



**Minute of Western Outcomes Group
held on 21 December 2011 in
Trust Headquarters, Altnagelvin**

Present:

- Mr John Doherty, Director of Women & Children's Service [Chair]
- Ms Carina Boyle, Action for Children
- Ms Brenda MacQueen, Dry Arch Centre
- Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid
- Mr Sean Mackie, Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- Mr Paul Laughlin, Department of Social Development
- Ms Cathy Mullan, Public Health Agency
- Ms Deirdre Mahon, Assistant Director [Family & Child Care]
- Mrs Kate McDaid, Assistant Director [Health Care]
- Ms Hazel Deeney, Shepherd's View Young Parents Project
- Ms Maeve Linton, SureStart Manager, ARC Healthy Living Centre
- Ms Anne Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer, HSCB
- Mrs Una Geelan, HSCB
- Mr Gerry Conway, Commissioning Lead, HSCB

In attendance:

- Ms Priscilla Magee, Action for Children
- Ms Bronagh Donnelly, Action for Children
- Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust
- Mr Eamon McTernan, CINI [agenda item 5]
- Ms Alison McNulty, Parenting NI [agenda item 6]

1	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Ms Marie McGale, MENCAP</p> <p>Mrs Anne Donaghey, Business Manager, Western Trust</p>
5	<p>Early Intervention</p> <p>Mr Doherty welcomed Mr Eamon McTernan, CINI, to the meeting.</p> <p>Mr Eamon McTernan advised that he was working as a consultant for CINI and was</p>

also providing assistance to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership, who were currently exploring the idea of dedicating Northern Ireland as an early intervention region. He advised that the processes would include:-

- Developing outcome frameworks to track trends.
- Collating and evaluating existing research to inform on which strategies had worked well.
- Review progress of random controlled trial based programmes into NI context.
- Pilot standardised approach to gathering evidence.

Mr McTernan reported that there was an emerging body of evidence and an international knowledge base which supported early intervention.

He outlined the following benefits of early intervention:-

- Research on impact of neglect.
- Minimises adverse experience.
- Surviving adversity and resilience.
- Cost effectiveness.

Mr Laughlin said it was important to engage families and communities. He suggested that an open meeting, to include young people, may be beneficial to the process. Ms Hardy advised that Participation Network offered training on how best to engage with children and young people and that this organisation may be a possible resource.

Mr Laughlin reported that early intervention was a key part of Neighbourhood Renewal Programmes. He said that it was important that resources from all the relevant agencies should be collectively directed to achieve better outcomes.

Mr McTernan advised that Mr Pat Dolan, University of Galway, and Mr Alan Smith, University of Ulster, were also involved in early intervention research. Mr Doherty noted that the Western Trust had previously worked with Mr Dolan.

Ms Boyle advised that levels of validation were critical to the audit to analyse information.

Mrs McDaid said it would be important to research systems that were in place to look at a universal approach.

Mr Doherty thanked Mr McTernan for attending the meeting.

6 Model for Ensuring Parental Participation

Mr Doherty welcomed Ms Alison McNulty, Director, Parenting NI, to the meeting.

Ms McNulty advised that Parenting NI were the lead organisation for consultations with parents on behalf of the government and other bodies and they had developed a

	<p>model for parental participation. She advised that she was working with the Western, Northern and Southern Trusts and would work in two locality areas per Trust. A Parent Outcomes Group was to be established, consisting of 15 parents per group, and would meet three times per year.</p> <p>Ms McNulty advised that Regional Themed Groups [Disability, Transitions and BME] would meet up to six times per year, with 15 parents per group.</p> <p>She reported that Parenting NI would establish a Parent Advisory Forum late in 2012 with parent representation from Locality Planning Groups, Outcomes Groups and individuals parents. The Parent Advisory Forum would meet three times per year and report to the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership.</p> <p>Mr Doherty thanked Ms McNulty for attending and said he was pleased to have the support and assistance of Parenting NI.</p>
2	<p>Notes of Previous Meeting All present confirmed that they had received a copy of the notes of the previous meeting and that they were a true and accurate record of the discussion that had taken place.</p>
3	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>New Members Mr Doherty welcomed Ms Hazel Deeney, Contact Manager, Shepherd’s View Young Parents Project, and Ms Maeve Linton, SureStart Manager, ARC Health Living Centre, to their first meeting of the Western Outcomes Group. Mr Doherty advised that Mr Eamon O’Kane, NW Alcohol Forum Ltd, had just been identified as a new member. Mr Doherty confirmed that he would forward Mr O’Kane dates of future meetings and previous minutes.</p> <p>Ms Hardy reported that nominations from District Councils and the PSNI were still to be confirmed.</p> <p>Additional Temporary Resource Ms Hardy introduced Mrs Una Geelan from the HSCB who would assist all five Outcomes Groups until the end of March 2012, with the consultation process. Ms Hardy advised that there may be another additional resource available and agreed to keep Mr Doherty apprised of progress.</p> <p>Standardised Commissioning Framework Ms Hardy reported that the HSCB were reviewing the five commissioning processes previously used by the Children and Young People’s Committees and she hoped that following further discussions in 2012, a finalised commissioning framework would be agreed.</p>

	<p>Ms Hardy advised that herself and Ms Godfrey were proposing to organise a briefing session for Outcomes Groups members on their roles within the group. Following discussion, it was agreed that this should be deferred until there was full membership of the group. Members noted that this would be an opportunity to work together and would commit organisations to the processes and actions of the Outcomes Group.</p>
4	<p>Western Outcomes Group Action Plan Mr Doherty thanked Ms Magee, Ms Donnelly, Mrs Donaghey and Ms Mahon for their assistance in producing the draft action plan.</p> <p>Ms Hardy reported that it was the intention of the Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership that the actions plans for all five Outcomes Groups should be disseminated in early January 2012 with the same consultation period.</p> <p>Following discussion, members proposed changes to the draft action plan. Mr Doherty asked members to forward any additional information/comments to Mrs Anne Donaghey, Business Manager, as soon as possible.</p> <p>Mr Doherty said consideration needed to be given to the wide scale distribution of the action plan, including via the Locality Planning Groups.</p>
7	<p>Finance and Commissioning Process 2011/12 Ms Mahon advised that the Finance and Commissioning Sub Group had met on 16 December 2011 and had agreed initial allocations from the 2011/12 budget. She advised that a further email had been circulated to members of the Western Outcomes Group on 20 December 2011 requesting them to identify organisations who may meet the criteria and who wish to apply for a portion of the remaining funding. The deadline for applications was extended to 6 January 2012 and proposals from organisations were to be forwarded to Ms Magee or Ms Donnelly.</p>
8	<p>Finance and Commissioning Process 2012/13 Ms Hardy advised that discussions were continuing at regional level regarding the finance and commissioning process that would be adopted in the future. Members agreed that it was essential to have a cross agency integrated commissioning process to take forward the work of the Outcomes Groups.</p>
9	<p>Centre for Social Justice “Completing the Revolution” Members confirmed receipt of the executive summary and chapter four the report from the Centre for Social Justice entitled “Completing the Revolution”. Mr Doherty encouraged members to take the time to read this information.</p>
10	<p>Any Other Business There were no matters arising.</p>

11	Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting The next meeting is confirmed for 25 January 2012 at 10.00 am in the Boardroom, Strabane Enterprise Agency.
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