



**Minute of Western Area Outcomes Group**  
**held on 25 April 2018**  
**Strabane Enterprise Agency**

**Present:**

Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women & Children's Services [Chair]  
Ms Monica MacIntyre, Department for Communities  
Mrs Teresa Sweidan, Team Co-Ordinator, RISE [Regional Integrated Support for Education]  
Mrs Noela Mullan, Specialist Podiatrist, Renal Unit, Western Trust  
Mrs Christine Harper, Specialist Speech and Language Therapist, Western Trust  
Mrs Irene Smyth, Manager, Arden Day Centre, Western Trust  
Mrs Bernie Tierney, Action for Children  
Mr Mustapha Ben Hassine, Barnardos  
Ms Joanne Sweeney, Families Support Manager, MENCAP  
Mrs Ellen Finlay, Children in Northern Ireland  
Mrs Pauline Leeson, Children in Northern Ireland  
Ms Una Casey, Business Support Manager, CYPSP  
Mrs Mary Holmes, Lifestart Foundation  
Ms Linda Watson, Caw/Nelson Drive Community Association  
Ms Cathy McCloskey, Operations Manager, Early Years  
Ms Maura Mason, Western Area Child Care Partnership  
Mrs Ann McDuff, Assistant Director [Community & Public Health]  
Mrs Jacqui Meenan, Business Manager, Western Trust  
Mrs Bronagh Donnelly, Family Support Locality Planning Co-Ordinator  
Mr Kevin Duffy, Head of Service for Family Support and Safeguarding  
Mr Gerry Deeney, Assistant Derry Manager, Housing Executive  
Chief Inspector Jonathan Hunter, PSNI Strabane  
Ms Brenda MacQueen, Dry Arch Children's Centre  
Mr Barry O'Hagan, Head of Community Development & Leisure, Derry City & Strabane District Council  
Ms Claire Lynch, Derry City & Strabane District Council  
Dr Josephine Deehan, Local Commissioning Group  
Ms Colleen Heaney, Assistant Director, Youth Justice Agency

<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Dr Pauline McGlenaghan, Executive Director, Lifestart Ms Muriel Bailey, Director for Family Support Services, Parenting NI Ms Orla Conway, Omagh Women's Aid
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	Mr Robert Gibson, Director of Community, Health & Leisure, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <p>Mr Downey welcomed all for attending the meeting particularly Mrs Teresa Sweidan, Mrs Noela Mullan, Mrs Christine Harper and Mrs Irene Smith. Mr Downey stated that they were members of the new Discovery Group around 'Best Start in Life' which met this morning.</p> <p>Mr Downey informed the group that Mr Mustapha Ben Hassine and Chief Inspector Ivor Morton both informed him recently of their decisions to retire. Mr Downey stated that Mr Hassine would be a significant loss to the group and Chief Inspector Morton was a breath of fresh air to the group from a policing prospective around some of our agenda areas and the group wished them both well.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Notes of Previous Meeting held on 28 February 2018</b></p> <p>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 February 2018 were agreed as an accurate record of the discussion.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Update on Disability</b></p> <p>Ms Sweeney advised that Ms Margaret Kelly, Director and Marie Anne, Policy Lead, would like to be part of the presentation around what we can do around early intervention of children with a learning disability, although she appreciated that disability covers a wide range. The programme of approach will be where MENCAP feel the gaps are in provision. Ms Sweeney mentioned that MENCAP in a lot of their work find that children with a disability and, particularly children with a learning disability, are invisible in some of the funding streams and while they fit in certain categories it's important that they are named. Mr Downey discussed the need to shine a light onto disability because sometimes it gets lost a little bit even though it is included in our discussions around adversity, holiday hunger and various others we wanted to give disability a specific time and mention to children with disability at June's meeting.</p> <p>Mr Duffy advised that he attend the first pre-discovery meeting with UNICEF and the voice of children with disabilities was discussed. He felt that it may be useful for Ms Sweeney or another representative of MENCAP to attend the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Pre-Discovery Day – Wednesday 18 April 2018</b></p> <p>Mrs Donnelly advised this was a success and the Outcomes Group was well represented. One of the main outcomes that came from the meeting was there would be two more discovery days. The 31 May 2018 would be for members of the Outcomes Group and 1 June 2018 was for those who were providing services to young people and direct intervention services. There would be a small working group with key note speakers around youth participation, dealing with what this will look like and how we involve young people through the whole process. This will be primarily run by Derry City and Strabane District Council and the Western Health and Social Care Trust with the Western Area Outcomes partners being members of this as well.</p> <p>Ms Lynch stated that they had put together a basic expression of interest and there are a lot of gaps, particularly around the voice of marginalised young people and young people with a disability. The discovery phase will be from April to November 2018, so by</p>

November 2018 the finalised action plan and a clear understanding of the badges they are working towards which will represent the voice of everyone. Ms Lynch stated there was a request to have an extra planning meeting to work out that the voice of young people was properly shaping the plan.

A discussion took place around how does this shape the services provided to young people.

### **Year of Youth 2019**

Mr Duffy advised both he and Mr O'Hagan attend the Derry City and Strabane District Council meeting last week for the Year of Youth 2019. This is in the early stages of planning and was agreed at the last meeting the Board is very top heavy with statutory agencies. Mr Duffy suggested if it was possible for voluntary agencies to become members of this board. Mr O'Hagan advised these meetings run once a month and they are looking at developing cross border projects which were aimed at harder to reach children either because they live in rural areas or areas of deprivation.

Mr Downey suggested that this was a good opportunity for voluntary organisations and Mrs Donnelly suggested going through the Locality Planning Groups to put out an expression of interest.

### **ACE's Conference**

Mr Downey reported that on the day of the conference 340 personnel attended. This showed that there was an appetite for ACE's and it was a fantastic day. Mr Downey offered his thanks to Mrs Donnelly and her team for the huge amount of work in making this day happen. He also offered his thanks to Mr David Bolton for chairing the day.

It was reported that on the day they completed ACE's scores to use this as a learning tool to get a sense of the prevalence of ACE's within the audience, an 11<sup>th</sup> ACE was measured due to people's experience with conflict and 24% of the audience had four or more ACE's in respect of the conflict.

There was a view to hold another ACE's conference in September; there have been several requests to run the Resilience film. It has been agreed that Mrs McDuff, through the Trust, would arrange three showings of this film for staff and others.

Mrs McDuff mentioned it was important to think about the next steps in moving forward. She had contacted a couple of Headmasters who were very involved in this in Scotland and Wales and they have being very helpful as she is trying to plan viewings in schools, public venues, as this is for everyone. Ms Casey also stated that there was a lot of interest from MLA's regarding ACE's and that they were looking for a screening of this film. Mrs McDuff suggested that we should co-ordinate with Mrs Donnelly for the viewing of this film.

A discussion took place around training of individuals and maintaining the momentum on ACE's.

### **Community Resilience Programme**

Mr Downey spoke about the Community Resilience pilot in Dry Arch Children's Centre. On 22 February 2018 a presentation was given to School Principals and others around resilience. Ms MacQueen had prepared a position paper in terms of where this group

want to develop a Community Resilience Pilot. Mr Downey advised that we agreed that there would be a pilot and that this would be road tested in Limavady. Mrs McDuff said that contact had been made with Headmasters in Scotland and Wales as they are trauma informed schools and we are interested as to what makes them a trauma informed school so that we can prepare the next steps. Mr Downey advised that it would be good to share their experiences with the local community of Principals that were looking to become trauma informed. Ms MacQueen advised that they have committed pastoral care in all these schools with sign posting, the alignments have been made and bringing information in of what is working well, however, this would be clear in the position paper.

### **Holiday Hunger Programme**

Mr Downey advised this was to be front loaded before the end of the last financial year, however, due to the short notice this was not completed but funding would be provided. Ms Pauline Leeson updated the meeting as to what was happening regionally regarding this programme. Ms Leeson stated every time the programme was run there were new challenges and it was continually being reviewed. The challenge they currently have is education, how to incorporate this and how they improve the connection with Family Support Hubs. The Hubs need to be well connected into the project in terms of reaching marginalised children but also, it's important to get access for those children to services where they can come into networks and make friends after the project had finished. It was found that running the programme over holidays wasn't enough - they now run a homework club one day a week.

Ms Ellen Findlay stated this was about ending child poverty and it started in 2016 when they had the Child Poverty conference and experts were discussing the issue that families were facing over the holiday period. The project was up and running within two weeks and it now provided children with a hot, nutritious meal so they receive breakfast, a snack and lunch, it also includes physical activities and a learning element. They offer an OCN qualification in healthy living to the younger age range and an OCN in either Youth Engagement or Peer Mentoring to the older age range. Referrals come from Hubs, GP's, or Community Partners. In terms of partnerships they have Family Support Hubs, Children & Young People Strategic Partnership, Public Health Agency, Education Authority, Local Councils, and Private Businesses. Ms Findlay stated that private businesses has given them funding for the next three years because they saw the benefit of education and community development. They have collaborated with businesses in the community and they are going to bring businesses out to do CV skills, interview techniques, and take young people into work experience.

Mr Downey asked how they got the business community involved. Ms Findlay replied it was one of their partners pathways had a contact and they were looking at how to raise funding, so they approached them via email, made a presentation and they were initially given funding for one programme. The business got a lot out of it, a video was produced with them; the business was promoted in the video and received press coverage.

A discussion took place around numbers of referrals and from which communities the referrals came from.

Mrs Holmes advised the Lifestart Foundation had a project called SOFT which works with parents and is about parents, how their experiences shape and how they parent. The course is run over four half day's which gets parents looking at child development from the

	<p>prospective of how they were developed, how things impact on them and then how the inner parent brings this out when they are working with their own children. This programme was also looking at it from the cultural and social diversities aspect, building on the good relationship at home and then building on the social and emotional wellbeing of the child.</p> <p>Mrs Donnelly informed the group that the Holiday Hunger Programme specification is awaiting approval. Once approved it will go out wide to all community voluntary partners and they can apply for funding up to £3,000.</p> <p>Mr Downey stated this programme would be in the commissioning specification and getting private businesses involved would be a challenge. He thanked Ms Leeson and Ms Findlay for their presentation and attending the meeting.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Update from Locality Planning Groups</b> Mr Downey advised the meeting that both Locality Planning reports had been shared prior to this meeting.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Early Intervention Updates</b> This item had been discussed in item four. Mr Downey reported that CAWT Cross Border Project was to commence in June 2018. This project was being funded by €4 million across the border corridor around ACE's so Derry, Omagh, Strabane and Enniskillen would all benefit and updates would be provided over the upcoming months as this project gained momentum.</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>UNICEF Child Friendly Communities- Pre-Discovery Day – 18 April 2018</b> This item was discussed in item four.</p>
<b>8</b>	<p><b>Commissioning Plan</b> Mr Downey discussed that he wanted to have the commissioning plan early in the year to set out what we plan to do. The plan is to try to commission £75,000 which could be done either as one year funding or two/three year funding as this was recurring money.</p> <p>The following had already been set aside out of the budget:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Holiday Hunger.</li> <li>➤ STOP Programme.</li> <li>➤ September ACE's event.</li> <li>➤ Slippage.</li> </ul> <p>Mr Downey suggested allocating £25,000 to each of our 3 big obsessions.</p> <p>Dr Deehan agreed to the equal division to each of the obsessions, but in relation to promoting the safety of children on social media and the impact that social media can have on a young person's mental health. Dr Deehan stated that she was aware that young people within the LGBT community suffered, particularly issues around their mental health. Dr Deehan asked as a group have we funded any awareness campaigns or was there anything we could do in conjunction with the PSNI regarding highlighting dangers and to support young people from this vulnerable group. Ms Heaney advised that Youth Justice commissioned a sexting DVD around the dangers of it through The Playhouse and it was due to be launched in the next few weeks and they would be happy for this to be rolled out.</p>

Mr Duffy stated that the number of referrals in relation to sexting and young people presenting themselves online in vulnerable positions had increased and this had become a worry not only for the Trust, but also the PSNI. He said staff were working closely with the Police not only to prevent this, but to also raise awareness. Mr Duffy was not aware that we had done anything in relation of the LGBT group and work needed to be explored further.

Ms MacIntyre stated that a few conferences have been done in schools and feedback from pupils was to please stop, as they are being flooded with information. It was also mentioned that perhaps a different approach be carried out to get the sinister message across to young people. A discussion took place around the vulnerability of young people within this group.

Mr Downey suggested the setting up of three small Discovery Groups - one group for each of the three obsessions and each Discovery Group to bring a proposal of spending £25,000.

Mr Downey asked Ms Casey if she could send a template out to the group with the three obsessions on it and each member could then state which they would prefer to work on. Once the three Discovery Groups had been identified a meeting could then be arranged with either Mrs Donnelly or Mrs Magee to facilitate.

Mr Downey mentioned that the group had worked hard to get the "Best Start in Life" included within both community plans so members needed to think about what we might do to support the community plans going forward. Mr Downey then asked the group to give ideas around the other two themes.

Ms Watson discussed the 'Talk to our Babies' programme which was run in Shantallow and Waterside which employed two people and asked if we could roll this out. Ms Watson will send in information on this programme.

Ms MacIntyre discussed the 'Schools for Hope' and how we can tap in with this as it binds very well with ACE's.

Mrs McDuff discussed Hippotherapy for autistic children and the possibility of exploring doing other things there around speech and language. Mrs McDuff mentioned another project called Five Circles which was currently lottery funded. This was for families with children who have learning disabilities; Mrs McDuff was keen to see if they could do something for the siblings of these families.

Ms Sweeney stated that E PAT was an evidenced informed programme for parents and it looked at key areas that research of parents say are key when you have a child with learning disability or developmental delay and it looks at challenging behaviour, sleep, communication, life skills, self care and mental wellness for families. The feedback that was being received from parents was about building resilience within the family, capacity and giving them a toolkit of strategies to support them around the keys areas and letting them know how to support their child at home.

Mr Downey stated that this was a big task and was about being as strategic as we can. For further discussion at the next meeting.

9	<p><b>Membership</b> Mr Downey advised of the need to revisit membership; however some have a natural successor. Mr Downey asked Mr Hassine if Barnardo's would provide a successor or would the group have to approach them. Ms Casey advised Mr Downey that there was a paper coming out soon about membership. Mr Downey then decided to put a hold on this until the paper was released to ensure that all Outcomes Groups regionally have similar membership.</p>
10	<p><b>September Conference</b> This item was discussed at item four.</p>
11	<p><b>Safeguarding</b> Mr Downey advised that papers have been shared around neglect workshops being run across the region, based on the SBNI work around the neglect toolkit that has been developed to raise awareness, support, and training to deal with issues on neglect.</p>
12	<p><b>CYPSP Think Family Sub Group/Hidden Harm</b> Mr Downey stated that nothing was recorded for this item.</p>
12	<p><b>Any Other Business.</b> Mr Downey asked each member if they had any other business for the meeting:</p> <p>Ms MacIntyre advised that they have been successful in getting another programme out for another year.</p> <p>Mrs Sweidan asked whether the Education Authority attend this meeting. Mr Downey advised they were invited to attend.</p> <p>Dr Deehan stated she got a lot from the ACE's Conference. She advised that GP's and Practice Nurses are well educated in this area as they have four half day protective learning time set aside per year so there may be an option in the autumn for someone talk about ACE's to the GP group. Mr Downey asked Dr Deehan if she would be able to influence to see if this could happen.</p> <p>Mrs Tierney gave an update on the Blues Programme which targets 15 – 18-year olds with early signs of depression in young people. Funding was from the Royal Mail and Derry was the pilot along with Downpatrick. For the coming term Oakgrove, Lisneal and St Columbs College had signed up and for the next term Foyle College, Limavady High School, St Mary's Limavady, and Limavady Grammar. They are currently refusing schools due to the high demand. Young people complete a basic questionnaire which is assessed and a higher number of young people responding to the questionnaire than across the rest of the mainland.</p> <p>Mr Hassine informed the group that recently in Strabane there was a Mind Wise Workshop held for parents who are supporting children with high anxiety issues. The Family Centre was providing a 12-week programme for parents of children aged 3 – 6 and children aged 6 – 12. Also advised that there is a Project called Grass Roots which was developed from the food bank - this was in the early days and there seemed to be good commitment for this project.</p>

	<p>Ms Sweeney stated that MENCAP have just started to deliver the E PAT programme for parents of children with learning disabilities and began last week in the Waterside SureStart and begins today with 12 families in the Greater Shantallow Partnership Area.</p> <p>Ms Lynch gave an update on the Strabane area. The PSNI reported difficulties with young people in the town centre area and a community meeting was called together. A working group has been put together and the PSNI would be part of it along with the community voluntary sector. There was a community café in Strabane, and Derry City and Strabane District Council were exploring with the Education Authority as to whether they can use this as a youth zone. Also, work had been done with the steering group in relation to the Youth Participation and Democracy and it is hoped that this would be launched district wide during Youth Participation and Democracy week in October 2018. Mr O'Hagan advised that he had left a copy of the strategic project plan which has been shared with members.</p> <p>Mrs Holmes shared several leaflets around Shaping Ourselves and our Children. Mr Downey stated that Ms Holmes would have a slot in the next meeting in June.</p> <p>Ms Watson stated that a leaflet has been developed around summer schemes in the Waterside area informing parents of where child care/summer schemes were being held and costs.</p> <p>Ms McCloskey advised that there would be an Early Years Conference held on 8 June 2018 and the key note speaker was Dr Rima Salah (former Deputy Executive for UNICEF) and Mr Michael Lindstrom who focus was on the environment and physical space for children. The Traveller Toy Box Project would also be launched on this day as well.</p> <p>Ms Mason informed that a recent review of Families Matter Strategy took place and it was very striking the statistics for the Western area due to the high levels of Domestic Violence, Alcohol/Drug Abuse, Poverty, and a planning day has been held with all their partners the best way of cascading information on ACE's as they have access to a wide range of child care providers, childminders who have access to parents.</p> <p>Mr Duffy advised members that two Hub Co-ordinators had recently retired and Mr Downey thanked both Mr Mark McCrystal and Mrs Angela MacIntyre for all their hard work.</p> <p>Mr Deeney informed the group that the Housing Executive had a long history of community involvement, safety and empowerment. They are re-engineering their services in relation to homelessness and all issues involved in this. Mr Deeney sees all of these in the locality planning documents such as mental health, domestic violence, addictions and parenting. Mr Deeney hoped that networks could be built between his staff and Social Services.</p>
13	<p><b>Date, Time, and Venue of Next Meeting</b> 27 June 2018 at 10 am in the Conference Room, Strabane Enterprise Agency.</p>