



Minutes of Western Area Outcomes Group
held on 29 June 2016
Strabane Enterprise Agency

Present: Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women & Children's Services [Chair]
Ms Nicola Topping, Education Authority
Ms Linda Watson, Caw/Nelson Drive Community Association
Mr Kevin Duffy, Head of Service [Family Support]
Ms Michelle McCabe, Lifestart
Mr Paul Sweeney, Extern
Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid
Ms Cathy Mullan, Public Health Agency
Mrs Monica MacIntyre, Department of Social Development
Ms Bernie Tierney, Children's Services Manager, Action for Children
Ms Muriel Bailey, Director of Parents Helpline & Counselling Service, Parenting NI
Ms Marie McGale, Mencap
Ms Una Casey, Business Support Manager for CYPSP

In attendance: Mrs Priscilla Magee, Locality Planning Co-ordinator, Action for Children
Mrs Bronagh Donnelly, Locality Planning Co-ordinator, Action for Children
Mrs Margaret Ferris, Assistant Business Manager, Western Trust
Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust

1	Apologies Mrs Ann McDuff, Assistant Director [Community & Public Health] Mr Eamon O'Kane, Locality Commissioning Group Chief Inspector Ivor Morton, PSNI Mr Mustapha Ben Hassine, Barnardos Ms Colleen Heaney, Youth Justice Agency Mrs Brenda MacQueen, Dry Arch Children's Centres Ms Kat Healy, NICEM Ms Cathy McCloskey, Early Years Ms Helen Harley, Derry City Council
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<p>2</p>	<p>Chairman's Remarks</p> <p>Mr Downey welcomed Mr Kevin Duffy, Head of Service [Family Support] to the meeting and advised that he was replacing Mr Pat Armstrong on the group. Mr Downey advised that the Trust were currently recruiting for Mr Duffy's substantive post as Service Manager, so there would be an overlap of roles for Mr Duffy over the summer period.</p> <p>Mr Downey reported that the Trust had previously entered into discussions with the Health and Social Care Board to transfer funding to the Trust in respect of family support contracts. He said this had now been completed and the Trust would now manage all contracts for family support which would strengthen services and best meet the needs of children and young people.</p> <p>As reported at the last meeting, Mr Downey advised that Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly would transfer to the Trust under TUPE arrangements from 1 July 2016. He said both staff had a wealth of information and knowledge and this move to the Trust would ensure good connections within the community.</p> <p>Mr Downey advised that following Mrs Hardy's retirement, Ms Casey would provide the regional link to the group and she had undertaken to complete the action plan which would be discussed in detail at the next meeting. Mr Downey reported that the two main priorities were:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Youth Participation - need to have a meaningful framework. ➤ Emotional Health and Wellbeing of Children and Young People.
<p>3</p>	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting held on 27 April 2016</p> <p>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 April 2016 were approved.</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Syrian Refugees</p> <p>Mr Sweeney reported that the community infrastructure had worked well and feedback was that acceptance within local communities for the refugees was going well. Mr Duffy said keyworkers had been essential to the resettlement process and community groups had been effective in the transition and settling in period. He said feedback from families regarding their experience had also been very positive. He said registration with GP's and the Education Authority had all went well. Ms Topping advised that all the children had been placed in both mainstream and special schools. Ms McGale offered to assist in any way. Mr Duffy reported that there were plans for the next tranche of five additional groups of refugees, but said there were no immediate plans in relation to the Trust area.</p> <p>Youth Participation</p> <p>Mr Downey reported that he had a meeting earlier this morning with Mr Duffy, Ms Casey, Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly to discuss a proposal to give Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly a youth participation role one day per week by top slicing some of</p>

	<p>the Outcomes Group funding, as they were currently contracted to work four days per week. He said this proposal would be discussed in more detail at the next Outcomes Group meeting.</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Update from Locality Planning Groups</p> <p>Mrs Magee reported on the successful Breastfeeding Awareness Week which took place during 20 – 27 June 2016. She advised that Fermanagh & Omagh District Council held a reception, hosted by Mary Garitty, Chairperson, for the mothers, babies, staff, volunteers and supporters of the Breast Friends Group. She said the Council agreed to participate in the “Breastfeeding Welcome Here” initiative throughout the majority of its public buildings. Mrs Magee apprised members that Mary Garitty, along with other councillors, had requested to become members of the Locality Planning Groups.</p> <p>Mrs Magee updated members on the events held during Infant Mental Health Awareness Week which ran from 6 – 10 June 2016. She said the two awareness raising events entitled “Vein of Love”, where nail artists had kindly agreed to paint the ring finger of customers, in blue or pink, in two local supermarkets had been very successful. She said 300+ “Best Start in Life” booklets had been handed out to shoppers and social media had been widely used to send out messages and photographs of the events. Mrs Magee acknowledged the support from Hub staff and Health Visitors at the events.</p> <p>Mrs Donnelly proposed that the Outcomes Group look at the issue of younger children now using drugs and alcohol and, in turn, parenting was being compromised. Mrs MacIntyre said illegal highs led to anti social behavior and counselling groups were currently not able to keep up with the demand for their services. She said the issues were increasing and there was a need to provide up-to-date information for young people of where they could seek help. Mrs MacIntyre said there was a need to keep groups accountable for the funding contracts they had secured. Ms Mullan acknowledged that the social procurement process was intensive, but emphasised that the same level of funding was available, albeit via different providers.</p> <p>Mr Downey reported that Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly were currently scoping out available support services in the West in relation to drugs and alcohol. Ms Mullan offered to meet with Mrs Donnelly to discuss. Mrs Magee undertook to have the scoping exercise completed for the next meeting for discussion.</p> <p>Ms Watson advised that her organisation were looking at setting up a virtual Hub to provide information on available services and contact details, but stated that there may be a need to extend this beyond the Waterside area.</p> <p>Mr Sweeney said there was a need to find out what services were in existence, and how best to engage with children and young people and said this needed to be at the forefront of Youth Participation. Mr Duffy said there was a need to look at</p>

	<p>connectivity and said his challenge was to develop a community development type of approach.</p> <p>Ms Mullan agreed to distribute information on forthcoming courses on drugs and alcohol via Mr Downey's office. Mrs MacIntyre also agreed to circulate this information.</p> <p>Mr Downey stated that Making Life Better needed to be referenced in the Outcomes Group action plan. Ms Mullan said organisations now needed to detail Making Life Better in their funding applications.</p> <p>Mr Downey said two of the main building blocks for the group to focus on in the future were E-safety and drug and alcohol abuse around Emotional Health and Wellbeing.</p> <p>Regional Locality Planning</p> <p>Mr Downey reported that a Regional Locality Steering Group was being established and Mrs Brenda MacQueen from the Western area was the nomination from the West for her links to the community and the Hubs. Ms Casey advised that Terms of Reference were currently being devised.</p>
6	<p>Early Intervention Updates & Pioneering Communities</p> <p>Mr Downey apprised members that following another visit from Mr George Hosking and staff from WAVE on 27 June 2016, the Trust would have the first Pioneering Community in the UK and would have WAVE as a partner for the next five years. He said he was excited to have WAVE as a partner due to their extensive expertise and connections. He said the pilot would commence in the neighbourhood renewal areas in the Derry & Strabane District Council areas [Outer North, Outer West, Strabane, Triax, Waterside], as these combined areas met the required stipulated population of at least 50,000 – 60,000 with more than 500 live births per year. Mr Downey said the Trust would proceed to appoint a Project Manager and establish a Project Management Board. He said they would evaluate outcomes after the pilot and then roll out Pioneering Communities throughout the Trust. He proposed to invite Mr Hosking to a future meeting of the Outcomes Group. Discussion took place on the requirement for evidence based programmes. Ms Mullan advised that the PHA only funded evidenced based programmes.</p>
7	<p>Early Intervention Updates</p> <p>Ms Tierney reported that the Early Intervention Service, which Action for Children had been awarded the contract to deliver, had received 72 referrals, 34 of which came from the Strabane area. She said there was a small team of staff who were well equipped to deliver the twelve week programme. She said information on the service had been circulated and there was good partnership working with the Team Leader attending Hub Co-ordinators meetings. Ms Tierney said feedback from families had been incredible and she agreed to forward Mr Downey a briefing report, with case studies, for distributing to members. Mr Downey requested Ms Tierney to</p>

	deliver a presentation on the project at a future meeting.
7	<p>Children with Disabilities</p> <p>Mr Downey advised that he wished to give this agenda item more focus at future meetings to allow for a full discussion on challenges, gaps, complex needs, short breaks, parental stress etc. He apprised members that there were currently 3,500 children awaiting an assessment for Autism across Northern Ireland. Ms Bailey agreed that parents of disabled children were struggling. Ms McGale said she welcomed this discussion which should also include dual diagnosis and the over shadowing of diagnostic tools. Mr Downey suggested that Ms McGale could assist in helping to plan for this open discussion at a future meeting. Mrs MacIntyre said there was now more recognition for children with disabilities and the their parents, with some facilities offering dedicated and quieter times for disabled children to avail of.</p>
9	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland</p> <p>Mr Downey advised that the policy framework “Co-operating to Safeguarding Children and Young People in Northern Ireland” had been updated and widely distributed. He said he had requested the DHSSPS to provide an index detailing the changes between the 2003 policy and the 2016 policy as this would be a useful marker in identifying the new changes. Mr Downey agreed to share this index with members when available.</p> <p>Ms Bailey advised that the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland were developing an E-safety strategy, an accompanying action plan, which would detail 4 or 5 key messages for everyone by relevant age range.</p> <p>Mr Duffy advised that child sexual exploitation remained a concern and said it was important to continually raise awareness within communities. Mr Downey reminded members that the Trust’s contact for CSE was Ms Charmaine McNally. Ms Casey advised members of a useful video entitled “Chelsea’s Choice” which was available on the website of the Safeguarding Board for NI.</p>
10	<p>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm</p> <p>No issues to report.</p>
11	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021</p> <p>Mrs MacIntyre advised of the current consultation on the draft Programme for Government 2016-2021, which was available on the Northern Ireland Executive’s website and suggested that Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly may wish to view the document. Ms Mullan advised that she had attended a consultation meeting on 28 June 2016 at the Guildhall and reported that the draft framework contained 14 strategic outcomes, supported by 42 indicators, but stated that it was important</p>

	<p>that these were linked to community planning and encouraged any members who wished to complete the online questionnaire, to highlight this in their responses.</p> <p>Fundraising Mrs Magee advised of a successful fundraising event where over £890 was raised by members of Fermanagh and Omagh Family Support Hub staff bag packing in a supermarket in Enniskillen. The money was being used to re-print additional copies of the Family Support Hub Early Intervention Booklet.</p>
12	<p>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting 31 August 2016 at 10.00 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency.</p>