day in Dungannon, on Fri 15 April 16. Julie said she will provide feedback at the next Outcomes Group.

ACTION:

Julie to provide feedback from the Family Fun & Information Day in Dungannon, at the next Outcomes Group

Julie expressed her thanks to the Councils for holding groups. Some of the groups are missing a Community representative. Julie said she would explore doing some work with the Community Forum in Armagh.

In relation to BME, Stephen Smith is hosting an event next Tues between 10.00 am – 1.30 pm. This came out of the Craigavon Group.

Julie stated she was trying to work more holistically and will send information to all the groups.

8. Update from Family Support Hub

Michael Hoy advised that all 5 Hubs were in place and progressing well.

Michael thanked Rachel for coming to Julie's Group last week to promote EITP. We had lobbied from this Group that the EIS Model was strongly linked to Hubs. Rachel reported there were 42 referrals and 17 of these went to support through EIS. There has been good feedback from families and referrers. The gap is closing in relation to unmet need.

Online safety

A number of referrals are coming through requesting 1 : 1 service for young people. Pat reported NEXUS are providing programmes. Michael Hoy reported that the Trust is currently undertaking a Scoping Exercise, to see the list of providers / progress of all agencies. This Exercise is nearly complete. Julie will link in with Michael re this.

Paul advised that SBNI have set up a Subgroup re CSE and he is representing the Directors on this Group. Paul will raise Online Safety at this Group.

Action:
Paul will raise Online Safety at the SBNI

E-Cigs

Jacinta reported that Principals from 2 schools in Newry had raised concerns in relation to E-Cigs and the potential for their misuse as an inhalant for other drugs. Gerard stated that he had not heard of this type of use and that it is something that could be picked up by 'Start 306', the provider of CADINS (Community Alcohol and Drugs Information Service) which is monitored locally by the Southern Drugs and Alcohol Co-ordinating Team. Gerard said he would raise with the Drugs and Alcohol Coordinating Teams.

Education Authority update

Kieran advised that the Education Authority (EA) is now fully regional with 5 new Directors appointed including Dr Clare Mangan as the Director of Children & Young People's Services (CYPS). Alex Barr is one of the EA Chief Education Welfare Officers and serves as the Education rep on the Safeguarding Board. Alex has also issued updated guidance to schools in relation to Cyber Bullying. Lorna Gardner from the Education department within the Education Authority is leading on the EITP work-stream 1: Getting Ready to Learn. Further information can be found at www.eani.org.uk

9. Agency Updates

Mairead Abraham advised that the Southern Area has received 15 Bright Start Applications. Consistently, we have had the most applications. This is very new to schools and provides real benefits for parents. Seven of our applications are from primary schools spread out over Armagh, Dungannon and Craigavon. Applicants have to meet a range of conditions and it is hoped to have letters out to the successful groups in the next few weeks.

Sure Start are happy to report their budget for 16/17 remains the same as per 15/16 – ie no reductions. The Education Minister has been consistently supportive.

The Health Minister has announced the closure of the HSCB. This will mean a change to structures and where things will sit. Child Care Partnership currently sits with each Trust area. Paul acknowledged this was a very unsettling time with a lot of changes but advised that we continue as before getting funding out to groups.

Pauline Leeson shared the Children with Disabilities Strategic Alliance (CDSA) Manifesto. This CDSA sets out measures on a number of issues to be taken forward in the next Assembly term to deliver change for children with disabilities and their families. Pauline asked that Members promote and encourage attendance at the Child Poverty Alliance Conference scheduled for 24/05/16. Pauline agreed to forward the details of this Conference to Ruth for circulation to Outcomes Groups Members.

Action:

Ruth circulate information to Outcomes Groups Members when received

Diane advised that the Welfare Reform Order 2015 has kicked in and every household should be receiving a leaflet about it. This will mean the introduction of universal credit and changes to how Housing Benefits are calculated. A publicity campaign has been scheduled for 09/05/16. Aisling noted that one of the trends of Welfare Reform was that bigger families were going to be penalised. It will be important to monitor the impact of Welfare Reform.

Food banks in Armagh – Pauline expressed concern in relation to the nutritional content of food provided by food banks. She felt it was important to look collectively at developing some other means of providing support.

Mairead referenced the benefits of Breakfast Clubs and how they can set a child up for the day. Some children are coming from homes where they don't get breakfast before coming to school.

Julie said that some work needs carried out with some families in Banbridge area as children entitled to free school meals are not claiming them. A finger printing system is in operation in Newry/Crossmaglen, which provides a print out of what children are eating and nutritional value. The technology and capability exists for this. Pauline stated that school meals were critical. Kieran suggested it may be worth meeting with Dr Claire Mangan to discuss.

Gerard flagged an issue from Martina McCooey in relation to work around supporting parenting programmes. Some programmes may have to be cancelled due to lack of facilitators. Gerard asked members to consider the role of individuals or groups who may be interested in volunteering to deliver some of these programmes. Rachel advised they have a programme with a number of families and no facilitator. It is a 14 week commitment. Rachel stated they had put forward staff for the last 3 programmes (170 hours), but could not keep doing this. Maurice Meehan is considering a payment to

facilitators if we can't get volunteers but this sets a precedent across other programmes. Rachel queried would there be any way of putting out to education staff (i.e. classroom assistants) over the summer. Paul said the service was set up by PHA. The Contract is with "Ascert". "Ascert" should have facilitators in place as they have the contract. Rachel was asked to liaise with Mary Shalley to request putting out to classroom assistants.

Date of Next Meeting:

Tuesday 21 June 16 at 10am in Board Room, Tower Hill, Armagh