

**Minutes of the Northern Area Outcomes Group held on Wednesday
13 December 2017 at 11am in Carrickfergus YMCA.**

Present:

Marie Roulston	NHSCT (Chair)
Billy McMillan	Barnardos
Ivor Mitchell	Carrick YMCA
Jenny Adair	Northern Childcare Partnership
Helen Dunn	HSCB
Grainne Keane	YJA
Maurice Leeson	HSCB – CYPSP
Ruth-Ann Delija	Action for Children
Caroline Rutherford	Extern
Selena Ramsey	Locality Planner CYPSP
Sharon Crawford	NHSCT – Disability
Una Casey	HSCB – CYPSP

Apologies:

Susan Gault	NHSCT
Sandra Anderson	Participation Officer – CYPSP
John Fenton	NHSCT
Ciara McKillop	NHSCT
Nicola McCall	MEA Council
Maurice Meehan	PHA
Hugh Nelson	NHSCT
Tracy Magill	NHSCT
Martina Totten	Mid Ulster Council
Frances Donnelly	EANI

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 9 August were agreed and signed off.

Marie noted that EANI have appointed Frances Donnelly to the NAOG.

Matters Arising

Slippage – there is slippage money due to the delay in the tender process for the Cultural Integration and Children with Disabilities projects. This amounts to approximately £75K. Members discussed how to best to use this and agreed that it should be pooled together and spent through a small grants scheme. Selena Ramsey suggested that this could be managed through locality planning. Sharon Crawford suggested using some of the funding to provide Mindfulness courses for parents of children with disabilities; similar to one delivered in the Southern Trust Area to help build resilience in families. Grainne shared details of a Mindfulness trainer that has been used by the YJA and Women’s Aid. Marie suggested that some of the small grants should also be used to build capacity for staff in mainstream services to be able to be more accommodating of children with disabilities also; members agreed. Selena suggested that the invitation for applications for the small grants could go out before Christmas with a realistic closing date. Members agreed that some of the slippage should be used for the screening of the Resilience Documentary in Carrickfergus.

Action: Sharon to scope out Mindfulness course in SHSCT for parents of children with disabilities

Action: Una and Selena to work up application forms and priorities.

Tender Specification

The tenders for the 3 services, children with ADHD, Children with Disabilities and Cultural Integration Service have now been awarded. These are 3 year tenders. Barnardos were awarded the ADHD tender. This service works with children post-diagnosis. The Cedar Foundation was successful in securing the Children with Disabilities funding. Sharon outlined that this service is pan-disability and will work with children and young people aged 8-17 years of age. It will work with children from Newtownabbey, Ballymena, Cookstown and Magherafelt, and might be able to cover Antrim. Emma Campbell from the NHSCT disability team will gate keep the children referred to the service which will offer leisure and social activities for a 12 week period. Referrals will come from Children with Disabilities and FIT teams and also through the Family Support Hubs. The first group is planned to start in January.

The project will help children build capacity to join mainstream activities such as their local youth club.

Jenny Adair noted that the Childcare Partnership have just completed a grants scheme including after-school and day-care providers to enable them to make adaptations and build staff's capacity to work with children with disabilities.

The Cultural Integration tender was awarded to STEP (South Tyrone Empowerment Programme) and will work with Minority Ethnic Families in the Magherafelt and Cookstown areas.

Family Support Hub Update

Helen Dunn informed the group that the quarter 3 statistics for this year are currently being collated and continue to show an upward trend in referrals. She noted that herself and some Family Support Hub Coordinators recently delivered workshops in Prague at the invitation of the Department of Labour and Social affairs who are very interested in all the levels of CYPSP and the Family Support Hubs. They Czech services felt that they are about 15 years behind NI in their partnership working and delivery of family support. Helen also highlighted that the Bi-Monthly Family Support Newsletter had been recently circulated. She explained that it usually has a theme, with the most recent one highlighting Universal Credit roll-out and issues such as domestic abuse that tend to increase during the Christmas period.

Marie Roulston noted that the Directors of Social Work had a meeting with Sean Holland (Dept of Health) recently and the Universal Credit and Antipoverty strategy was tabled. This will capture data on poverty and referrals to Gateway due to it. Helen discussed concerns in relation to homelessness that could occur as Universal Credit will be all in one payment and concerns that families may not be able to budget the payment and fall into arrears. Sharon Crawford noted that Citizens Advice Bureau has recently delivered training to the Gateway Team in the NHSCT.

Ruth-Ann added that the referrals to hubs have seen a 100% increase. She raised that there has been an issue with Tier 2 CAMHS attendance at the Family Support Hub meetings which is possibly due to their

changing information systems etc. Ruth-Ann is scheduled to have a meeting with Ciara and Nuala soon. She noted that there is great attendance from Gateway at Family Support Hub meetings. Ruth-Ann has been linking with GPs through the Safeguarding Panel to encourage them to agree to complete Family Support Hub referral forms, this was agreed as a positive step forward. Discussions also took place about redirected referrals from GPs. Between January and March Ruth-Ann will be working directly with local surgeries. Marie noted that there was a GP medical director on the Trust Board and she will raise this with him/her. Members agreed that it was important to build relationships with GPs to get them to champion hubs among colleagues.

Helen Dunn also noted that the quarterly returns will also now include a question on diagnosis of ADHD and ASD, which has been requested by the Family Hub Coordinators.

A discussion took place about the Concern Hubs, Maurice Leeson updated that there is now a regional steering group set up for them, Michael Heaney from Youth Justice Agency is on it. It is a similar model to the Family Support Hubs coordinated by the PSNI, it has been suggested that 90% of the referrals are for vulnerable adults and 10% are for children. There are queries as to whether these children are already known to other services and the need for them to be referred to the concern hubs. Maurice advised that Michael Heaney will link with Martin Quinn in HSCB lead on Child Safeguarding. Maurice highlighted that one cohort of children referred to the concern might be children at risk of becoming involved in paramilitary groups or at risk of attack from paramilitaries. Sharon noted that the Adult Mental Health team see the concern hubs as a good model for adults, and PSNI are seeing the benefits to their peak calls. It was also noted that VCS services are not members of the concern hubs.

Action: Keep on agenda

Update from Outcomes Chairs regional chairs meeting

Marie highlighted that she formally presented the Northern Area action plan to this.

Maurice gave an update on some of the ongoing regional CYPSP work, this includes the new Children and Young People's Plan, and the annual report to the Board, which included information on the OG funding spend. He noted that Una Casey is finalising a locality planning handbook which includes Terms of Reference. Locality Planning Standards are currently being piloted and will roll-out across all LPGs. Una is also working on a regional Locality Planning Workshop which will include the launch of a survey on LPGs.

Maurice also noted that the membership of Outcomes Groups is due for renewal in April. He also noted on-going discussions about evaluation tools and there will be a small workshop with representatives from all the Outcomes Groups held in the new year to work on a common approach to evaluation, this will include services such as AfC, Niacro and Extern who have been using outcomes evaluation. Maurice also noted that he is due to have a meeting with the Dept of Health around the funding for Family Support Hubs. He will continue to press for recurrence of funding. Helen Dunn noted the large increase in referrals that is being delivered for the same amount of funding.

Locality Planning Updates

Selena tabled an report and highlighted some of the upcoming events. She noted that there had been a planned event for on 8 December to relaunch the "Causeway" group, as the Coleraine area is now included in the merged Ballymoney and Moyle Group, but this had to be cancelled due to the adverse weather. There is also a planned screening in Carrickfergus of the Resilience Documentary, possibly in the Cinema. Marie asked Selena to ensure that the Outcomes Group members and Trust were kept in the loop of this as she is keen to invite people to this. The Locality Planning Groups are also hosting a Body image conference in Tullyglass on 25 January.

Action: Selena to link with Marie re: Resilience Documentary Screening in Carrickfergus

Action: Selena to send save the date for Body Image Conference to J Scobie to circulate to Outcome Group members

A discussion took place about the need for a LPG in Newtownabbey especially as this is the area of the Northern Trust with the highest population and often the highest level of need. Billy noted that there had been an attempt in the past to link with the Neighbourhood Renewal Groups but that didn't really work. He also noted that Claire Humphrey had been doing work in the area for a Big Lottery bid. Billy and Selena agreed that it would be good to link with Claire and build on the relationships that she has built up in the area.

Action: Selena, Billy, Una and Claire to meet to discuss Newtownabbey.

Selena noted that the Rural Newtownabbey/Ballyclare LPG no longer meet, but hold an annual information event.

Supporting Young Carers in School Booklet

Marie noted the Support Young Carers in School Booklet as an excellent resource and that the launch event was also excellent and included some great videos with young carers from the Action For Children and Barnardos services, and presentations by young people. Maurice highlighted that the booklet is available on the cypsp website and that there has been a report card completed for the launch event that can be shared. Maurice also explained that the Young Carers Regional Subgroup was meeting tomorrow and EANI are keen to work on what to do next. Billy noted that every school in NI had received the booklet and how it was important that schools are able to identify young carers and get people talking more about them and be aware of their needs.

Grainne noted that she sits on the Northern Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team (NDACT) and that Gary McMichael from Ascertainment had recently presented on the Steps to Cope programme, which trains services working with children and young people on the 6 steps to cope model for those children and young people with a parent misusing substances. This is a well evaluated and accredited training. Billy highlighted that Barnardos is a delivery partner for this and explained that there was a research component to the project too, there is about 18 months left of the project and Ascertainment are keen to ensure that there is a legacy to it.

Helen queried links to Think Family, Billy explained that this is to get picked up more by the DACTs.

Action: Una to invite Gary McMichael to present at the February meeting.

Action Plan 2017-2020

Marie highlighted that the action plan has now been printed and posted out to members. Una noted that if anyone needs extra copies they can contact her and she can send them out. Una shared the logic models and working document for the plan and explained that she will bring together the subgroups again to progress some of the actions. She noted that members can nominate staff who may be also to be involved also.

Any Other Business

Maurice noted that in the South-Eastern Outcomes Group area SIF groups have been morphing into Locality Planning Groups which has worked well. Helen Dunn noted that there is a SIF project called “Bee” in the Northern Area, which is run by CRUN (Coleraine Rural Urban Network) and delivered by People Plus; it is focused on education and includes work with after-schools and employability. Members agreed it would be useful to find out more about this project and invite them to do a presentation.

Action: CRUN to be invited to present on SIF project

Resilience Documentary

Marie noted that ACEs work will be rolled out in the NHSCT in 8 March, along with the Signs of Safety. She noted that the Safeguarding Board is also investing money in multiagency approach to ACE and there will be an expression of interest coming out soon for a Project Manager. Marie noted that she was keen to screen the Resilience Documentary soon.

Grainne noted a PCSP commissioned play exploring young people at risk of paramilitary activity, which could be shown in Carrick.

Presentation – Carrickfergus YMCA

Ivor gave a short presentation on all the work carried out by the Carrickfergus YMCA. He noted the new Trans-i-tions work which will work across Carrick, Larne and Ballymena. This will be with young people on the edge of paramilitary involvement. This will be an intensive project with 10 adult mentors and 24 young people. Training will begin soon for the mentors. He also highlighted the work done in PAKT (Parents and Kids Together) which is part funded by the NAOG. Ivor showed a short video which was part of the #IAMWHOLE campaign on mental health.

Date of next meeting

14 February 2018 at 2pm in Bretten Hall Antrim Area Hospital

Marie Roulston

Director of WCF Division/Exe Director of SW