

**A meeting of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership took place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at 9.30 am in the Round Tower Suite, Antrim Civic Centre, Antrim**

**Present:**

Please see attached document.

**1. Arrival and Welcome**

Ms Valerie Watts, Chief Executive chaired the meeting. Ms Watts thanked members for their attendance and welcomed them to the meeting. Roundtable introductions were carried out as it was Ms Watts first attendance at the Partnership meeting.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

Members **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 as an accurate record of the meeting.

**3. Purpose of Today's Meeting**

Ms Watts, advised members of the purposes of the meeting:

- a) Receive an update on the proposal for Outcomes Groups to develop models of integrated provision in 2015/16.
- b) Receive a presentation from the Children's Commissioner on the work of the NICCY office and link with CYPSP.
- c) Briefing from the chair of Early Intervention Subgroup on future work and discussion on implication of this for the groups terms of reference and membership.

d) Briefing on the outcomes achieved from 2011-2014 CYPSP plan and proposals for development of new plan.

e) Opportunity to consider report cards from CYPSP information team, Communication Subgroup and Regional Subgroups.

#### **4. Matters Arising:**

##### **a. The development of engagement between Delivering Social Change (DSC) and CYPSP**

Ms Watts advised that this item would be discussed on the main agenda under the item relating to the Early Intervention Subgroup.

##### **b. Proposal for establishing linkages between Early Intervention Transformation Programme and CYPSP**

Ms Watts advised that this item would be discussed on the main agenda under the item relating to the Early Intervention Subgroup.

##### **c. Proposal for Outcomes Groups to develop one model of integrated provision**

Ms Anne Hardy spoke to a paper she had prepared (attached).

Ms Hardy stated that the meeting of the CYPSP on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014 it had been recommended that each Outcomes Group model up one type of integrated service provision, using existing resources, across all sectors and taking cognisance of the three priorities already established by CYPSP (Emotional Health and Wellbeing, improving education outcomes and prevention of offending). This would be used to give members an idea of progress around action plans and methodology which has been used to draw these up. Regional Subgroups will play a key role in this process advising the outcomes groups on key issues. Over the next weeks Outcomes Groups will draw up Project Initiation Document. Ms Hardy asked members if they were agreeable to move forward with this.

Ms Hardy told members that since April each Outcomes Group has been looking at statistical data. There have been stakeholder events in the Southern and Western Trust areas. The purpose of these events was to look at what services are already in place and what works in the specific Trust area.

Ms Hardy talked the group through the Outcomes Group's High Level Priorities for each Trust area. The next step will be to refine these and develop action plans around where the gaps are. There are three key priorities- mental health and wellbeing, and young people at risk of offending.

Ms McAndrew suggested looking at page 4 of the document prepared by Ms Hardy and said she would welcome feedback on what the Outcomes Groups are proposing to do. These proposals all require significant interagency working. The focus needs to be outcomes based.

Ms Watts invited comments from the floor. Ms Watts stated that she had experience of community planning and the Single Outcome Agreement model when she worked in Scotland and the process under discussion was a very familiar one. She invited comments from the councils represented on the group.

Mr Liam Hannaway stated that it is important to consider how relationships between the Outcomes Groups and their work and the new Councils, with the power of Community Planning will develop. He noted that the consultation on Community Planning Partners was now out. He also noted that the current proposals in Northern Ireland do not follow the Single Outcome Agreement model. The development of relationships with the new Councils will be important. Children and Young People are a theme that will cross the work of CYPSP and the Councils work in Community Planning and CYPSP offers a model for coordination in these issues.

Mr Paul Yam commented that only the Southern Trust have anything about engaging with the BME community and equality and Good relations in their plan. He said work with BME communities was important to consider as hate crime is increasing in Northern Ireland. He said it should not just be priority in Southern Trust but in the other areas also.

Ms Hardy replied that out of the five outcomes groups it is likely that Southern Trust will choose BME work as the priority area of development for them. They will focus on this as a group and then roll out the learning regionally. The BME regional subgroup will be actively engaged in this.

Ms McAndrew stated that having due regard to diversity and good relations needs to be inherent in all our work.

Mr Shane McCurdy added that we need to be clear about what success would look like with this project.

Ms McAndrew reminded members that Ms Valerie Maxwell CSP Information Manager has obtained a lot of information on Children in NI, drilling down to ward level. This trends reflected in this information is the basis for determining success. Each Outcomes Group should look at one area and share the learning from this across the others. She suggested that it would be expected that each Outcomes Group reports back to the Partnership on progress for each meeting.

Maura Muldoon noted that PSNI research into 'hotspots' for hate crime did not identify the southern area. She noted that changing attitudes to BME community would be a helpful indicator of success in this work.

Valerie Maxwell will consider the information available in respect of attitudes to BME community.

**Action.** The proposal will continue to be developed by Outcomes groups with Ms Hardy as lead officer for reporting to CYPSP.

**5. Presentation by Children's Commissioner  
(Memorandum of Understanding between NICCY and CYPSP  
attached as paper for information) Outcomes Groups by Patricia  
Lewsley-Mooney**

Ms Watts welcomed Ms Patricia Lewsley- Mooney, the Children's Commissioner for Northern Ireland to advise on emerging issues for children.

Ms Patricia Lewsley- Mooney informed members that she is coming to the end of her second term as Commissioner in September and

she will be stepping down. Ms Lewsley- Mooney presented on the work of her office (PowerPoint attached).

The presentation covered-

The role of NICCY

NICCY Organisation

NICCY current high level corporate objectives

Relevant Projects

Engagement with CYPSP

Common objectives of NICCY and CYPSP grounded within the Rights of Children and Young People.

Protocol in place – NICCY & CYPSP

Attendance at meetings/subgroups:

- Children with emotional behavioural difficulties
- Transitions of C&YP with disabilities into adulthood
- C&YP with disabilities
- Looked after children / youth homelessness
- Think family
- Parents Reference Groups

Value of working together

Primary benefit: information sharing including research

Positive experiences of working together

Can promote consistency of messages on shared objectives

Our shared goal is one of promoting children's and young people's rights and best interests

She concluded by welcoming the engagement between the NICCY office and CYPSP and noted the need to review the Memorandum of Understanding between NICCY and CYPSP

Ms Watts thanked Ms Lewsley- Mooney for her informative presentation and on behalf of CYPSP acknowledged her work during her term.

Ms Elaine Way commented on the inclusion of children and young people in many of the issues NICCY is involved with.

Referring to the imminent publication of the Marshall report into Child Sexual Exploitation Ms Way commented on the need to have good communication on the issues effecting children and young people and that young people should be more involved

Ms McAndrew stated that the Safeguarding Board Northern Ireland have looked at this key issue on a multiagency basis. They are aware of the need to have clear information.

Mr Leeson asked if some comment could be made into the research NICCY is undertaking into spend on children in Northern Ireland.

Ms Lewsley- Mooney told members that funding was provided by NICCY in partnership with Atlantic Philanthropies to look at how much we spend on children and young people, how much of this spend could be classified as early intervention and how much of that was invested in evidence based programmes.

Ms Koulla Yiasouma stated that this was a helpful piece of work as it potentially supports the CYPSP support of more collaboration between departments and agencies to avoid duplication.

Ms Pauline Leeson said that the key issue to consider is how we spend money better in order to not only remove duplication but also to improve outcomes. She commented on the issue of child poverty and the potential impact of welfare reform on child poverty rates and referenced the recent Child Poverty Alliance publication 'Beneath the Surface-Child Poverty in Northern Ireland'

Ms Anne Hardy noted that the Locality Groups had been doing some work on the potential impact of welfare reform and potential impact on poverty.

Ms Watts thanked the commissioner for attending the meeting and sharing this work with the group.

**Action.** Arrangements to review the MOU with NICCY to be agreed. Lead Officer reporting to CYPSP Maurice Leeson.

## **6. Review of Purpose of Early Intervention Subgroup. Presentation by Dawn Shaw**

Ms Watts reminded members that the Early Intervention Subgroup has been a very active part of the CYPSP work.

Ms Dawn Shaw, in her capacity as Chair of the Early Intervention Subgroup, presented on the achievements to date and discussion on how to move forward(Please see attached presentation).

Ms Shaw outlined the purpose of the presentation as being to-

- (a) Inform CYPSP about the need for the refocusing of Early Intervention Subgroup.
- (b) Ask CYPSP to agree to a plan to take the work of the EI subgroup forward

The content of presentation covered-

- (a) Summary of Work of EI subgroup to date
- (b) Current Issues for EI
- (c) Moving Forward

Ms Shaw outlined the achievements of the Early Intervention Subgroup against its work plan

- (a) A Strategic Scan of existing family support strategies has been completed and is currently being tested on CYPSP website
- (b) CYPSP has profiled the service infrastructure currently available to deliver an early intervention strategy - this included universal statutory provision and additional provision.  
Supporting Data is now housed on Family Support NI and Specific service Maps being produced to support planning work
- (c) The CYPSP planned to develop an Early Intervention Plan capable of addressing the following four age ranges for intervention

preconception/conception/0-3/3+/Post primary and EITP has taken this up through the work stream model. Additional Work is being taken forward by Outcomes Groups

- (d) A standardised resilience based framework for evaluation of early intervention programmes across NI has been developed and is being piloted
- (e) An evaluation framework to measure the added value of local integration of services (Family Support Hubs) has been developed and is being used to evaluate the Hubs
- (f) The CYPSP has measured the effectiveness of early intervention at a number of levels
  - On-going tracking of aggregated population information through CYPSP Information system
  - Gather and evaluate existing research on how to influence each of the outcomes.
  - Carry out a baseline audit of the quality of early intervention programmes in place in NI.
  - Work is being taken forward by Child Development Board (PHA) to review the progress of the RCT based programmes in NI.

In terms of going forward Ms Shaw identified the following key work tasks

- Support to Early Intervention Transformation Programme
- Support to Delivering Social Change /New Children's Strategy
- Unfinished work on audit of early intervention services and assessing effectiveness of early intervention family support

Ms Watts thanks Ms Shaw for her presentation and invited comments from the floor.

Ms Elaine Way stated that she endorsed the work of the Early Intervention Subgroup, but she felt it was important to acknowledge that each of the five Trusts is facing huge financial pressures.



It would be enormously helpful to see more evidence that an investment in early intervention was making a significant difference and resolving problems earlier.

Mr Leeson noted that in terms of evidence the evaluation of Family Support Hubs has captured one full year of operation. The initial results are positive. Family Support Hubs take referrals from a wide range of statutory agencies and in terms of supporting their continued development and sustainability the success factors needed to address the issues for a wide range of agencies.

Mr Hugh McCaughey reported that as he is a member of the Early Intervention group. He had been involved in discussion of the roles of Early Intervention subgroup at the last meeting and the importance of developing a current strategy and plan. There is a risk for this group of taking on tasks which is not well equipped, or sufficiently resourced to undertake. How the group is constituted, what it does and how it is resourced all need to be reviewed. We need as CYPSP to make sure we have strong influence on the development of the group and the contribution it in turn can make to the on-going development of early intervention. Mr McCaughey emphasised the importance of the 'single voice' from the CYPSP influencing the on-going development of early intervention.

Ms Clare Mangan commented that there was room to improve our collective understanding of the effectiveness of the programmes being delivered under the label of early intervention. She noted that there is often a tension between what is funded and what is effective.

Ms Una Turbitt stated that she is conscious of any potential overlap with the PHA Child Development Board and this needs to be considered and responded to if necessary.

Mr Leeson noted that the CYPSP was committed to reducing duplication and would respond to any potential overlap.

Ms Yiasouma raised the importance of the partnership linking its work on early intervention to the work that was going on through the Early Intervention Transformational Programme (EITP), Delivering Social Change Strategy and Children's Strategy.

Ms McAndrew agreed and noted that the Early Intervention subgroup and the CYPSP generally, had helped with the debate on the importance of, and need for, a clear focus on Early Intervention Process.

Mr McCaughey stated that the Early Intervention Subgroup's purpose has changed and it is important to review this. Outcomes groups have changed and are better developed. We need to check responsibilities map these all out and look at overall picture, then it will be possible to streamline thinking and see who needs to be involved.

Ms Watts asked the group to move towards recommendations and endorsement of the group to make a new refreshed Terms of Reference.

Mr Hannaway noted that some of the Trusts now overlapped the new council areas. This could make it difficult for the new councils to engage with the CYPSP structures. He also emphasised how important it was for CYPSP to begin the process of engaging with the new council structures.

Mr McCaughey reminded the group that time is pressing and it is necessary to get the review done as soon as possible. It could end up with a four month delay if thinking of waiting on next partnership meeting.

**ACTION- Whole partnership to be invited to attend next Early Intervention Subgroup to make recommendations and discuss.**

**Paper to set out relationship of CYPSP to EITP to be agreed by EITP Board.**

**Paper to set out relationship between CYPSP and OFMDFM in developing new Children's Strategy to be developed.**

## **7. Review of Outcomes achieved form 2011 -2014 CYPSP plan**

Mr Maurice Leeson, in his capacity as CYPSP Professional Advisor, presented on the review of the plan (Please see attached presentation).

On the conclusion of Mr Leeson's presentation Ms V Watts thanked him. Ms Watts stated that members must note the need to produce a new plan and be committed to evaluate effectiveness of the CYPSP and its structures.

**ACTION- The review of CYPSP will be taken forward by CYPSP Officers in tandem with the development of a new CYPSP plan. Responsible person Maurice Leeson.**

### **Items for Noting:**

- a. **Information System Report Card (VM)**
- b. **Communications Report Card (AH)**
- c. **Regional Subgroups Report card (ML)**

Ms Watts opened the floor for any questions or queries on the above items. As no questions were asked she advised that any questions could be directed to the CYPSP Team during the lunch break.

## **8. AOB**

Mr Leeson reported that the next meeting would take place at a different venue, this will be circulated to members with dates of upcoming meetings.

## **9. Dates for 2014/2015 Meetings**

Dates for the next meetings will be circulated to members.