

Quality Care - for you, with you

Southern Area Outcomes Group

Notes of a meeting held on Tuesday, 15 October 2013 at 9.30
am in the Boardroom, Trust Headquarters,
Craigavon Area Hospital.

Present:

Paul Morgan, Chair, SHSCT
Colm McCafferty, SHSCT
Gerard Houlahan, Armagh & City District Council
Geraldine Maguire, SHSCT
Mairead Abraham, HSCNI
Nicola Lane, Craigavon Borough Council
Nicola Topping, SELB
Anne Hardy, HSCNI
Gerry Bleakney, PHA
Stephen Smith, CIP
Michael Heaney, Youth Justice Agency
Una Magee, Barnardos
Merissa McGeary, HSCNI
Jackie Valentine, Parenting NI
Shirley Gillespie, Toybox
Regina Mackin , Newry & Mourne Council

Apologies:

David Douglas, SHSCT
Valerie Maxwell, HSCNI
Una Geelan, HSCNI
Drew Neill, Voypic
Deirdre Wiggins, NIHE
Claire Linney, Dungannon Council
Eddy Curtis, Newry & Mourne Borough Council
Julie Bolton, HSCNI
Jacinta Linden, South Down Family Health
Maurice Leeson, HSCNI
Marie Kavanagh, Gingerbread NI
Supt Simon Walls, PSNI

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Paul welcomed members to the meeting and in particular welcomed Maurice Meehan, PHA and Geraldine McCourt, DEL who had been invited to update Outcome members regarding DSC Signature Programmes.

1.1 PHA (Maurice Meehan)

Maurice commenced by giving a background and referred to the PHA Child Development Board/Healthy Child Healthy Futures/Breastfeeding Strategy and other existing evidence based programmes including Family Nurse Partnerships and Roots of Empathy Programme.

Maurice continued to explain that OFMDFM has agreed to invest a significant sum of money and PHA has agreed to develop 5 future programmes:

- **Incredible years** – a 2 year programme aimed at parents or teachers of children aged 0-12. Aim is to reduce behaviour problems and to promote problem solving skills, social competence and emotional regulation.
- **Infant Mental Health Training** – training will develop the capacity of those in contact with vulnerable families and babies to identify and act upon early signs of mental health illness in infancy. Three training programmes (video interactive Guidance, Diploma in Infant Mental Health and Solihull training) have been put in place and work is ongoing with CAMHS.
- **Triple P** – Aimed at parents of children aged 2-12 with mild to serious concerns about the child's behaviour. It was noted that a workshop is to be held on 16 November 2013.
- **Parenting UR Teen** – 8 week programme developed by Parenting NI and has the purpose of improving the parent/adolescent relationship and is based on an authoritative parenting style
- **Strengthening Families Programme** – designed to reduce risk factors for children in families with a history of parental drug and alcohol abuse.

Discussion followed regarding representation on local hubs and it was agreed that this needs to be proportionate and should be monitored on an ongoing basis. Paul stated that, as yet, a Development Worker has not been appointed to the hubs as further discussion is needed regarding the roll-out of hubs to ensure that there is a degree of consistency. It was agreed that the hubs need to be made aware of and asked to promote all of the above programmes.

A question and answer session followed:

- Mairead referred to the programmes and enquired where they will be delivered. Mairead stated that significant work is already ongoing in Surestart areas and asked if it envisaged that programmes will be rolled out to a wider geographical area.
- Mairead informed the meeting that Solihull is well advanced in the Southern area and that this is an approach rather than a programme. Maurice explained that this work will be built upon and it is hoped that there will be more joined up working.
- It was noted that significant work has already been carried out in relation to Infant Mental Health programmes and in particular within Health Visiting. Mairead reported that she would have concerns regarding the use of video interactive equipment in the Infant Mental Health training programme. Maurice explained that NICE guidelines have highlighted the need for VIG and the use of technology, however, he appreciates Mairead's reservations.
- Maurice informed the meeting that a full-time Officer will be appointed at NCB for the Incredible Years Programme and this person will engage with staff who are delivering services in the Southern area. Maurice also stated that it is important to have universal services with more informal programmes and there is also the need for programmes which have attributed to evidence based research.
- Geraldine raised the issue of some parents needing support to attend the programmes and Shirley highlighted the importance of considering the practicalities, such as, the programmes being tailored to meet the needs of families and that venues and child care needs also need to be considered.
- Paul reported that it may be necessary to take stock and evaluate the programmes which are currently being carried out and determine if there is evidence that they are effective. Maurice advised that there are tools available in the

infrastructure to assist in making better interventions for families. Maurice also stated that he welcomed feedback from the Outcomes Group.

1.2 DEL (Geraldine McCourt)

Geraldine gave an overview of the Community Family Support Programme which is an initiative designed to help families make life changing decisions to enhance and improve their everyday lives. The initiative also aims to prevent young people falling into NEET. During the 26 week programme families receive help from professionally qualified family support workers to address issues that impact on their daily lives.

Geraldine continued to provide detail regarding specific supports which families receive, how families can participate on the programme and how families can join the programme.

Discussion followed regarding the early intervention transformation fund. Anne Hardy reported that £35m is being made available from the Department and papers are currently being developed by the Assembly. The meeting noted that this is at an early stage and that Jason White has been seconded from the South Eastern Trust to the DHSSPS to take this work forward.

2.0 Apologies

Apologies were noted as above.

3.0 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday, 6 August 2013 were approved as an accurate record.

4.0 Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 Planning Cycle

Anne confirmed that Action Plan has been circulated to members and she explained that this is designed to capture progress by the Outcomes Group towards achievement in the actions set out in the

Southern Outcomes Group Action Plan over the past 2 years. Discussion followed regarding timescales and it was agreed that members should provide comments/updates to Anne by 12 November 2013 with a copy to Paul Morgan. It was also agreed that it might be more appropriate to include a smaller and more specific number of actions. Mairead explained that very often it is difficult to source indicators and she referenced the draft statistical profile and performance monitoring report and advised that this is a very informative report. Paul suggested using this information to add new and more measurable indicators, as we move forward. Anne suggested that it would be beneficial to hold a workshop and set aside time for Valerie Maxwell to discuss this report in greater detail.

Paul Morgan left the meeting and Geraldine Maguire chaired the remainder of the meeting.

5.0 Locality Planning Group Updates

In Julie's absence, Catriona spoke to above report. Catriona commenced by giving an update regarding Volunteer Youth Fairs and advised that a fair has been arranged for November in Banbridge. Catriona continued to report that feedback from the young people in relation to career advice and lack of opportunities for 16/17 year olds to get work experience is very concerning. Members noted that many young people are disadvantaged and have difficulty in accessing work experience due to the lack of parental connections/networks. Discussion followed and members agreed that there needs to be a resource available in schools which can provide assistance with identifying work experience places. Catriona stated that Julie will be producing a further report which will be circulated to members in due course.

Catriona continued to report on Keeping Safe Online and advised that a road show for parents, young people, youth and community workers and practitioners has been organised. It was noted that a pilot event was held in Armagh on 6 September 2013. Discussion followed regarding work which is ongoing within the Southern area and it was noted that the Community PSNI have been involved in the workshops and the Love for Life Project has also been carrying out some work re: this issue.

Anne Hardy raised the issue of funding at local level and highlighted the difficulties of attracting funding to smaller areas and an exploration of a possible collaborative model of applying for funding. This would allow for a small amount of money to be set aside for any emerging and concerning needs. Mairead stressed the importance of sticking to the agreed action plan. Jackie stated that the Locality Planning Groups and the Parent groups will initially carry out their planning and then will link with the Outcomes Group. Following discussion it was agreed that this issue needs to be considered further by Chairs of the Outcomes Groups. Colm reported that it should be possible for the Outcomes Group to support the Locality Planning Groups and have a small sum of money available to assist in their work.

Colm stated that the Outcomes Group signed off two funding areas and six principles of how this funding would be used. Colm continued to give an update regarding Outcomes money and the procurement process. Colm reported that applications received far outweighed the funding which is available. It was noted that letters will go out to applicants by the end of October and the procurement process allows a 30 day period for any challenges. Colm reported that he would hope that money will be with successful Organisations by the end of November 2013. Colm stressed that Organisations must continue to look to other sources of funding such as the Big Lottery.

Michael stated that the Outcomes Group did agree priority areas and he thanked Colm for the work he has carried out in relation to leading on this and the procurement process.

Discussion followed regarding IPT funding and Anne agreed to ask Maurice Leeson to check on an up to date position.

6.0 Any Other Business

6.1 **Stakeholder Events**

Anne provided information on plans for Stakeholder events in the Northern and Western areas. Discussion followed regarding events in the Southern area and it was agreed that it would be logical to feed into other events such as those arranged by the local hubs. Colm suggested bringing this forward through the Hub Steering Group which Maurice Leeson is a member.

7.0 **Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting was agreed for Tuesday, 10 December 2013 at 9.30 am in the Boardroom, Main Hospital, Craigavon Area Hospital.