

Omagh Locality Planning Meeting August 2013

Prioritising of Issues / Emerging Trends in the Omagh Area

Introduction

This is a practical example of prioritising a long list of emerging trends and issues by implementing a thematic grouping technique. The technique provides a structured mechanism for which can be used as a practical guide to action and new insights in a short period.

Task for Members

At the Omagh LPG meeting the members were tasked with prioritising the fourteen issues / emerging trends that have been identified as occurring in the area and being experienced by local families. This detailed list was collated from information contributed directly from the members, or issues that have been raised at external meetings and subgroups around the county.

Challenges Faced

At the beginning of the session it proved difficult and very challenging to come to agreement as to the priorities as members work in many disciplines that might not connect or overlap with each other. After reading through all the issues / trends there was discussion as to how the Fermanagh LPG used their prioritising technique to narrow down the list and pinpoint the top priorities.

Design of Content Analysis Technique

The members decided that they would use a different analysis of the issues / trends and picked content analysis as this deductive method would be perfect for this qualitative information. This method is mostly used in Nursing, as it allows for testing theoretical issues, but it can also enhance understanding of the information, particularly if there is not a lot known about it, or it is fragmented.

Carrying Out Content Analysis Technique

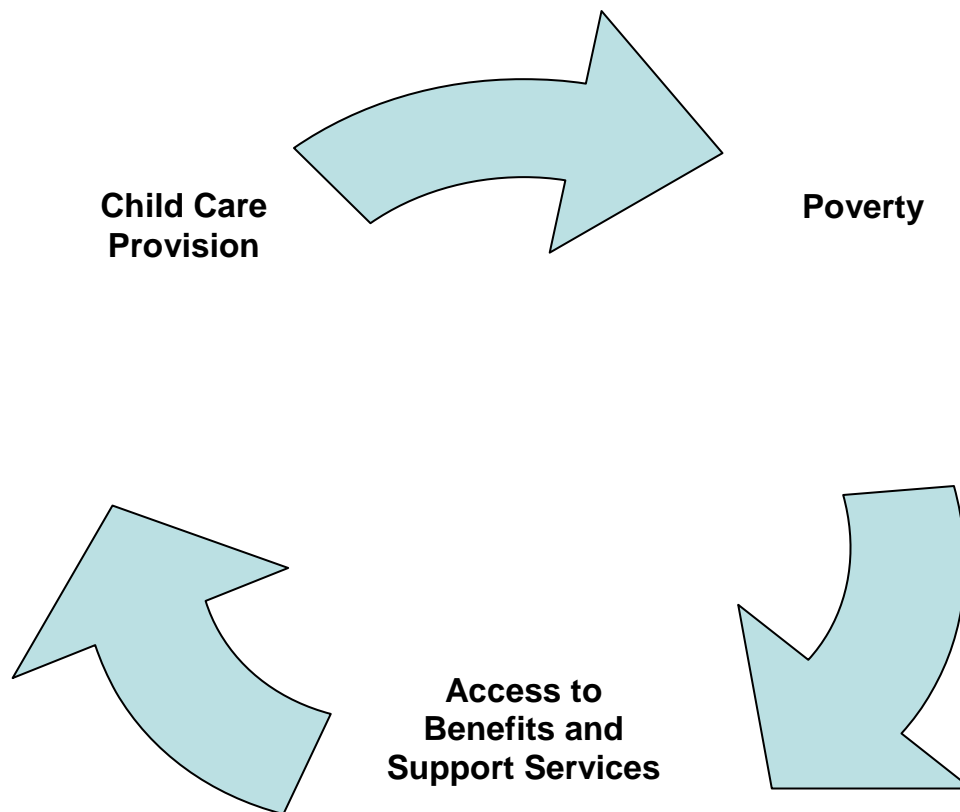
Time was spent developing a clear understanding of the goals and objectives of the exercise with the members and then they looked at all fourteen priorities and decided as a group in which of the two categories the issues / trends could be grouped.

Sub - Category	Generic Category	Main Category
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Domestic Violence 2. Price of childcare 3. Afterschool Provision Limited 4. Migrant Families Needs 5. Need for Mentoring 6. Fuel Poverty 7. Early Intervention for Children with Disabilities 8. Support for families with children with emotional and behavioural needs 9. Rise in Exposure to Drugs 10. Private Rents & Arrears 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Quality Services Needed 12. Need for Timely Services 13. Funding for Smaller Organisation 14. Support Services Been Needed for Longer 	<p>❖ Poverty</p> <p>❖ Access To Benefits & Services</p> <p>❖ Childcare Provision</p>

Content Analysis Categories

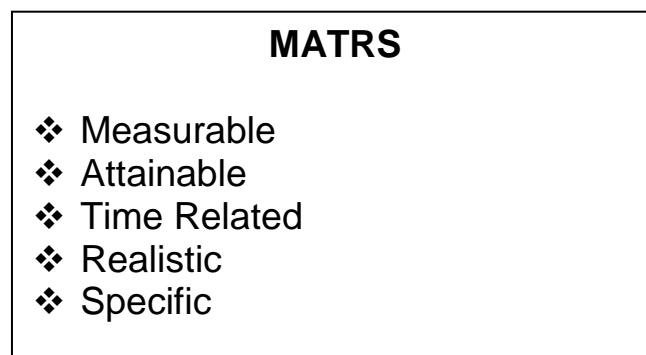
Identification of Priorities For Omagh LPG

After the two categories had been filled, it was realised that three themes were emerging so the members decided that these would become the three main priorities.



Next Steps

After the priorities were identified the members discussed how they could progress this work at the next meeting, as well as bringing this information up to the Western Outcomes Group. It was thought at the next meeting a greater analysis of the priorities could be carried out using the MATRS framework



Overview

The members found this a very worthwhile task as in a short time they were able to theme the issues / trends and think of new tasks to address these as a group.

More information on Qualitative Content Analysis Process

The guidance for Content Analysis Technique is available online:

ELO S. & KYNGA S H. (2008) The qualitative content analysis process. Journal of Advanced Nursing 62(1), 107–115 doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2648.2007.04569.x

www.mindtools.com