



**Minute of Western Area Outcomes Group  
held on Wednesday 26 April 2017  
Strabane Enterprise Agency**

**Present:**

- Mr. Kieran Downey, Director of Women & Children's Services [Chair]
- Ms. Muriel Bailey, Director of Family Support Services, Parenting NI
- Ms. Joanne Sweeney, Mencap
- Ms. Marie McGale, Mencap
- Ms. Cathy McCloskey, Early Years Organisation
- Ms. Linda Watson, Caw/Nelson Drive Community Association
- Mr. Kevin Duffy, Head of Service [Family Support], WHSCT
- Ms. Lisa McGarvey, Children's Services Manager, Action for Children
- Ms. Una Casey, Business Support Manager, CYPSP
- Mr. Barry O'Hagan, Head of Community Development & Leisure, Derry City & Strabane District Council
- Ms. Susan Mullan, Derry City & Strabane District Council
- Ms. Cathy Mullan, Public Health Agency
- Mrs. Ann McDuff, Assistant Director [Community & Public Health], WHSCT
- Mr. Mustapha Ben Hassine, Barnardos
- Mr. Robert Gibson, Director of Community, Health & Leisure, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

**In attendance:** Mrs. Priscilla Magee, Family Planning Support Locality Planning Co-ordinator

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms. Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid</li> <li>Mr. Eamon O'Kane, Local Commissioning Group</li> <li>Ms. Monica MacIntyre, Department for Communities</li> <li>Mrs. Bronagh Donnelly, Family Planning Support Locality Planning Co-ordinator</li> <li>Mr. Paul Sweeney, Extern</li> <li>Ms. Colleen Heaney, Youth Justice Agency</li> <li>Mrs. Margaret Ferris, Business Manager, Western Trust</li> <li>Mrs. Brenda MacQueen, Dry Arch Children's Centres</li> <li>Dr. Pauline McClenaghan, Lifestart Foundation</li> <li>Ms. Elaine Forrest, Western Trust</li> </ul>
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2	<p><b>Chairman's Remarks</b></p> <p>Mr. Downey noted that there a prescribed formula for attendance as laid out by the CYPSP from representation from the statutory, community and voluntary sectors but that there was some fluidity around this also. He suggested that he and Ms. Casey should have a meeting to review membership of the group.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr. Downey and Ms. Casey to meet to review membership.</p> <p><b>New Membership</b></p> <p>Mr. Downey welcomed Mr. Robert Gibson from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to the group and also explained that Ms. Joanne Sweeney would be the new representative from Mencap replacing Ms. McGale. Mr. Downey thanked Ms. McGale for her commitment and attendance of the group. Mr. Downey also welcomed Ms. Susan Mullan from Derry City and Strabane District Council to the meeting.</p>
3	<p><b>Notes of Previous Meeting held on 22 February 2017</b></p> <p>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 22 February 2017 were agreed as an accurate record of the discussion.</p>
4	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Feedback from Launch of Western Area Outcomes Group Action Plan 2017-20</b></p> <p>A paper of the feedback from the 5 launch events was shared. The feedback was all very positive with good attendance of about 40-50 people at each of the events. There were great discussions on how organisations can put their shoulder to the wheel in implementing the action plan in their work and how everyone can commit collectively to turn the curve for the children and young people in the Western area. Mr. Downey thanked Ms. Donnelly and Ms. Magee for organizing the events. Mr. Downey also thanked the Outcomes Group members for attending and contributing to the events. Mr. Downey suggested that the group examine the feedback in more detail at the next meeting. Ms. Magee noted that the engagement events have renewed and reinvigorated membership in the Locality Planning Groups.</p> <p><b>Western Area Outcomes Group Action Plan 2017-2020 and Community Planning</b></p> <p>Mr. Gibson highlighted that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council are incorporating the CYPSP WAOG Action Plan in to their Community Plan. He explained that it made good sense to work with existing partnerships rather than start something new. Mr. O'Hagan highlighted that Derry City and Strabane District Council have also used the WAOG Action Plan priorities as theirs for children and young people. Mr. Downey pointed out that this was very innovative and also brave of Councils to do this.</p> <p>Mr. Downey highlighted to the group that Ms. C Mullan and himself would be co-chairing the Children and Young People's Thematic Group on Fermanagh and Omagh Community Planning. Mr. Gibson said that this would be good to influence</p>

the Council's plan. Mr. Downey highlighted that it was good to build on these good connections and recognised that Locality Planning had an important role to play in this too.

### **Feedback from Youth Engagement of Western Area Outcomes Group Action Plan 2017-2020**

This was deferred to the next meeting as Ms. Donnelly was not at the meeting today. Mr. Downey highlighted that Ms. Donnelly and Ms. Magee were now funded by the WAOG to do youth participation. Ms. Donnelly had been working with the Education Authority around children and young people suspended or expelled from school or who are on reduced timetables. Mr. Downey noted that there had been a recent dip in attendance from the Education Authority, and said he would raise the need for a representative to attend the group with Ms. Mangan, Director of Children and Young People, Education Authority.

Ms. Magee explained that she had carried out a short audit of youth forums in Fermanagh and Omagh and is working to build trust with these as some of them are closed groups about a specific cohort of young people such as the LGBT Forum. Mr. Downey highlighted that since one of the obsessions on the action plan was involving the voice of young people it would be good that if any members had young people that they would like to have engaged in the process to contact Ms. Donnelly or Ms. Magee.

### **Neglect Conference**

There had been a two day conference on neglect of children. It was noted that neglect is the second highest category on the Child Protection Register. Ms. Mullan noted how good the keynote speaker, Hope Daniels, was. She also highlighted that sometimes a child being taken into care is the best option for the child. It was agreed that agencies and services need to work better together to address this and also that neglect and poverty often go hand-in-hand and that there was a need to be aware of this issue.

### **5 Update Reports from Locality Planning Groups**

Ms. Magee circulated an update from the Fermanagh and Omagh Locality Planning Groups. She explained that she had recently attended an event called a "Hubathon" organised by the Department for Communities. There was a presentation from Mr. Austin Tanney about antidepressant prescriptions and how he was comparing it with data on deprivation. There was also a presentation on social prescribing. Ms. Magee also talked about a recent event carried out by LAST SureStart with traveller women using the medium of current soap operas to highlight issues such as domestic violence. Ms. Magee is also hoping to have events to promote Infant Mental Health (IMH) week on the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Mrs. McDuff highlighted that there was also work taking place throughout the Trust on Infant Mental Health week with the website having a message per day, such as breastfeeding, the five key messages, Solihull and so on. Mrs. McDuff also highlighted that the seminar carried out last year in NW college was very successful

	<p>and would be replicated this year with SW college too. Mr. Downey invited any other members who are doing anything on IMH week to send it through to his office.</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Early Intervention Updates</b>  The Emotional Health and Well-Being Compass paper is almost completed. The Western Area Outcomes Group had taken a regional lead on this issue so this paper would be shared regionally as a model of good practice. Mr. Downey to take this to the next Outcomes Group Chairs and Regional Subgroup Chairs meeting in May. It was suggested that this could also be taken to Community Planning.</p>
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Western Drug and Alcohol Co-ordination Team (WDACT)</b>  WDACT had been reformed and would be working on an Impact of Drugs and Alcohol Directory which included a range of services. Ms. C Mullan explained that WDACT is now well established new structure and would be working with Councils, PCSP's, PSNI and community based drug and alcohol forums to identify the issues at a grass root level. They would now be taking a side-by-side approach to planning services to raise awareness and make connections into the services available. Ms. C Mullan is also working on building better connections with WDACT and the Outcomes Group.</p> <p>A discussion took place about recent news reports about children as young as nine being admitted to hospital due to alcohol. Members also raised the issue of young teenagers drinking and taking drugs on buses going to discos. Mr. Duffy discussed referral routes to drug and alcohol services and linking better between these services so that children and young people get the right services quickly. Ms. McGale also highlighted that young people with learning difficulties often feel like that are overly protected from alcohol, but that it was important to share information with them, especially as they are can be very vulnerable and that there was a need for them to learn to balance this vulnerability with having fun with their peers. The group agreed that it would be useful for someone from the WDACT to do a presentation at a future Outcomes Group meeting.</p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Evaluation/Monitoring</b>  Further to discussions at the February meeting it was agreed that it would be really important to monitor and evaluate the services that would be tendered by the Outcomes Group for the next three years to see if the work is "Turning the Curve." Mr. Downey suggested that population information could be monitored every quarter to measure the impact of the plan. Members felt it would be useful to have a refresher on Outcomes Based Accountability.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Ms. Casey to invite Ms. Valerie Maxwell to deliver training on OBA. Ms. Magee highlighted that she had carried out some baseline work.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Mr. Duffy, Ms. Casey, Ms. Donnelly and Ms. Magee to meet to work on baseline information for the seven priorities in the plan.</p>

	<p><b>Outcomes Star Evaluation Update</b></p> <p>Mr. Duffy highlighted that the Outcomes Star licence had now been purchased and would be used to monitor contracts commissioned by the Outcomes Group. There were 36 places for the training for the Outcomes Star. Mr. Duffy explained that it was hoped that Ms. Donnelly and Ms. Magee would be trained as trainers.</p> <p>Mr. Downey explained that the roll out of Outcomes Star as an evaluation tool would be good to have consistency of information and that it was very important for services to be able to show outcomes and not just activity.</p> <p>Mr. Downey also explained that some of the other Outcomes Groups were piloting other evaluation tools and the learning from these would be shared regionally.</p>
9	<p><b>Community Planning Synergy with Western Area Outcomes Group Children’s Plan</b></p> <p>This had been addressed in the Chairman’s remarks.</p> <p>Ms. C Mullan raised that the group also needed to consider Causeway Coast and Glen Community Plan as Limavady was in this District Council area.</p>
10	<p><b>Fermanagh and Omagh Community Plan 2030</b></p> <p>This plan was tabled for members’ information. Ms. S Mullan highlighted that Derry City and Strabane Council’s Community Plan was almost completed.</p>
11	<p><b>Holiday Hunger Programme</b></p> <p>Mr. Downey explained that research showed that many children and young people who are in receipt of free school meals may go hungry during school holiday times. Mr. Downey highlighted a report card from the Holiday Hunger Project delivered in the Southern area last summer. Ms. Watson explained that the Waterside Extended Schools Summer Scheme had a small amount of funding to provide the children attending with healthy snacks. A discussion took place about how summer scheme funders, such as the Councils, could work in partnership with other organisations to address holiday hunger through them and understand healthy eating.</p>
12	<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p><b>E-Safety discussions at Trust Child Protection Forum</b></p> <p>Mr. Downey explained that the Trust Child Protection Forum had asked for E-Safety to be included on the Outcomes Group agenda. Ms. Magee highlighted that there would be E-Safety training taking place on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2017. Mr. Gibson said he would raise this with the PCSP’s to ensure a good uptake of the training. It was also noted that the Safeguarding Board NI would be providing Virtual Reality “Train the Trainers” training which would be available across the region. Finally, an E-Safety conference was being planned for February 2018 and the Western Area Outcomes Group would contribute to same.</p>

13	<p><b>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm</b> Item deferred.</p>
14	<p><b>Any Other Business</b> Ms. Casey noted that the Adoption and Children’s Bill was currently out for consultation and that much of it was relevant to Outcomes Group members, particularly Chapter 3.</p> <p><b>Parenting NI Workshops</b> Ms. Bailey, Parenting NI, highlighted that due to an increasing number of phone calls to the helpline on managing behavior and physical punishment and safeguarding issues, Parenting NI were running three workshops in the Western area called “STOP.” These workshops were for practitioners to re-energise the alternatives to physical punishment. This project was funded by the Outcomes Group small grants in year funding. <b>Action:</b> Ms. Bailey to forward information on the STOP workshops to Ms. Forrest for further circulation.</p> <p><b>Early Years Organisation</b> Ms. McCloskey advised of the the Early Years one day conference on 8 June 2017 in the Slieve Donnard Hotel. This year’s conference is to focus on fathers and men and early years.</p> <p><b>Mencap</b> Ms. Sweeney, reported that Mencap were currently holding programmes for parents about early years and positive approaches to support their children’s behavior, routine, life skills, strategies and techniques, focusing on children with ASD and global development delay. These will be piloted in Belfast and Omagh with a hope to roll them out across the region. <b>Action:</b> Ms. Sweeney to forward leaflet about the programme to Ms. Forrest for circulation.</p> <p><b>Causeway Coast and Glens District Council</b> Ms. C Mullan noted that the Causeway Coast and Glen District Council’s draft community plan had nothing in it about children and young people. She is aware that Ms. McQueen had responded to this and there is not a section on children and young people included.</p> <p><b>Derry City &amp; Strabane District Council</b> Ms. S Mullan reported that Derry City and Strabane District Council’s Community Plan would be published very soon and they are now working on local area plans.</p> <p><b>Membership</b> Mr. Gibson, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, thanked members for the invitation to join the group and highlighted that he was looking forward to being involved.</p>

<b>15</b>	<b>Date, Time and Venue of Next Meeting</b> 28 June 2017 at 10 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency.
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