

**Minutes of the Northern Area Outcomes Group Meeting held on  
Wednesday 15 January 2020 at 2pm in the Boardroom, Bretten Hall,  
Antrim Area Hospital**

**Attendance:**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Organisations</b>	<b>Present/Apology</b>
<b>Statutory Sector</b>		
Maura Dargan	HSCT (Chair)	Present
Tracy Magill	HSCT (Family Support)	Apology
Sharon Crawford	HSCT (Disability)	Apology
Ciara McKillop	HSCT (Hub Lead)	Present
Susan Gault	HSCT (Public Health Nursing)	Apology
Hugh Nelson	HSCT (Planning & Modernisation)	Present
Frances Donnelly	Education Authority	
VACANT	NI Housing Executive	
Nicola McCall	(MEA) Community Planning/Council	Apology
Alison Keenan	(A&N) Community Planning/Council	Apology
Elizabeth Beattie	(CCG) Community Planning/Council	
Fiona Surgeonor	(MEA) Community Planning/Council	
Martina Totten	(MU) Community Planning/Council	Present
VACANT	PSNI	
Maurice Meehan	Public Health Agency	Apology
Kate McDermott	Parenting Co-ordinator	Apology
Grainne Keane	Youth Justice Agency	Present
Jenny Adair	Childcare Partnership	Apology
VACANT	LCG Link	
<b>Voluntary Sector</b>		
Ruth Anne Delija	Action for Children	Apology
Pamela Kirk	Barnardo's	Present
Maria Heron	Parenting NI	Present
Kelly Maxwell	Autism NI	Present
Pamela Sweeney	Action for Children obo Ruth Anne Delija	Present
<b>Community Sector</b>		
Zoe Kernohan-Neeley	Early Year Organisation	Apology
Ivor Mitchell YMCA	YMCA	Apology
Vacant		
Vacant		
<b>BME Sector</b>		
Vacant		
Vacant		
<b>Locality Planning Group Chairs</b>		
Mervyn Rea	Antrim LPG	
Gerry McVeigh	Ballymena LPG	Apology
Roy Beggs	Carrickfergus LPG	Apology
Ian McAfee	Causeway LPG	Apology

David McAllister	Larne LPG	
Ursula Marshall	Magherafelt & Cookstown LPG	
Locality Planners		
In Attendance		
Maxine Gibson	CYPSP (Professional Advisor)	Present
Una Casey	CYPSP (Business Support Manager)	Present
Helen Dunn	CYPSP (Regional FSH Coordinator)	Apology
Sabrina Lynn	NHSCT obo Hugh Nelson	Present
Emma Ferris	NHSCT Disability Team	Present
Gillian Boyd	Cedar Foundation	Present

## Introductions and Apologies

Maura welcomed everyone to the meeting and a round of introductions took place. Maura highlighted that She will chair NAOG on an ongoing basis. She acknowledged the number of changes in chairing in the last year and the disruptive impact this will have had on the progress of the group. As permanent Director Maura outlined her commitment to stabilising and developing the NAOG. She noted the high number of apologies today and acknowledged this may well be a reflection of some of the challenges in the last number of months. Maura outlined that with a fresh approach and new energy all members will hopefully remain committed to engaging in the process. Maura thanked Ciara for chairing the October meeting.

## Presentation: Youth Matter - Northern Outreach Service

Emma Ferris gave an outline to the project and how she works with the referrals for it. The service is into its second year of funding from the Northern Area Outcomes. It is filled to capacity in most of the areas, Feedback from the parents, social workers, children and young people is very positive.

Gillian Boyd outlined that the Northern Outreach service is part of the Cedar Foundations Youth Matters project. These programmes provide up-to 3 hours activity for 12 weeks for up-to 8 young people per programme. There are 3 areas of delivers; Newtownabbey, Ballymena and Cookstown/Magherafelt. Each area receives three programmes per year. The service works with children and young people up to the age of 18, there are 9 programmes in total. They aim to have 8 young people on each programme but the group could be split into 2 groups depending on the needs of young people. The group could be split for geographic

reasons, age etc. or where we have young people who have more intensive needs.

The service works on developing confidence and self-esteem and includes fun experiences and group activities both indoors and outdoors. The service offers support for personal development too and helps the children and young people springboard into other activities. Gillian and her team keep in touch with the families of children when they leave the service to follow up on what activities they take up.

The service uses evaluations and Outcomes Star to measure outcomes.

### **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Maura explained Sabrina had send some last minute suggestions of amendments to the minutes of the October meeting. She would review these and recirculate the minutes.

### **Matters Arising**

Maxine noted that she is the new Professional Advisor for CYPSP. CYPSP Regional partnership held a workshop on 16 December, this group includes Outcomes Group chairs. The Partnership has a new chair; Shane Devlin CEO of the Southern Health and Social Care Trust. The Children and Young People's Plan 2019-2021 was signed off at the workshop, this will be disseminated to all members, with a request for a statement of endorsement which will formalise responsibilities and commitment. Shane is also keen to look at membership particularly as the community and voluntary members are due to be reviewed. The Outcomes Group chairs gave presentations at the workshop about the achievements, challenges and priorities going forward. Gaps in membership of the Outcomes Groups were also discussed with statutory members asked to nominate staff to fill these gaps. Una gave a presentation about Locality Planning Groups, including the achievements, challenges and priorities going forward. Maxine noted that there were a number of clear actions from the workshop. Strengthening relationships with community planning was also discussed at the workshop. Maxine noted that there was a sense of a new dawn for CYPSP and the opportunity to re-formalise issues due to the change of the chair. A showcase of Outcomes Groups and LPGs is planned for mid-spring.

The Partnership also discussed the relationship between the primary care multi-disciplinary teams and CYPSP at a local level in relation to early intervention and prevention including links to Family Support Hubs.

## **Cross-departmental Children and Young People's Strategy 2019-2029 EA**

Maura noted that the Children and Young People's Strategy 2019-2029 is published and has been circulated to members.

### **Locality planning infrastructure and updates**

Maura outlined that there had been a few aborted attempts to have a meeting with the key people to discuss Locality Planning Groups support needs, a new date will be sorted out soon for this to take place. Maura noted that there were no LPG chairs in attendance at today's meeting and expressed her hope that they would remain engaged in the process, she noted that the changes in support may have created a difficult time and noted that the LPGs are very important to the area of work, and she looks forward to forming stronger relationships with the LPGs with clearer plans going forward. In the meantime there will be a number of offline meetings and reaching out to LPG chairs separately to seek reengagement with them.

Grainne noted that she would anticipate that Maura would come back to the group with a resolution and recommendations, with one or two things decided in relation to resourcing and support.

Hugh noted he was committed to a positive way forward.

Maura noted that it was incumbent to this group to find a way forward and that the children, young people and families deserve a solution.

***Action: Maura to arrange a meeting to progress***

### **Review of NOG action plan**

Una noted that the Outcomes Groups action plans have been flexed to 2021 to fall in line with the Children and Young People's plan. The Northern Area Outcomes Group Action Plan needs to be reviewed and progressed this year. Una suggested that this could be done through task and finish groups to do this, and will be writing to members to invite them to be involved in these groups.

***Action: Una to email members to invite them to get involved with task and finish groups for each priority of the NAOG Action Plan.***

## **Outcomes group membership**

Maxine is reviewing the membership of all Outcomes Groups regionally and will work to address any gaps

## **Family Support Hub Update**

Pamela updated that the regional and trust level report cards are all available on the CYPSP website. All 5 hubs are extremely busy with referrals. Cookstown and Magherafelt have also seen an increase since hub coordinator has been doing awareness raising interactive work such as information stands in shopping centres youth fairs etc. New leaflets for the Family Support Hubs have also been produced. Pamela noted that there is a lack of services in some of the Family Support Hub areas, for example, Newtownabbey. She stated that Hubs are only as good as the services around the table. She said whilst there is an increase in attendance at all hubs with some new services coming on and that there are also many finishing up or have waiting lists/closed lists.

Pamela also highlighted that one issue in Newtownabbey is that there is no Locality Planning Group that is vital to the knowledge and mapping of available services. There is a high number of children in need in Newtownabbey and there is a lot of new housing developments in Mallusk, Mayfield and Glengormley where there are no family support services. She noted that Thrive only covers Rathcoole and Monkstown.

Maria noted that she is a member of the Strabane Locality Planning Group and how vital it has been highlighting the dearth of services in the area and how it has been pivotal to 3 new big services working in the area now. She also noted that Locality Planning Groups are so valuable to community and voluntary sector.

Grainne noted that many issues haven't changed for families but sometimes they can't be fixed with the same solutions, need to think about this.

Hugh noted the issue of equity of services, that often deprivation influences investment, and often Newtownabbey is just below the most deprived.

Pamela noted how Locality Planning Groups are great at mapping what is and what isn't in an area, and those at risk of ending.

Kelly gave an example of a project that Autism NI and Action for Children have been delivering successfully in the Newtownabbey areas providing home based support for children who have just been diagnosed. This service is due to come to an end, she noted that she felt the lack of knowledge and mapping has linked to this. She also discussed how LPGs use an Outcomes Based Accountability framework which has been useful in the LPGs that she is involved in. The groups are also vital in feeding up gaps in services through the CYPSP structure. Locality Planning Groups help to set the baseline, demonstrate turning of the curve and what the groups can achieve by working together.

Maxine noted that this discussion was very useful to inform off-line discussions about Locality Planning Groups including OBA , identifying outcomes, and the need to look more closely at the existing model, and bring to the table in a more meaningful way.

Hugh noted that commissioning is beginning to put greater recognition on partnership work.

Pamela queried who she could discuss a Newtownabbey Locality Planning Group with.

***Action: Sabrina to meet with Pamela re: LPG in Newtownabbey***

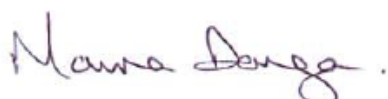
## **Dates of Future Meetings**

All meetings will commence at 2pm in Boardroom in Bretten Hall, Antrim Area Hospital.

Wednesday 23 April 2020

Wednesday 27 August 2020

Wednesday 21 October 2020



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Maura Dargan  
**Director WCF Division**

