

# Minute of Western Area Outcomes Group held on 26 February 2014 Strabane Enterprise Agency

**Present:** Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women & Children's Services [Chair]

Ms Nicola Topping, Education Officer, WELB

Mr Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid

Ms Clionagh Boyle, Early Years

Ms Maeve Linton, SureStart Manager

DCI Garry Eaton, PSNI

Mrs Monica MacIntyre, Department of Social Development

Ms Cathy Mullan, Public Health Agency Mrs Brenda MacQueen, Dry Arch Centre

Mrs Marie McGale, Mencap

Ms Maura Mason, Western Area Child Care Partnership

Mr Gerry Conway, Commissioning Lead, HSCB

Mr Michael Dallat, NIHE

**In attendance:** Ms Sinead Donnelly, Action for Children

Mrs Priscilla Magee, Action for Children

Mrs Anne Donaghey, Business Manager, Western Trust

Mrs Margaret Ferris, Asst. Business Services Manager, Western Trust

Ms Elaine Forrest, Personal Assistant, Western Trust

# 1 Apologies

Ms Cynthia Porter, Department of Social Development

Ms Carina Boyle, Action for Children

Mrs Kate McDaid, Assistant Director [Health Care]

Ms Deirdre Mahon, Assistant Director of Safeguarding [Children]

Ms Colleen Heaney, Youth Justice Agency

Ms Helen Harley, Children & Young People's Officer, Derry City Council

Mr Eamon O'Kane, Local Commissioning Group

Mrs Anne Hardy, Children's Services Planning Officer, HSCB

Mrs Maria Herron, Parenting NI

#### 2 Chairman's Business

# **Current Membership**

Mr Downey welcomed Mr Michael Dallat, NIHE, who was replacing Ms Avril McAllister for a period of twelve months.

Mr Downey reported that he had received a letter from Mr Donnie Sweeney, NIACRO. Due to promotion within his own organisation, Mr Sweeney had given notice that he could no longer be a member of the group.

Mr Downey said current gaps in membership would be considered when memberships were due for renewal later this year.

# 3 Notes of Previous Meeting

All present confirmed that they had received a copy of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 October 2013 and they were a true and accurate record of the discussion that had taken place.

# 4 Matters Arising

# Child Sexual Exploitation Conference on 5 & 6 March 2014

Mr Downey advised that he had forwarded members information on the Trust's two day conference on 5 & 6 March 2014, where the guest speaker was Ms Sheila Taylor, a leading expert on Child Sexual Exploitation in England. He advised that there were two events planned for 6 March - morning event at the Everglades Hotel, Londonderry, and an afternoon event at the Silverbirch Hotel, Omagh. The two sessions on 6 March 2014 were aimed at Policing and Community Safety Partnership members, hoteliers, vintners, taxi firms etc. Mr Downey invited members to attend and asked for their assistance in promoting the events. DCI Eaton said education was very important and said this was an opportunity to reach a wide audience. Members suggested that a flier detailing the conference should be displayed in local communities. Mrs McGale suggested a different title to Child Sexual Exploitation.

## Stakeholder Events – Derry & Strabane

Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly advised on the forthcoming stakeholder events:-

# 7 March 2014, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm, Millennium Forum

The theme is "Effective Youth Partnership" and the guest speaker is Mr Harry Shier.

# 11 March 2014, 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm, Holy Cross College, Strabane

The theme is Internet Safety and the guest speaker is Mr Wayne Denner, a Youth Digital Communications Expert.

Mr Downey encouraged members to attend. He asked if efforts could be made to organise the final stakeholder event in Limavady before the group's next meeting on

30 April 2014, as information from all the stakeholder events would be collated to inform future planning for 2014/15.

**Update on Presentation to Local Commissioning Group on 11 December 2013**Mr Downey reported that he had attended a meeting of the Local Commissioning Group on 11 December 2013 and gave an update on the work of the Western Area Outcomes Group. He advised that the LCG comprised of representatives from the Public Health Agency, Health and Social Care Board, General Practitioners and key stakeholders.

# Bright Start – NI Executive's Programme for Affordable and Integrated Child Care

Mr Conway reported on the grant aid launch in March 2014 of £15M funding for a three year period. He said the funding would support the development of child care for school age children, child care in rural areas, children with a disability and the provision of better access to information on child care and related financial support. He advised that the roll out was being led by the Child Care Partnerships.

# **Early Interventional Transformational Funding**

Mr Conway referred to the £35M Early Interventional Transformational investment over a three year funding period. He reported that £10M was allocated by OFM/DFM, £10M from Atlantic Philanthropies, £2M from each of the Government Departments and £5M which had already been allocated for Family Support Hubs. He said a series of workstreams had been identified and they would develop specifications for services and the funding would allow for opportunities for new approaches in early intervention work. Mr Downey said the Outcomes Group had a significant role to play and would be involved in the development of services at local level. Members were concerned at the sustainability of finances when the funding period ended.

### Low Dental Registrations for Children under Two Years of Age

Mr Downey advised that Mrs Grainne Quinn, Clinical Director [Community Dentistry], was scheduled to attend the next meeting to inform members on the challenges of dental registrations of children under two years of age.

#### **Role of Social Media**

Mr Downey noted that Social Media was the theme at the forthcoming stakeholder event in Strabane on 11 March 2014 and an update would be provided at the next meeting.

# 5 Update from Locality Planning Groups

Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly outlined for members details on the forthcoming stakeholders events planned for Londonderry and Strabane and informed members that new members had joined the Locality Planning Groups following the two previous events. They advised of their contact with Leonard Cheshire who wished to start a youth club for young people with sensory and physical disability alongside a

parental support group. Mrs Magee advised of plans to pilot a local Parents Reference Group in the Fermanagh area in March 2014. Mrs Magee advised that herself and Mrs Hardy had met with Mrs Arlene Foster, MLA, who wished to be updated on the work of the Locality Planning Group. She also advised of a breakfast meeting on 28 February 2014 with local churches, charities and organisations to discuss families experiences of the economic downturn. Mrs Magee reported on a successful evening event held at the Hangout in Enniskillen where 40 young people had attended and acknowledged the assistance of Youth Action.

Mr Downey requested Mrs Magee and Mrs Donnelly to identify learning from all the stakeholder events which would assist in identifies priorities for 2014/15, and which would be discussed at the next meeting on 30 April 2014. Mr Downey said he would arrange to have an initial discussion with them in preparation for the meeting.

# 6 Early Intervention Updates

Discussed earlier in the meeting.

# 7 Early Intervention City Region - Action Framework

Ms Mason distributed details on "Building a Health City and District – An Early Intervention Framework". She said the framework was the next step in the progression of the Early Intervention objectives identified in the One Plan and an extensive range of organisations had contributed to it. The deadline for comments on the draft consultation was 28 February 2014. Mr Downey acknowledged that this evidenced effective partnership working and said it was important that all future planning was aligned.

## **8** Western Parents Reference Group Update

Mr Downey advised that Ms Maria Herron, Parenting NI, had requested to attend today's meeting to give an update on the Western Parents Reference Group, but had to offer an apology. Mrs Magee had given an update on the pilot of a new parents group in Fermanagh earlier in the meeting.

# 9 Contracts Update

Mr Downey thanked Mrs Ferris and the Chairs of Sub Groups who had inputted into discussions to take forward the contracting processes for the £40,000 slippage.

Ms Topping advised that in relation to "Participation in Schools", the Coolessan ward in Limavady had been identified for the 11-13 years mentoring programme. She reported that the 7-11 age group was more difficult to identify, so it was proposed that this would be taken forward next year.

Mr Conway advised that in relation to "Speech, Language and Communication Development", Fermanagh was being initially targetted to identify children vulnerable to poor outcomes, in conjunction with providers from the community/voluntary sector.

Mr Downey advised that due to social procurement rules, applications would be

invited from organisations who currently contracted with the Trust, Health and Social Care Board and the Public Health Agency, in respect of Level 2 Family Support Services, for non recurrent funding to a maximum of £5,000, to be spent by 31 March 2014. It was also agreed that organisations who received match funding could also apply. An amendment to existing contracts would be made for those successful applications. It was agreed that depending on the number of applications received, priority would be given to family support interventions for the 0-5 year old age group. Mrs Ferris advised that funding advertisements would be placed in the Belfast Telegraph and an adjudication panel would be established.

Mrs McIntyre said she was willing to arrange a meeting with Neighbourhood Renewal mentors to share knowledge and experience.

# 10 Regional Funding Profiles 2014/15

It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting on 30 April 2014.

# 11 Child Development Project Board – Children's Health in Northern Ireland 2013/14

Mr Downey shared with members a report on "Children's Health in Northern Ireland 2013/14". He said the report contained interesting information on births where smoking and diabetes were identified as maternal risk factors and said the report would inform discussion at the next meeting. Ms Linton advised of an Antenatal Nurturing Programme and agreed to keep members updated on developments.

Mr Conway reported that Mrs Valerie Maxwell, Children's Services Planning Information Manager, was producing report card summaries detailing outcomes information in Trust areas.

# 12 Planning Discussions/Proposals 2014/15

Mr Downey noted that the Outcomes Group were well on target to meet the objectives in the timeline for the production of the NI Children and Young People's Plan 2015/18.

# 13 CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm

Mr Downey reported that work was progressing well in the Trust regarding interfaces between Mental Health and Child Care Services.

Ms Mullan advised that the PHA and HSCB were formulating a new Hidden Harm action plan to identify key tasks to embed Hidden Harm across all services and to inform staff, particularly frontline staff. She advised that a meeting had been arranged for 13 March 2014 to take forward the action plan. Ms Mullan said Hidden Harm needed the backing of the Western Area Outcomes Group and she agreed to share the action plan with the group. Mr Downey suggested inviting Mrs Yvonne McWhirter, Head of Primary Care and Specialist Services, to the June meeting to advise members of the protocol within the Trust and to allow further discussion.

DCI Eaton said Hidden Harm was a challenge for the PSNI as they often dealt with the issue that was presented, but acknowledged there was a need to look at primary and secondary issues and said there was an whole educational process required, but said that staff were becoming increasingly aware of Hidden Harm issues.

Members acknowledged that the Family Support Hubs had an important role to play in relation to Hidden Harm. It was agreed that Mr Pat Armstrong, Head of Service, and the Hub Co-ordinators would be invited to the planning meeting on 30 April 2014.

# 14 Any Other Business

# **Conference – Europe in Action 2014**

Mrs McGale advised of Mencap's conference on 15 - 17 May 2014 in Belfast. The theme of the conference was "Growing up with an Intellectual Disability". Conference details had already been circulated to members.

# **Consultation – Child Poverty Strategy**

Mrs McIntyre advised that the response date for the Child Poverty Strategy had been extended to the end of March 2014. Members acknowledged that there were real concerns if the strategy was to be implemented. Mr Downey said a response to the strategy would be prepared on behalf of the group.

# **Neighbourhood Renewal**

Mrs McIntyre said that the cessation of Neighbourhood Renewal needed to be considered in future planning, as the west of the Province had been a major beneficiary of funding. She agreed to compile a list of current supported health and early years projects.

### Young 16+ Homeless

Mr Dallat said the Welfare Reform Bill would have a major impact on people within NI and said he would like to engage more with young people as young 16+ homeless was a major issue for the NIHE. Mr Downey said this was also a key concern for the Trust.

Mr Dallat advised that the NIHE had a database of District Council community groups which could be shared with the group.

# **Support for Travellers**

Ms Mullan advised of funding from the Public Health Agency and the Local Commissioning Group for two support workers for travellers and their children. She advised that staff were due to take up post in September 2014 and it was agreed that this would be listed as an agenda item later in the year.

### 15 Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting

30 April 2014 at 10.00 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency.